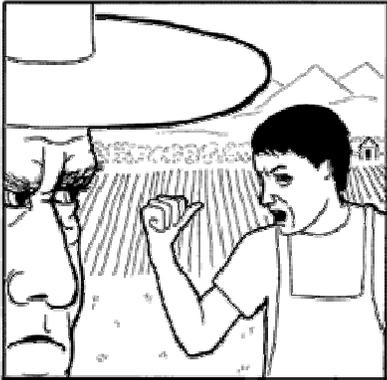


## NO DUTY TO RETREAT

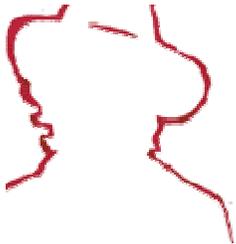


RUN AWAY OR FIGHT?

# CODE WEST NEWS FROM (OUT)LAW & ORDER



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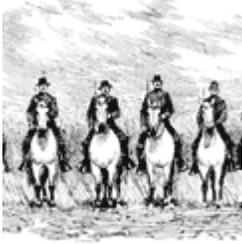


## Welcome to a New Year Full of New Opportunity and Growth!

There is a story of the Old West about a part-Cherokee man who called himself Cherokee Bob. He came to California from a genteel Southern background, seeking his fortune in the West. When he arrived, he found that jobs were difficult to come by. With his Cherokee appearance and Southern loyalties, he faced discrimination. He ended up in jail, though he was quite possibly innocent, and he fled California for the Washington Territory after he was released. Following a New Year's Eve dance some years later, an argument over a woman's affections escalated to a gunfight. Cherokee Bob died in that shootout one January in the 1860s.

This New Year provides new opportunities to examine the past and plan for the future. The themes of racial and political discrimination, the struggle to survive, and the escalation of violence continue in our streets today as they did in the days of Cherokee Bob. We hope you will join (Out)Law & Order in our effort to examine these themes and educate youth about the past and the present.

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## **New Partnerships**

Over the past year, (Out)Law & Order has formed new partnerships and alliances, including [UCLA's Street Law](#) seminar, and earned a listing in the LA County Arts Education Resource Directory. We have formed a partnership with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles as part of the Brain Heart Trust Roundtable, and we are participating in Interplay, a web-based educational resource at <http://www.nhm.org/interplay>.

Through the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, we have given students a forum for their inimitable voices. The museum has built a gallery for the exhibition of student work. Instead of tacking student drawings on a temporary wall, the new gallery presents work in a true museum environment. The gallery is a stellar example of according respect for the creative and intellectual mind no matter what age. An exhibit of (Out)Law & Order [student works](#) will be on view February 8-27. The museum will also host a performance of (Out)Law & Order [student plays](#) in June of this year.

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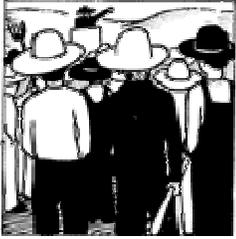
## **(Out)Law & Order Partners with Street Law at UCLA**

As (Out)Law & Order grows, we continue to seek new opportunities to work with our communities and to provide in-depth instruction in the ways the "Code of the West" meets the "Code of the Streets." When we discovered Street Law, we discovered a valuable partnership for the (Out)Law & Order classroom. Street Law is a UCLA School of Law seminar that provides third year law students the opportunity to teach aspects of law to high school students in the Los Angeles area. The course is designed to teach law students skills in communication through teaching.

Anthony Tolbert, Associate Director of Outreach at the UCLA School of Law, teaches the Street Law Clinic. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Tolbert served as a teaching assistant in Federal Litigation at Harvard. Immediately following graduation, he practiced at Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg & Phillips. He later held a number of in-house sports and entertainment positions. Tolbert also counsels prospective law students in the application process, as well as current students on matters relating to the practice of law, particularly in the sports and entertainment industries.

This year, (Out)Law & Order introduces the first Street Law class, taught by third year law student Arwen Johnson. Ms. Johnson will teach a weekly class during the spring semester, beginning with the legal doctrine of "no duty to retreat" and its contemporary application. Students will study more deeply the influence of law on society and on the individual, while continuing to contrast and compare past events with their lived experiences. We expect that real-life legal history will be an exciting experience for students as they address the dynamic issues of Billy the Kid, a hired gun to defend a property owner's land; Jesse James, a so-called "social bandit"; and Joaquin Murieta, an immigrant from Mexico kicked-off his claim

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## Natural History Museum

In our partnership with the Natural History Museum, we help students explore connections between the Natural History Museum's exhibit, *Collapse?*, and our studies of western expansion. (Out)Law & Order students focus on the roles of violence and leadership as they interpret and expand on information about the westward expansion, making connections with their present lives and world. The five sets of factors for societal collapse that *Collapse?* explores are:

- natural changes in the climate
- environmental damage caused, inadvertently or purposefully, by people
- a decline in support from neighbors or trading partners
- hostile neighbors
- how a society anticipates and reacts to its problems—the role of leadership

(Out)Law & Order students study these concepts through the American legal concept of “no duty to retreat,” including its inception, history, and legacy. We encourage you to join us to see our students' works and to plan, in the New Year, how to encourage our society's youth to look to the past to make a brighter future as leaders.

As the new year progresses, we hope to expand our program, helping [back to top](#) more students identify their personal heritage and discover where “I am from...”

**"I am from...**

**Compton LA**

**Where you see and hear police cars**

**I'm a little short girl**

**Living with my mom**

**Two bed apartment**

**No brothers, no sisters, no dad there,  
no one around**

**I'm the only one still alive**

**The only one not in jail"**

– Performance of "I Am From" Poems, Community Harvest Charter School



## (Out)Law & Order Student Works Exhibition

Saturday, February 25, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Reception for students, parents and the community to view the exhibition of (Out)Law & Order Student Works at Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

“...the West is everywhere!  
You see it almost everyday  
without knowing you are.”

An exhibition at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County will present student artwork developed in response to (Out)Law & Order students comparing the Code of the West with the Code of the Street, and the Natural

History Museum's exhibition Collapse? – an examination of societal and environmental factors affecting current and past civilizations. The exhibition includes works by students at Northridge Middle School and Art Center College of Design. The idea of societal and environmental factors fits well within (Out)Law & Order's exploration of our own culture's historical orientation toward violence as a problem solving mechanism. The Code of the West is often associated with building our nation. Many people see today's Code of the Street as doing just the opposite, as one factor that could help bring on the collapse of our civil society. Installed in the Museum's newly developed space: In/ter/act—an exciting and flexible exhibition space designed to capture visitor responses to the Museum's special exhibitions, we are proud and honored to be a contributing partner of the Museum and to present the work of our students.

The (Out)Law & Order exhibition begins February and will run through the 27, 2006.

Natural History Museum  
900 Exposition Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90007

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**“Deliver us from tribulation.  
Deliver us, oh bring us a dream,  
A way, a way to succeed.”**



### **(Out)Law & Order Dramatic Performances**

Students in (Out)Law & Order examine how the history of the Old West and the concept of “no duty to retreat” lives on in their lives on the streets. These American sons and daughters are living on their own frontier, and through understanding the history of the American West, they begin to understand their own journey. Their study culminates in original dramatic works written and performed by students. These works explore students' own lives and experiences as well as historical events, tracing the connections between the past and the present. Expand your own understanding of our students' world by joining us for a performance of original plays by students at Northridge Middle School and Community Harvest Charter School.

(Out)Law & Order Dramatic Performances  
Thursday, June 8, 2006 at 7:30 PM  
Barnsdall Gallery Theatre 4800 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 90027

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(Out)Law & Order is a challenging, new American history and theatre project in three Los Angeles middle schools. The subjects: Honor, Courage, Violence, and Justice—as they were in the Old West, and as they are today in students' own lives and consciousness. From the perils of the “Gunfighter Nation,” to the struggles of diverse peoples for their places on America's fiercely “contested western ground,” the standards-based (Out)Law & Order program immerses eighth-graders in the myths, and the realities, of the western frontier. At the same time, students bring to

the classroom their special knowledge of what it takes to “stand your ground” on the urban frontier. The program culminates at year-end with student-created (Out)Law & Order plays, performed at the schools and at the Wells Fargo Theatre at the Autry National Center. A 13-minute video promo of the first year’s dramatic performances at the Wells Fargo Theatre is available for viewing.

(Out)Law & Order 2005 performances were made possible, in part, by a grant from the Dwight Stuart Youth Foundation and funding from Northridge Middle School .

To remove your address from the (Out)Law and Order mailing list, send a message with "unsubscribe" in the subject line to [admin@outlawandorder.org](mailto:admin@outlawandorder.org)