



2025 WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition Report

IP and Music: Harnessing Nigeria's Music Industry for Economic Growth

November 2025

Competition Overview

On April 26, 2020, the World Intellectual Property Organization Nigeria Office launched the first edition of the *WIPO National Intellectual Property Essay Competition*. The initiative formed part of efforts to support student engagement and research in the field of intellectual property (IP) in Nigeria.

Subsequently, in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 respectively, the WNO organized a second, third and fourth edition of the competition as part of the office's World IP Day activities each year.

The fifth edition of the competition was launched on April 30, 2025, again as part of the World IP Day celebrations for this year. The competition invited students of tertiary institutions across Nigeria to submit essays not exceeding 1500 words on the topic "*IP and Music: Harnessing Nigeria's Music Industry for Economic Growth*". As in previous years, the objective was to provide an opportunity for students to research and learn more about the field of IP, as well as contribute to policy development, with a focus this time around on IP and Music.

By the final submission deadline of June 30, 2025, the WNO had received a total of 188 entries¹ from students representing 57 tertiary institutions across Nigeria and 40 disciplines. This shows significant growth from the previous (2024) edition which had submissions from students across 29 tertiary institutions and 19 disciplines.

¹ The deadline for submissions was extended from June 20 to June 30, 2025.

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>Number of Entries</i>
Accountancy	1
<i>Agricultural and Environmental Engineering</i>	1
<i>B.Eng (Undefined)</i>	2
<i>B.Sc (Undefined)</i>	6
<i>Bachelor of Social Work</i>	1
<i>BMR</i>	1
<i>Chemical Engineering</i>	1
<i>Combined Arts</i>	1
<i>Economics</i>	3
<i>Education</i>	1
<i>Electrical & Electronics Engineering</i>	2
<i>English</i>	2
<i>English and Literary Studies</i>	1
<i>Guidance and counselling</i>	1
<i>Law</i>	96
<i>Marine Geology</i>	1
<i>Mass Communication</i>	2
<i>Mechanical Engineering</i>	5
<i>Medical Biochemistry</i>	1
<i>Medical Laboratory Science</i>	1
<i>Medical Radiography</i>	1
<i>Medicine and Surgery</i>	24
<i>Microbiology</i>	3
<i>N/A</i>	7
<i>National Diploma</i>	1
<i>Nursing Science</i>	3
<i>Pharmacy</i>	5
<i>PhD (Undefined)</i>	1
<i>Physics</i>	3
<i>Physics Education</i>	1
<i>Political Science</i>	1
<i>Public Governance and leadership</i>	1
<i>Public Relations</i>	1
<i>Public relations and advertising</i>	1
<i>Social Studies</i>	1
<i>Statistics</i>	2
<i>Surveying and Geoinformatics</i>	1
<i>Urban and Regional Planning</i>	1
<i>Total</i>	188

Table 1.1. Entries by Discipline

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Number of Entries</i>
<i>Abia State University</i>	1
<i>Abraham Adesanya Polytechnic, Ogun State</i>	1
<i>Adekunle Ajasin University, Ondo State</i>	2
<i>Adeleke University, Osun State</i>	1
<i>Afe Babalola University, Ekiti State</i>	1
<i>Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State</i>	10
<i>Airforce Institute of Technology, Kaduna</i>	2
<i>Alex Ekuame Federal University, Ebonyi State</i>	1
<i>Arthur Javis University, Calabar, Cross-River State</i>	1
<i>Babcock University, Ilisan Remo, Ogun State</i>	4
<i>Bayero University, Kano State</i>	4
<i>Baze University, FCT, Abuja</i>	2
<i>Borno State University</i>	1
<i>Bowen University, Iwo, Osun State</i>	1
<i>Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Anambra State</i>	1
<i>Covenant University, Ogun State</i>	2
<i>Crescent University, Ogun State</i>	2
<i>Delta State University</i>	2
<i>D's Adegbenro ICT Polytechnic, Ogun State</i>	1
<i>Ebonyi State University</i>	1
<i>Edo State University</i>	1
<i>Enugu State University of Science and Technology</i>	5
<i>Federal University of Health Sciences, Bauchi State</i>	1
<i>Federal University of Otueke, Bayelsa State</i>	1
<i>Federal University of Technology, Akure</i>	1
<i>Federal University of Technology, Owerri</i>	2
<i>Federal University Oye Ekiti</i>	1
<i>Gombe State University</i>	3
<i>Lagos State University</i>	6
<i>Landmark University, Kwara State</i>	1
<i>Madonna University, Rivers State</i>	1
<i>N/A</i>	8
<i>Niger Delta University</i>	2
<i>Nigerian Law School</i>	11
<i>Nigerian Maritime University, Delta State</i>	4
<i>Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Anambra State</i>	4
<i>Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State</i>	2
<i>Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ogun State</i>	4
<i>Osun State University</i>	4
<i>Prince Abubakar Audu University, Kogi State</i>	1
<i>Renaissance University, Enugu State</i>	1
<i>Rev. Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu University</i>	4
<i>Rivers State University</i>	1
<i>Rivers State University of Science and Technology</i>	1
<i>University of Abuja</i>	6
<i>University of Benin</i>	1

<i>University of Calabar</i>	2
<i>University of Ibadan</i>	13
<i>University of Ilorin</i>	8
<i>University of Jos</i>	2
<i>University Of Lagos</i>	10
<i>University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus</i>	3
<i>University of Nigeria, Nsukka</i>	26
<i>University of Port Harcourt</i>	3
<i>University of Uyo</i>	2
<i>Veritas University, Abuja</i>	1
<i>Total</i>	188

Planning Committee

Another step of growth was seen in the constitution of the planning committee for the 2025 edition. For the first time, the essay competition planning committee was made up of past winners and finalists of the competition. The committee was set up to assist with the planning and coordination of the competition. The members of this committee were:

- a. Mr. Gesiye-emi Emiemokumo, Associate at G. Elias. 2021 Essay Competition finalist
- b. Ms. Chimidiebere Uzoma Nnenna, NYSC Associate at Banwo & Ighodalo. 2021 Essay Competition finalist
- c. Ms. Rafiat Shittu, Associate at KENNA. 2020 Essay Competition finalist
- d. Mr. Moses Olanrewaju. Associate at Banwo & Ighodalo. 2021 Essay Competition finalist

Panel of Judges

The WNO appointed an independent panel of 20 expert judges to assess the entries. The Panel of Judges comprised academics, policy stakeholders, government officials, WIPO representatives, music industry professionals and emerging leaders in the IP field in Nigeria. The judges for the 2025 competition were:

- Dr. Chinedu Chukwuji, Chief Executive Officer at PurpleBlue Entertainment Solutions Limited
- Ms. Loretta Asiedu, Director, WIPO Division for Africa
- Mr. Justin Ige, Founding partner, Creative Legal
- Ms. Oyinkansola Fawehinmi (Foza), Lead Legal Consultant, Zaeda Oracle
- Ms. Nora. Manthey, Editor, WIPO Magazine
- Ms. Obianuju Otudor, Manager, Commercial, Intellectual Property and Technology Law, MTN Nigeria Communications
- Ms. Lynda Alphaeus, Director, Lagos Operational Office, Nigerian Copyright Commission
- Mr. Collins Nweke, Director, Planning Research & Statistics, Nigerian Copyright Commission
- Ms. Ifeyinwa Anyadiegwu, Head of Legal and Business Affairs, Chocolate City Music

- Ms. Tedla Desta Altayework, Director, WIPO Academy
- Mr. Qudus Adeoye, Senior Associate and Head of IP, Kenna Partners
- Ms. Sherine Greiss, Copyright Development Senior Coordinator, WIPO
- Professor Chijoke Okorie, Associate Professor, Department of Private Law, University of Pretoria
- Mr. Afam Nwokedi, Principal Counsel & Group Head, Stillwaters Law Firm
- Ms. Amanda Uzoagba, Head of Licensing, West Africa, Mdundo.com
- Ms. Simi Oyelude, Partner, G. Elias & Co
- Mr. Kunle Olatunji, Assistant Director, Nigerian Copyright Commission
- Ms. Uzoamaka Emerole, Partner, Dentons ACAS-Law
- Ms. Ada Aguocha, Senior Associate, Banwo & Ighodalo
- Mr. Godwin Tom, Managing Director, Sony Music Publishing, Nigeria

Assessment of Entries

Preliminary Review

Prior to the commencement of the assessment process, two main tasks were completed by the WNO as part of the preliminary review process.

- a. First, all entries were completely anonymized for the assessment process and assigned unique competition identification numbers (WNO 001 – WNO 188). These serial competition identification numbers were assigned in accordance with the submission timestamp of each entry.
- b. Second, an initial preliminary review of the 188 entries was carried out, to ensure compliance of submissions received with the stated rules of the competition. This review resulted in the disqualification of 28 entries to the competition. A total of 160 valid entries were consequently maintained for transmission to the panel of judges for formal assessment. The studentship of contestants was verified through their student identity cards or letters from relevant authorities in the institution.

Judges' Assessment

The assessment by the Panel of Judges was based on a pre-determined set of criteria which was maintained through the competition's three stages of assessment. In keeping with the competition's objectives, the equally weighted assessment criteria were as follows:

- Author's imagination and originality (20)
- Relevance of essay to broader national, regional, and/or international developments (20)
- Author's demonstrated understanding of the field of intellectual property, and ability to link concepts and/or issues associated with IP, to ideas or suggestions expressed in essay (20)
- Grammatical accuracy, clarity of expression, flow, and thought, integrity of structural layout (20)

- Practicability and relevance of policy suggestions and/or pathways to Nigeria (20)

As noted above, a three-stage process was adopted in assessing the entries:

Stage one

For the first round of assessment, each of the 20 judges was assigned 8 serial anonymized entries. All the judges were tasked with the responsibility of identifying the top 3 entries from the entries received. The top three entries from each judge's first round assessment automatically proceeded to the second stage of the competition.

A total of 60 shortlisted entries therefore proceeded to stage 2 of the assessment process. The stage 1 results and 60 shortlisted entries are indicated below²:

Dr. Chinedu Chukwuji

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 004	90	1st	Caleb Okechukwu	Abia State University	Medicine and Surgery	200
WNO 007	87	2nd	Olatunji Durodola	University of Ibadan	English	300
WNO 006	75	3rd	Imran Lawal	Afe Babalola University	Medicine and Surgery	100

Ms Loretta Asiedu

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 012	68	1st	Sam Okwuoha	Covenant University	Economics	200
WNO 014	66	2nd	Abisola Oyeniyi	University of Lagos	Law	300
WNO 011	64	3rd	Vera Anakor	Babcock University	Law	300

Mr. Justin Ige

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 023	85	1st	Shishi John Msonter	Airforce Institute of Technology Kaduna	Statistics	100
WNO 022	82	2nd	Michael Kalu	Nigeria Maritime University	Marine Geology	400
WNO 021	72	3rd	Solomon Okom	Delta State University	Medical Biochemistry	Ph.D

Ms. Oyinkansola Fawehinmi

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 029	79	1st	Zainab Adeoye	Lagos State University	Physics	300

² The judges received anonymized essays labelled with the entry codes alone, and had no knowledge of who the candidates were

WNO 028	70	2nd	Rachael Ajisafe	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	100
WNO 027	67	3rd	Peter Paul Chinonso	Alex Ekuame Federal University	Guidance and counselling	200

Ms. Nora Manthey

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 039	85	1st	Adekunle Olajide	University of Ilorin	Law	500
WNO 036	81	2nd	Okechukwu Izuchukwu	University of Uyo	Pharmacy	400
WNO 037	75	3rd	Nnaemeka Chikezie	University of Abuja	Law	Masters

Ms. Obianuju Otudor

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 047	85	1st	Frank Okike	University of Nigeria	Law	400
WNO 042	77	2nd	Abdulmuqeet Aribidesi	University of Ilorin	Law	300
WNO 044	74	3rd	Sophiat Ismail	Lagos State University	Medicine and Surgery	400

Ms. Lynda Alphaeus

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 055	76	1st	Lovelyn Ugwuezema	University of Nigeria	Combined Arts	Postgraduate
WNO 050	68	2nd	Sunday Moses Ojonugwa	Prince Abubakar Audu University	Law	400
WNO 052	67	3rd	Abdulganiyy Abdulwasiu	Federal University of Health Sciences, Bauchi	Medicine and Surgery	400

Mr. Collins Nweke

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 058	71	1st	Ifeoluwa Afolabi	Obafemi Awolowo University	Law	300
WNO 059	69	2nd	Fathima Musa	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	100
WNO 061	67	3rd	Doctor Ajanaku	Bowen University	Law	400

Ms. Ifeyinwa Anyadiiegwu

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level

WNO 070	76	1st ³	Chikodili Ifetike	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	Law	500
WNO 067	76	1st	Faith Solomon	Nigerian Law School	Law	600
WNO 066	75	2nd	Authority David Iluebe	University of Benin	Law	300

Ms Tedla Desta Altayework

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 080	80	1st	Ruth Oluchi Obeta	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	Law	500
WNO 077	77	2nd	Mujeebat Idris	Crescent University	Law	400
WNO ⁴ 079	75	3rd	Dabelu Orazulike	Nnamdi Azikiwe University	Law	500
WNO 073	67	4th	Rukayat Shuaib	Osun State University	Law	200

Ms Sherine Greiss

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 084	94	1st	Fiyin Owoeye	University of Ibadan	Law	100
WNO 086	93	2nd	Laura Nwofor	Babcock University	Law	Postgraduate
WNO 083	89	3rd	Oluwabukola Abolade	University of Ibadan	Economics	400

Ms. Amanda Uzoagba

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 096	98	1st	Blessing Edwin	Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu University	Law	500
WNO 091	95	2nd	Oluwafeyisemiire Akinnola	University of Nigeria	Law	500
WNO 089	94	3rd	Olajide Lukumoun Ewedairo	University Of Port Harcourt	Public Relations	Postgraduate

Ms. Simi Oyelude

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 102	95	1st	Chinaecherem Monday	University of Nigeria	Law	500

³ The Judge returned a tie in the first position, so both candidates in the first position and the candidate in the second position proceeded to the second phase.

⁴ This entry was disqualified and replaced with the 4th place because the number of words in the essay, 2237, exceeded the acceptable 25% margin on the maximum competition word count of 1500

WNO 103	88	2nd	Akinbo Taofeek Babatunde	Nigerian Law School	Law	Postgraduate
WNO 099	87	3rd	Bolarinwa Bamigbola	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	500

Professor Chijoke Okorie

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 112	89	1st	Isaac Olugbenga	Federal University Oye Ekiti	Surveying and Geoinformatics	200
WNO 106	87.5	2nd	Silas Michael	University of Ibadan	Agricultural and Environmental Engineering	400
WNO 108	86	3rd	Mubarak Adebayo	Bayero University	Law	500

Mr. Qudus Adeoye

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 115	82	1st	Victor Ayoola	University of Ibadan	Law	500
WNO 117	78	2nd	Paul Olatunde Ajibola	University of Ibadan	Law	400
WNO 118	73	3rd	Deborah Oludimu	University of Ibadan	Law	500

Ms. Uzoamaka Emerole

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 128	86	1st	Elizabeth Chris	Ahmadu Bello University	Civil Law	500
WNO 122	79	2nd	Ikenna Mba	University of Nigeria	Law	400
WNO 126	78	3rd	Goodness Akinloye	University of Ibadan	Law	300

Ms. Ada Aguocha

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 134	82	1st	Collins Ani	University of Nigeria Enugu Campus	Law	300
WNO 130	81	2nd	Louis Terfa	Fr. Moses Orshio Adasu University	Law	Postgraduate
WNO 131	79	3rd	Laura Moronkola	Lagos State University	Medicine and Surgery	400

Mr. Afam Nwokedi

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 138	73	1st	Michael Williams	University of Lagos	Law	400

WNO 144	72	2nd	Chinonso Izundu	University of Port Harcourt	Law	500
WNO 139	63	3rd	Ozana Dortie	Niger Delta University	Law	400

Mr. Kunle Olatunji

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 145	86	1st	Richard Anibe	Baze University	Law	500
WNO 146	72	2nd	Salim Sani Haladu	Bayero University	Pharmacy	400
WNO 150	62	3rd	Adesewa Adeyeye	University of Ibadan	Law	400

Mr. Godwin Tom

Code	Score	Position	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level
WNO 160	85	1st	Jonathan David	Gombe State University	Law	400
WNO 159	84	2nd	Chisom Nwagwughiagwu	Federal University of Technology, Owerri	Mechanical Engineering	300
WNO 158	81	3rd ⁵	Towobola Bamgbosse	Nigerian Law School	Law	Postgraduate
WNO 156	81	3rd	Abeeb Mutualib	University of Ilorin	Law	500

Stage Two

For the second assessment round, the judges were placed into five blind-groups⁶ comprising four judges each. Each blind group was assigned 12 entries from the shortlisted 60 entries above. In the assignment of entries to groups, the planning committee ensured that none of the groups was assigned an essay that any of the respective group members had previously assessed, while also ensuring that the entries assigned to each blind group were based on a random combination of the top 3 in the initial judging stage (stage one). Adopting the same criteria from the previous round, the judges were required to assess the 12 entries.

Based on an average of the scores assigned to each entry by the four judges in each group, the top four entries of each group were determined. These top four picks of each group emerged as the 20 finalists of the competition. The overall top entry from each respective group, however, formed the top six⁷ essays from the competition and proceeded to stage three of the judging process. The 20 finalists are indicated below:

Group	Code	Average Score	Name	Institution	Discipline	Level

⁵ The Judge returned a tie in the 3rd position, and on our request to select one of them to proceed to stage 2, selected WNO 158

⁶ Under this grouping system, no judge is aware of the other members in their group.

⁷ One of the groups returned a tie in the top position and hence, both proceeded to the final stage. This formed a top 6 instead of a top 5

Group 1	WNO 158	78.75	Towobola Bamgbose	Nigerian Law School	Law	Postgraduate
	WNO 128	78.25	Elizabeth Chris	Ahmadu Bello University	Civil Law	500
	WNO 159	75.25	Chisom Nwagwughiagwu	Federal University of Technology, Owerri	Mechanical Engineering	300
	WNO 061	73.75	Doctor Ajanaku	Bowen University	Law	400

Group 2	WNO 117	81.75	Paul Olatunde Ajibola	University of Ibadan	Law	400
	WNO 028	80.25	Rachael Ajisafe	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	100
	WNO 115	79.75	Victor Ayoola	University of Ibadan	Law	500
	WNO 083	78.50	Oluwabukola Abolade	University of Ibadan	Economics	400

Group 3	WNO 138	82.75	Michael Williams	University of Lagos	Law	400
	WNO 106	82.00	Silas Michael	University of Ibadan	Agricultural and Environmental Engineering	400
	WNO 139	80.50	Ozana Dortie	Niger Delta University	Law	400
	WNO 112	77.50	Isaac Olugbenga	Federal University Oye Ekiti	Surveying and Geoinformatics	200

Group 4	WNO 014	88.50	Abisola Oyeniyi	University of Lagos	Law	300
	WNO 131	88.50	Laura Moronkola	Lagos State University	Medicine and Surgery	400
	WNO 042	86.75	Abdulmuqeet Aribidesi	University of Ilorin	Law	300
	WNO 011	82.50	Vera Anakor	Babcock University	Law	300

Group 5	WNO 099	73.75	Bolarinwa Bamigbola	Olabisi Onabanjo University	Law	500
	WNO 039	73.50	Adekunle Olajide	University of Ilorin	Law	500
	WNO 007	73.25	Olatunji Durodola	University of Ibadan	English	300
	WNO 004	72.00	Caleb Okechukwu	Abia State University	Medicine and Surgery	200

Top entry from each group**Stage three**

To ascertain the winner of the competition, the top six entries were reassigned to all 20 judges for a final assessment. Once again, this was based on the same criteria established from the outset. At the end of the third assessment process, using a weighted average of scores allocated to each entry by the participating judges, the Panel of Judges returned an overall winner, a first runner up and a second runner up. The representation of the stage three assessment is indicated below.

Code	Name	Score
WNO 117	Paul Olatunde Ajibola	82.1
WNO 138	Michael Williams	81.4
WNO 014	Abisola Oyeniyi	80.8
WNO 131	Laura Moronkola	75.5
WNO 158	Towobola Bamgbose	75.0
WNO 099	Bolarinwa Bamigbola	74.2

Ratification of results

A final review and ratification of the results was done by the Panel of Judges on Wednesday October 15, 2025. 12 Judges were present at the meeting, which met the set quorum, and ratified the results. The winners of the competition are as follows

1. Mr. Paul Olatunde Ajibola, University of Ibadan – Overall Winner
2. Mr. Michael Williams, University of Lagos – First runner up
3. Ms. Abisola Oyeniyi, University of Lagos – Second runner up

It is worth reiterating that the judges concluded their assignments, including their final determinations, without knowing the identities nor affiliations whatsoever of the winners and finalists.

Winners Announcement

On October 27, 2025 the WNO announced the results at a virtual event attended by the participants of the essay competition and some of the members of the panel of Judges. Mr. Cobhams Asuquo, Award-Winning Producer and Artiste, and Global CLIP Ambassador, delivered the welcome address at the event. Additionally, a detailed breakdown of the competition and assessment processes and timelines were shared by Mr. Oluwatobiloba Moody, Director, WIPO Nigeria Office.

The announcement of the 17 finalists and 3 winners was made by Ms. Loretta Asiedu, Director WIPO Division for Africa.

Prizes

In line with the mandate of the WNO as well as the objectives of the competition, the winners and 15 finalists from the competition will all benefit from competition prizes primarily focused on capacity building and professional development. The prizes are outlined below:

- All winners and finalists will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the WIPO Deputy Director General, RNDS, Mr. Hasan Kleib.
- The first-place winner will receive a scholarship to participate in the Advanced Certificate Course on IP Asset Management.
- The second and third-place winners will receive scholarships to attend the WIPO Summer School in South Africa 2026.
- All winners and finalists will receive the opportunity to participate in a pioneer WIPO Nigeria IP Youth mentorship program.
- All winners and finalists will also receive the opportunity to participate in an IP Learning Workshop in Abuja, organized by the WIPO Nigeria Office. The students also receive a gift pack containing WIPO merch and their certificates.
- All winners and finalists will also receive the opportunity to participate in the Young Innovation Leaders Fellowship program.
- All winners and finalists will receive the opportunity to participate in any WIPO Distance learning course of their choice. All participants in the essay competition will receive the opportunity to participate in the WIPO DL-101 course.
- Top 3 essays to be submitted for publication consideration with the WIPO Magazine.

Appreciation

The WIPO Nigeria Office extends its sincere gratitude to all participants for elevating the standards of the competition through their brilliant essays. The immense support received in the planning and execution of this competition from the members of the Planning Committee, and the members of the Panel of Judges are deeply appreciated. Particular thanks to the Office of the Director General, the Office of the Deputy Director General (CCIS) for the provision of WIPO Certificates for the competition winners; to the Office of the Deputy Director General (RNDS) for the excellent support with respect to the planning and execution of the competition; to the [WIPO Academy](#) for the learning and scholarship opportunities for the winners and finalists; and, to the WIPO publications team for engaging the winning essays for publication in the WIPO Magazine.

Special thanks to the Nigerian Copyright Commission, the Patent and Designs Registry and the Trademarks Registry for supporting the competition through the entire process. We also thank the [Young Innovation Leaders Fellowship](#) for offering fellowship awards to each of the competition winners/finalists.

Quotes

"I enjoyed serving as a judge and contributing to a transparent, impactful evaluation process. The essays demonstrated originality, intellectual maturity and strong understanding of IP, policy, and commercial strategy. Initiatives like this strengthen capacity-building and amplify youths' voices, and I am pleased to support efforts that advance awareness and thought-leadership in the creative economy."

- **Uzoamaka Emerole, Partner, Dentons ACAS-Law**

Participating as a judge in the 2025 edition of the WIPO National IP Essay Competition was very interesting and revealing in terms of the process involved in arriving at a winner. The process to my mind was meticulous but transparent and no doubt the very best will emerge the winner."

- **Mr. Collins Nweke, Director, Planning Research & Statistics, Nigerian Copyright Commission**

"Being part of the judges for the National IP Essay Competition 2025 was an incredible experience for me. What I wasn't immediately expecting was learning from the participants - but I did. Majority of the entries were rich and of original. I commend the WIPO Nigeria Office for the initiative which promotes a formidable IP ecosystem. "

- **Mr. Qudus Adeoye, Senior Associate and Head of IP, Kenna Partners**