

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is normally at year end that we reflect back on the past year's challenges and triumphs and plan for a better year ahead. Annual reports compel us to embark on a similar process, but during 2010 the ACBF Board has been in what feels like a constant process of reflection and planning. We have had many triumphs to celebrate. The Building Bridges Campaign to build the endowment has ended successfully. Last year, we met the \$1,000,000 mark and the majority of five year pledges have now been completed. Attorneys Against Hunger also surpassed the \$1,000,000 mark in providing assistance to local food pantries and hunger service agencies over the last

eighteen years. With your help, we were able to distribute over \$23,000 in grants to legal aid providers to assist them in developing programs to meet the needs of their target communities. Through donations to our named funds, the foundation awarded over \$37,000 in loans and scholarships to deserving law school and high schools. In the last reporting year, over 9,000 disadvantaged clients were served by almost 1,000 volunteers through the Pro Bono Center programs. It has been quite an active year.

Yet, these numbers also reflect the need for new initiatives and a renewed commitment to continuing to provide assistance to the community. While we celebrate the successes, we also must recognize that the need in our community has increased significantly. Just as our clients expect us to be ahead of the next legal development in their representation, we must commit ourselves to staying ahead of the needs of our members and the community at large. Whether by establishing a new clinic, funding a new program,

increasing loans and scholarships when other funding sources are decreasing, or being the safety net for our own members through the Lawyers Fund, the foundation continues to anticipate and respond to the needs of our constituents.

At a recent foundation Board retreat, the Board authorized several new initiatives to ensure that the foundation can continue to meet the legal needs of our community. You will be hearing about several of these new initiatives over the next year. The Board viewed 2010 as a crossroads for the foundation. We either had the option to pat ourselves on the back for a job well done and maintain the status quo while we wait for the economy to improve, or our other option – the option chosen by the Board – which is to continue to fulfill our mission to be a “driving force” in promoting justice for all and improving the community through public service law related programs. Being the driving force means constantly moving forward to ensure that the necessary programs are available for both our members and the community at large and to ensure that the funds are available to support those programs. Our work requires the dedication of time effort and money to see results, but as evidenced in this annual report, 2010 has been another year of results. Your commitment to the foundation has been invaluable and we know that working together we can continue to make a difference in the community.

Sincerely, Vicki L. Beatty, Esq.
President, ACBF

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



“We do the work that makes you feel good about yourself, your career as a lawyer, and your commitment to making this community better.”

Since the bar foundation was established, it has been touted as the philanthropic “arm” of the Allegheny County Bar Association. I think this is a serious misconception. The bar foundation is much more than merely an appendage. I am going to go out on a limb (no pun intended) and redefine the foundation as the “heart” of the bar association.

Why the heart? This is why. We are definitely a vital organ for many attorneys and community members as well. If you look at the bar association as the brains, carrying on the daily activities of an association, the foundation is doing the heart-felt projects. This doesn't mean that the association has cornered the market on the brains; we run a very strong and well-structured foundation. Our programs just happen to be the ones that remind people that we, as attorneys, have a lot to offer to help improve our community. Whether it's through pro bono, public service, philanthropy, or education, we garner massive amounts of good will for our bar.

We do the work that makes you feel good about yourself, your career as a lawyer, and your commitment to making this community better. If you volunteer, these are the cases you will take home with you and talk about, especially if you are not involved in poverty law as a career. These are the cases that affect families and children and sometimes, even change lives. I know. I have done this work for long enough to know that sleep comes easy when you feel like you have done something to help make someone else's life better. And in this business, sleep usually doesn't come easy very often.

If you are too busy to volunteer, you can feel just as good through your donations. Don't underestimate the power of a gift! Giving a gift to the foundation is just as important as volunteering. You are just as much a part of the programs of the foundation. In fact, it is your monetary contribution that allows us to be here in the first place and gives us the ability to run all our great programs. And it is as simple as this, the more you give, the more we can do. We will make sure your gift is used wisely and properly to best meet the unique mission of the foundation to help balance justice in our community. We give you the opportunity to join in. We aren't selfish with all these great projects. We want you to feel great too!

We are going places—good places—and we want you to come along. It is not just for the ride, though. You will roll-up your sleeves, get your feet wet, and/or open your wallet. Whatever the cliché, I can guarantee that it will warm your heart! So, please don't call us an “arm” anymore. I am asking you to embrace the foundation as the “heart,” a part of your heart.

Let us be a vital part of our bar association. If you agree, the next time you see us, point to your heart and give us the thumbs-up. Let's start the new identity process. And now, with that said, let's get on with the work because there is so much to do.

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Sincerely, Lorrie K. Albert, Esq.
Director, ACBF

FOUNDATION AT A GLANCE



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
David A. Blaner
dblanser@acba.org



DIRECTOR
ALLEGHENY COUNTY
BAR FOUNDATION
Lorrie K. Albert, Esq.
lalbert@acba.org



**ASSISTANT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
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dleonard@acba.org



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Barbara Griffin, Esq.
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2010 FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

FOUNDATION TO HOUSE INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY FUND



In November 2010, the ACBA Institute for Gender Equality (IGE) fund was transferred to the bar foundation. The transfer enables donors to make tax-deductible gifts to the Institute. Established in 2008, the IGE addresses gender equality issues through series-based sessions aimed at educating both practitioners and firm decision-makers.

If you are interested in donating to the IGE fund, contact Lorrie Albert at (412) 402-6640 or lalbert@acba.org.

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY LAW SECTION ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Scholarship Fundraiser held on Pittsburgh's RiverQuest Explorer

The ACBA Environment & Energy Law Section hosted a river cruise fundraiser on June 10, 2010 aboard the *RiverQuest Explorer* (the "Green Boat"), raising over \$5,000 for the newly established ACBF Environment & Energy Law Section Scholarship Fund. This fund will serve to continue the Section's tradition of awarding annual scholarships to law students at Duquesne University and the University of Pittsburgh who have demonstrated an interest in pursuing a career in environmental law and who meet other criteria set forth by the Section. The Section believes the scholarships will play an important role in getting law students involved in environmental law early in their careers and will help maintain interest in the environmental field.

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY LAW SECTION FUNDRAISER SPONSORS

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2010 FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

ACBA YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION FUNDRAISERS

YLD SECOND ANNUAL COMEDY NIGHT

The YLD's second annual Comedy Night was held on April 1, 2010 at the Improv Comedy Club at the Waterfront. With over 150 guests in attendance, the event raised over \$10,500 for the foundation. Local comedian and radio personality Mike Wysocki opened the show, followed by renowned comedian Billy Elmer who has appeared on HBO, Showtime, and Comedy Central, among others. Special thanks to event chairs Marla Presley, Jill Albrecht and Elizabeth Collura, and members of the Comedy Night committee.



From left, event co-chair Jill Albrecht, comedian Mike Wysocki, event co-chair Marla Presley, comedian Billy Elmer, and event co-chair Elizabeth Collura.

YLD SCAVENGER HUNT

The YLD hosted its first annual Scavenger Hunt on October 22, 2010, raising over \$2,000 for the foundation. Nearly 100 participants set out into the streets of downtown Pittsburgh to collect clues and complete challenges. Special thanks to event chairs Marla Presley, Jill Albrecht and Aaron Asher.



The winning team, from left: Emily Fullerton, Michael Watson, Erica Koehl, and Jim McGraw.

YLD COMEDY NIGHT SPONSORS

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Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre
Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel
Silk Screen Asian Movie Festival
South Hills Village
Union Grill
Venture Outdoors
Washington Wild Things
YLD BLI Class
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REACHING MILESTONES

BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE FUTURE ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

\$1 Million and Growing... We couldn't have done it without you!

The "Building Bridges to the Future" Endowment campaign was launched in 2005 to ensure that the Foundation will continue to serve the bar and the community for years to come. The campaign's goal was to raise \$1 million by 2010. To date, the fund holds \$1.3 million in cash assets and is still growing!

Pledges are still being accepted. If you would like to play a role in building a stronger future for the ACBF, please contact Lorrie Albert at (412) 402-6640 or lalbert@acba.org.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN DONORS:

Endowment Donors as of March 31, 2011

TIER I - \$25,000

Dickie McCamey & Chilcote
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K & L Gates Fund of
 The Pittsburgh Foundation
Malakoff Family Fund of
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TIER II - \$6,000 TO \$15,000

\$6,000
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
\$10,000
McGuire Woods
\$12,500
Meyer Darragh Buckler Bebenek & Eck
\$15,000
Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir
Cohen & Grigsby
Goehring Rutter & Boehm
Jones Day
Meyer Unkovic & Scott
Pepper Hamilton

TIER III - \$5,000

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 Kaplan & Berardinelli
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Portnoy & Quinn
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Riley, Hewitt, Witte & Romano
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TIER IV - \$500 TO \$2,500

\$500
Kuhn Engle & Stein
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SERVING THE PUBLIC GOOD

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Public Interest Law Fellowship Program (PILFP) marked its second year by awarding financial stipends, ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,500, to twenty-five attorneys working in the public service field. Created in 2009 through a generous grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development, PILFP has awarded \$100,000 over two years to twenty-seven public service attorneys who have demonstrated exemplary job performance and financial need.

To qualify for the program, applicants must be active members of the ACBA, employed full time by an ACBA recognized civil legal service agency as defined by the ACBA dues structure, and commit to an additional year of full-time employment at one of the recognized agencies.

The ACBF recently learned that it has been pre-approved by the state to receive an additional \$50,000 in funding.

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

ACBF AWARDS \$37,250 IN LOANS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2010, the bar foundation awarded \$37,250 in educational loans and scholarships to deserving law school and high school students. The awards are established by a variety of named funds administered by the foundation and require each student to meet criteria depending on the fund's purpose. Some factors taken into consideration may include financial need, strong academic performance, excellent writing and oral argument skills, and excellence in certain areas of the law.

2010 ACBF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

For more information on scholarship and award funds, see page 21.



Gary K. Heald, Jr.
Dixon Scholarship



Geneva Campbell
Grote Scholarship



Katie Fleet
Grote Scholarship



Quintarra Morant
Grote Scholarship



Ashley DeCicco
Mansmann Scholarship



Michaelene Elise
Weimer
Norton Award



Joseph Balestrino
Ridge Scholarship

DANIEL B. DIXON SCHOLARSHIP

Gary K. Heald, Jr., University of Pittsburgh

GERALD K. GIBSON AWARD

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Frank Guadagnino, University of Pittsburgh
Jason Kelly, Duquesne University

F.C. GROTE SCHOLARSHIP

Geneva Campbell, University of Pennsylvania
Katie Fleet, University of Pittsburgh
Quintarra Morant, University of Pittsburgh

HON. CAROL LOS MANSMANN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ashley DeCicco, Duquesne University

LYNETTE NORTON MEMORIAL AWARD

Michaelene Elise Weimer, Duquesne University

HON. JOSEPH H. RIDGE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Joseph Balestrino, Duquesne University

ACADEMY OF TRIAL LAWYERS WILLIAM S. SCHWEERS, SR. ESSAY CONTEST

1st Place Eric Wasserman Stern - Allderdice High School
2nd Place Scott Wasserman Stern - Allderdice High School
3rd Place Katherine Standbridge - Hampton High School