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Portland's Lincoln High School takes first at state 'We the People' competition

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By **Molly Hottle, The Oregonian**



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Franklin High School's 2012 "We the People" team pose after winning first place in the district competition. The team took fourth place in the state competition.

Portland's Lincoln High School has taken first place in Oregon's 2012 "**We the People**" state competition.

The competition, held Saturday at Hatfield Federal Courthouse in Portland, brought together five schools from around the state to hold hearings on the history, philosophy and legal framework of the Constitution. It's run by the Classroom Law Project, a nonprofit that also oversees Mock Trial in Oregon.

Portland's Grant High School took second place, Lake Oswego High School took third, Portland's Franklin High School landed in fourth place and **Junction City High School** came in fifth place.

The win is nothing new for Lincoln High School, which, along with Portland's Grant High School, has dominated the competition since it began in 1987. The 2012 title is Lincoln's 16th, and the school has claimed the national championship three times.

Lincoln is now qualified for the 2012 national "We the People" championship in Washington, D.C.

Grant went to the national competition in 2011, and has been awarded top honors in seven of the previous eight years.

But Franklin's spot in the state competition was a surprise, **according to a Jan. 16 Oregonian column written by Steve Duin**. In the district competition of "We the People," Franklin took first place and had its first-ever victory over Grant.

-- **Molly Hottle**; Twitter: **@nwpxreporter**

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