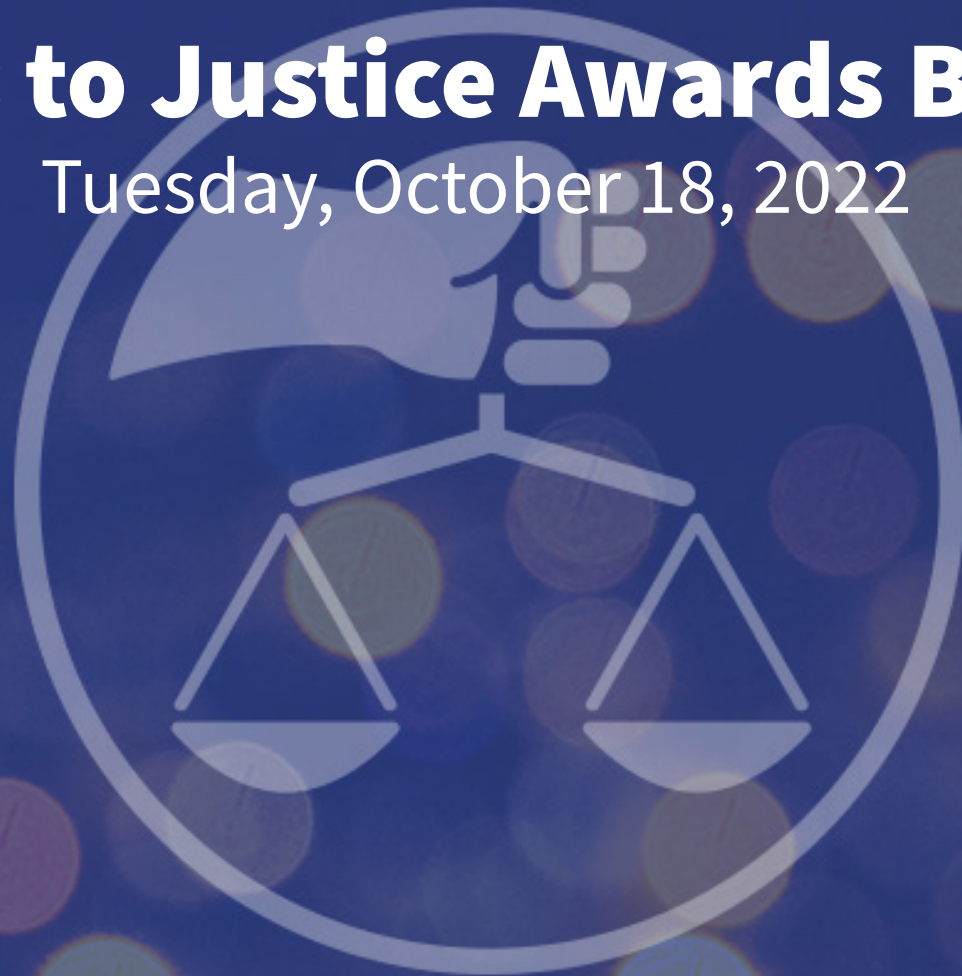




PHILADELPHIA BAR FOUNDATION

Access to Justice Awards Benefit

Tuesday, October 18, 2022



Program Book

Recognizing those who do *good work* and work *for good*

Congratulations to this year's honorees who work tirelessly toward a more equitable and accessible legal system.



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Welcome from the President



I am so excited to join members of our community tonight as we celebrate our support of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation. We have an incredible program planned for you, whether you're with us in-person at the Fidler Club or joining via livestream.

Civil legal aid organizations are integral to the fight for a more just and equitable society. Our nonprofit partners work tirelessly to provide free and low-cost legal services to individuals and families in Philadelphia and across the Commonwealth, protecting them from losing their access to housing, education, healthcare, and more. The Bar Foundation is proud to be a source of unrestricted funding for these organizations. Our general operating support allows these organizations to pursue an array of strategies in order to best serve the direct needs of their clients, and to develop winning and innovative impact litigation tactics while having the flexibility to respond to changing circumstances and pressing needs.



Our event tonight celebrates our Bar Foundation supporters, and the outstanding public interest and pro bono attorneys who work in Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania. To those in need of legal aid services, your support is life changing. Research shows that for every dollar we invest in legal aid, that dollar results in at least an \$11 benefit for individuals, families, and communities. Legal issues that are successfully resolved result in improvements for those living in our community in family stability, safe housing, educational opportunities, health care, employment, increased income for food and clothing, and more. These results have far-reaching effects throughout our community.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, thank you for your support during 2022, and thank you for your support tonight. Your commitment to sustain the work of the Bar Foundation is critical and essential to our city.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Meredith S. Auten". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Meredith S. Auten
President, Philadelphia Bar Foundation
Partner, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP



Welcome from the Benefit Co-Chairs



Dear Friends,

We are delighted to welcome you to the Philadelphia Bar Foundation's 2022 Access to Justice Awards Benefit.

We join together tonight to celebrate our community's commitment to advancing and expanding access to justice, and to honor the special contributions of pro bono and public interest lawyers whose hard work and dedication bring us all closer to realizing our ideals. Tonight we also express our deep gratitude to our 2022 Philadelphia Bar Foundation supporters who help make this work possible. At its heart, the Bar Foundation's mission is to transform our City's civil legal aid system, increase access, and overcome systemic racial and economic inequities. To accomplish this critical work, we mobilize the collective resources of the legal community and we're grateful for that community's continued dedication to our mission.

Please enjoy your time attending. If you're with us in person, engage and mingle with each other, something we've been missing the last two years. Take a moment to appreciate the work of our amazing honorees and the words from our incredible featured speakers. We are so thankful for your continued support and for the support of your law firms and businesses in helping the Philadelphia Bar Foundation fulfill its mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Durham", is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Christopher D. Durham
2022 Event Co-Chair
Trustee, Philadelphia Bar Foundation
Partner, Duane Morris LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Zucker", is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Marc J. Zucker
2022 Event Co-Chair
Trustee, Philadelphia Bar Foundation
Chancellor-Elect, Philadelphia Bar Association
Partner, Weir Greenblatt Pierce LLP





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2022 Access to Justice Awards Benefit

We congratulate this year's award recipients and honorees for their achievements.

2022 Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award Su Ming Yeh, Esq.

Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project

2022 Pro Bono Award Duane Morris LLP and Ballard Spahr LLP

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Rachel Rossi



We welcome Rachel Rossi, Director of the United States Department of Justice's Office for Access to Justice, as one of our featured speakers.

President Joseph R. Biden and Attorney General B. Merrick Garland announced the appointment of Rachel Rossi as Director of the Office for Access to Justice in May 2022. Prior to her appointment, Director Rossi served as Deputy Associate Attorney General in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, Vanita Gupta. In that role, she also served as the inaugural Anti-Hate Coordinator for the Justice Department.

Director Rossi began her career as a public defender in Los Angeles for almost a decade, where she vigorously defended hundreds of low-income clients in state and federal courts.

Director Rossi subsequently served as Counsel to Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Richard J. Durbin (Illinois), and then transitioned to the role of Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. After that, she served as the Legal Director for the REFORM Alliance, where she launched the development of a litigation program for direct representation in criminal cases and in civil litigation matters surrounding issues of probation, parole, supervised release, and community supervision.

Director Rossi received her law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law. She grew up in Los Angeles, California and is the daughter of immigrant parents born in the Dominican Republic and Greece.



Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon



We welcome Mary Gay Scanlon, Representative of Pennsylvania's 5th Congressional District, as one of our featured speakers.

Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon has dedicated her career to serving the most vulnerable — first as a lawyer and now in Congress. She has represented Pennsylvania's 5th Congressional District since 2018.

Congresswoman Scanlon's legislative priorities include voting rights, access to justice, education, supporting economic growth for her region, common sense gun safety, and ending hunger. All of these priorities align with Congresswoman Scanlon's main goal as an elected official: protecting and improving the lives of America's children, families, veterans, and seniors.

As a staunch believer that everyone is entitled to equal protection under the law, Congresswoman Scanlon previously worked as national pro bono counsel at Ballard Spahr LLP, where she directed and supervised over 600 lawyers across 15 offices in providing more than 50,000 hours of pro bono legal services annually to low-income clients and nonprofit organizations.

Before her election to the U.S. House of Representatives, Congresswoman Scanlon also served as an attorney at the Education Law Center, president of her local school board, and co-chair of the Voting Rights Task Force of the Association of Pro Bono Counsel. She is a graduate of Colgate University and University of Pennsylvania Law School. The Congresswoman and her husband, Mark, reside in Swarthmore and have three adult children.



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Meet our Nonprofit Partners



Each year, nearly 40 non-profit legal aid organizations receive annual grants and other support from the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, representing the full range of vital services for people in need.

Legal aid is central to righting wrongs and rectifying injustice.

— Sadiq Kahn, Mayor of London

AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania

Providing free legal services to people living with HIV/AIDS in Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey; educating the public about HIV/AIDS-related legal issues.

American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania

Defending and expanding individual rights and personal freedoms throughout the entire state of Pennsylvania through advocacy, public education and litigation.

Atlantic Center for Capital Representation

Providing consultation and mitigation services, legal advocacy, education, and training to combat the death penalty and juvenile life without parole sentences in Pennsylvania.

CeaseFirePA

Working to reduce gun violence and gun tragedies in our communities, stop the flow of illegal guns onto our streets, and keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have them.

Community Legal Services

Providing low income Philadelphia residents with advice and representation in civil legal matters, advocating for their legal rights, and conducting community education.

Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance Project

Providing free legal advice and representation to low-income persons seeking relief from consumer debts.

CORA/Good Shepherd Mediation Program

Empowering Philadelphia community residents to creatively search for meaningful and lasting solutions to their conflicts without resorting to crime or violence.

CASA of Philadelphia

Training and supporting community volunteers to become sworn officers of the court to speak up for the safety, stability, health and well-being of abused and neglected children in the foster care system.



Meet our Nonprofit Partners



Disability Rights Pennsylvania

Protecting and advocating for rights of people with disabilities so that they may live the lives they choose, free from abuse, neglect, discrimination, and segregation.

Education Law Center

Ensuring equal access to a quality public education for all children in Pennsylvania by advocating on behalf of the most at-risk students; fighting for fair school funding; and stopping the school-to-prison pipeline.

Esperanza Immigration Legal Services

Providing direct legal services, advocacy, and community education for underserved immigrants and their families.

Face to Face Legal Center

Providing a safe environment and practical tools, which enable the people of our community to confront personal challenges, empower their lives, and fulfill their unique potential.

HIAS Pennsylvania

Providing legal and supportive services to immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers from all backgrounds in order to assure their fair treatment and full integration into American society.

Homeless Advocacy Project

Providing free, high quality civil legal services to individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in Philadelphia.

Justice at Work

Supporting low-wage workers as they pursue economic and social justice by providing legal services, education, and advocacy.

Juvenile Law Center

Protecting and advancing children's rights in courts, legislatures, and executive agencies through litigation, appellate advocacy and submission of amicus briefs, policy reform, public education, training, and strategic communications.

Legal Clinic for the Disabled

Providing free legal services to low-income people with disabilities and to the deaf and hard of hearing in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties.

Mazzoni Center

Providing direct legal services, and quality comprehensive health and wellness services, in an LGBT-focused environment, while preserving the dignity and improving the quality of life of the individuals served.





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*Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award
Su Ming Yeh, Esq.*

*Pro Bono Award of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation
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Meet our Nonprofit Partners



Nationalities Service Center Legal Services

Preparing and empowering immigrants and refugees in the Philadelphia region to transcend challenging circumstances by providing comprehensive client-centered services to build a solid foundation for a self-sustaining and dignified future.

Pennsylvania Health Law Project

Providing free legal services and advocacy to protect and advance the health rights of low-income and underserved Pennsylvanians eligible for publicly-funded health care.

Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center

Providing access to justice for vulnerable immigrants, both adults and family members, who are held in civil immigration detention and who are victims of violence in the community.

Pennsylvania Innocence Project

Exonerating those who have been convicted of crimes they did not commit, and preventing the innocent from being convicted.

Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project

Providing free legal assistance in civil matters to low-income people who are incarcerated or institutionalized.

Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts

Ensuring that all Pennsylvanians can come to our courts with confidence that they will be heard by qualified, fair, and impartial judges.

Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity

Seeking a more equitable social environment for those with criminal records through individual representation, strategic litigation, community education, research, and legislative advocacy.

Philadelphia Legal Assistance

Providing free, high quality, civil legal services, advice, and referrals for eligible low income people to help them navigate the legal system and understand and safeguard their rights.

Philadelphia VIP

Leveraging the powerful resources of the community to provide quality volunteer legal services and ensure access to justice for low-income Philadelphians.

Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts

Providing legal services, educational programs, and community building events for artists, lawyers and cultural organizations.



Meet our Nonprofit Partners



Public Interest Law Center

Using high-impact legal strategies to advance the civil, social, and economic rights of communities in the Philadelphia region facing discrimination, inequality, and poverty.

Regional Housing Legal Services

Creating housing and economic opportunity in underserved communities in Pennsylvania and effecting systematic change for the benefit of lower-income households statewide.

SeniorLAW Center

Improving the lives of older Pennsylvanians and protecting their rights through legal representation, education and advocacy.

Support Center for Child Advocates

Advocating for victims of child abuse and neglect with the goal of securing safety, justice, well-being and a permanent, nurturing environment for every child.



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WOAR - Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence

Eliminating sexual violence through specialized treatment services, comprehensive prevention education programs, and advocacy for the rights of survivors of sexual assault; providing free counseling for women, men, and children who have experienced sexual violence.

Women Against Abuse

Providing quality, compassionate, and nonjudgmental services in a manner that fosters self-respect and independence in persons experiencing intimate partner violence and leading the struggle to end domestic violence through advocacy and community education.

Women's Law Project

Creating a more just and equitable society by advancing the rights and status of all girls, women, and their families by engaging in high-impact litigation and legal advocacy, working to influence public policy, and educating community members.

Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project

Using direct service and policy advocacy to transform the experiences of children prosecuted in the adult criminal justice system, and to ensure fair and thoughtful resentencing and reentry for individuals who were sentenced to life without parole as children (“juvenile lifers”).



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And we are honored to be recognized with the
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2022 Award Recipients



***Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award
Su Ming Yeh, Esq., Pennsylvania
Institutional Law Project***



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Congratulations to this year's award recipients, Su Ming Yeh, Esq., Duane Morris, and Ballard Spahr.

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Su Ming Yeh, Esq.



Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award

Su Ming Yeh, Esq. is the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project (PILP). PILP is a nonprofit statewide legal aid organization headquartered in Philadelphia that works to ensure the health, safety, and humane treatment of incarcerated individuals throughout Pennsylvania through litigation and advocacy. Su Ming Yeh leads a team of lawyers who represent incarcerated and institutionalized people on their civil rights claims.



During her almost twenty-year career at PILP, Yeh has improved the lives of thousands of people, protecting the rights of incarcerated people, LGBTQ+ individuals, people with disabilities, and countless others who suffered abuse behind bars. She has litigated dozens of individual cases and class action suits challenging unconstitutional conditions for people who are incarcerated, institutionalized, or detained.

In the past two years as the Executive Director of PILP, Yeh has been committed to expanding the services of PILP, increasing diversity, and providing new staff with a strong foundation to grow their careers. Throughout her time with the organization, she has been a shoulder to lean on and someone PILP staff regularly turn to for advice and guidance, as her compassion extends to everyone with whom she interacts. Yeh's dedication to social justice and her community extends beyond her legal career. Prior to law school, she worked on social justice issues as a science teacher with the U.S. Peace Corps in the Kingdom of Tonga. Yeh also served as the Executive Director of the Asian Professional Extension, Inc. and as a community organizer with the Coalition for Asian-American Children and Families.

Yeh is also a dedicated member of the greater Philadelphia public interest community. Yeh served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where she co-taught the Civil Practice Clinic for 5 years. She served as the President of the Asian Pacific Bar Association of Pennsylvania in 2015 and still serves on its board, along with serving on the board of the Defender Association of Philadelphia. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's House of Delegates, previously co-chaired the Philadelphia Bar Association's Civil Rights Committee, and served as the Chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Public Interest Section. She is the current co-chair of the Minority Bar Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.





Pro Bono Award of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation

Ballard Spahr
LLP

Ballard Spahr has been an innovator in pro bono representation in Philadelphia and beyond. The firm's Racial Justice and Equality Initiative, launched in the summer of 2020, is the epitome of the firm's institutional commitment to pro bono representation and the cause of ensuring equal access to justice for all.

Through the initiative, attorneys work closely with public interest organizations to pursue pro bono matters that advance race equity, including by addressing economic, education, and voting rights matters. Current partners include the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Appleseed Network, and Asian Americans Advancing Justice, among others. Since its inception, the initiative has accepted 16 representations, and Ballard Spahr litigators have contributed more than 6,000 pro bono hours to those matters.

Despite being barely two years old, the initiative has had a number of early victories. In 2021, for instance, a team of Ballard Spahr attorneys, on behalf of Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy and Research Organization (CLLARO), successfully advocated for a more equitable redrawing of Colorado's state legislative districts to better reflect communities of interest, particularly Colorado's historic and growing Latino community. Ballard attorneys have also been working with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and other partners on two other cases: one focuses on ensuring a fair and equitable admissions process for a magnet school in Montgomery County, Maryland; and the other, which challenges the practice of prison-based gerrymandering in Pennsylvania, contributed to the General Assembly's decision to largely end the practice.

In conjunction with the Racial Justice and Equality Initiative, Ballard Spahr's Media and Entertainment Law Practice Group launched the Diverse Voice pro bono media law initiative. Through this initiative, Ballard is representing 16 media outlets that serve communities of color in areas across the country, including Resolve Philly, a journalism collective that challenges the industry to be more equitable, collaborative, and based in community voices and solutions. This effort extends beyond Ballard's media lawyers to involve attorneys across the firm's practices and offices—who have provided an additional 820 pro bono hours.

Ballard has also partnered with Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity and other community organizations to help clients pursue criminal record expungements and pardons. The firm has co-hosted seven legal clinics, attended by the firm's attorneys and paralegals, and by staff from in-house legal departments. Attendees receive training on guiding clients through the pardon process or completing an expungement petition. Following the legal clinics, participants meet in teams of two to work directly with a client. These individual client representations account for more than 800 additional pro bono hours from Ballard Spahr attorneys.





Pro Bono Award of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation

Duane Morris LLP has been an outstanding pro bono partner to Philadelphia's legal aid agencies for many years. During the past 15 years, Duane Morris has donated more than 390,000 pro bono hours. In the Philadelphia office, the participation rate in pro bono activities and the number of pro bono hours donated has doubled since 2015. Unlike other firms, Duane Morris does not have a pro bono requirement for its attorneys. Their robust pro bono participation is a testament to the firm's culture and to leadership's commitment to serving community through pro bono.

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Duane Morris has performed incredible and innovative pro bono work for immigrants in the Greater Philadelphia Area. For over a decade, Duane Morris has joined with HIAS Pennsylvania and American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) of Philadelphia to organize Philadelphia's citywide Citizenship Day, a nationwide day that helps thousands of eligible legal permanent residents to prepare and apply for U.S. naturalization.

Responding to the crisis in Afghanistan, in August 2021, Duane Morris mobilized over 100 attorneys and staff to assist over 400 Afghan nationals seeking safety via Humanitarian Parole, Special Immigration Visas, F-1, family, and other avenues. Duane Morris also trained and mobilized in-house attorneys and staff at PNC Bank and Comcast as well. Since August 2021, the firm has donated nearly 3,000 pro bono hours to helping Afghans refugees.

Duane Morris also provides compassionate legal assistance to immigrants who are victims of intimate personal violence. Duane Morris has donated over 4,000 pro bono hours in Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) cases, helping more than 50 immigrant survivors of intimate personal violence stabilize their immigration statuses. Duane Morris also was recognized for its pro bono representation of The Food Trust (TFT), thereby furthering TFT's mission of ensuring delicious, nutritious food for all.

Duane Morris likewise has been a critical partner to the Women's Law Project (WLP) during a tumultuous time for women's access to reproductive healthcare. In 2021, a team of Duane Morris attorneys represented medical professionals across the Commonwealth as amicus curiae before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, urging the court to permit petitioners' third-party standing on behalf of their patients as their interests were directly aligned. Duane Morris also represented a group of amici in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. Duane Morris' brief in that case highlighted the intersectional experience of Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) women, particularly in Southern and rural areas, and urged the Court to adopt an intersectional lens in considering the importance of achieving reproductive justice and upholding the right to abortion.





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Law & Justice Mentoring Program



The Law & Justice Mentoring Program (LJMP) was launched in January of 2022 by the Philadelphia School District's Office of Strategic Partnerships and the Pepper Center for Public Service at Troutman Pepper. LJMP is a pipeline initiative aimed at connecting BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) students within the School District of Philadelphia, underrepresented in the local legal community, to critical pre-law opportunities and mentorship.

The pilot year for the program was launched at Kensington Health Sciences Academy (KHSa), with 20 students participating during the school year and nine of those students continuing on to participate in internships with legal aid organizations in Philadelphia over the summer. During the school year, the students examined five current, key legal issues (Criminal Justice Reform/Mass Incarceration, Access to Healthcare, Immigration, Gun Violence, and Educational Disparities) using a collaborative problem-solving approach. Philadelphia's best and brightest attorneys, including a number of the Bar Foundation's nonprofit partners, volunteered their time and expertise to have open and honest conversations with the students on these topics. The students also each developed a mentor relationship with a law student or attorney mentor.



Eligible students were then placed with a legal advocacy organization for a 4-6 week internship, which included a stipend for participants. Funds were raised from area lawyers and law firms. The Bar Foundation was proud to support this innovative program by administering and coordinating the payment of stipends to eligible students. Six of the Bar Foundation's nonprofit partners hosted a student: Public Interest Law Center, HIAS Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Innocence Project, Philadelphia VIP, Ceasefire PA, and Homeless Advocacy Project. The students completed reflective journaling assignments throughout their internship experience and were supported by Fellows at the Pepper Center for Public Service at Troutman Pepper who served as "journaling mentors."

The LJMP hopes to continue to grow and expand in the future, with the ultimate goal of increasing student exposure to and enrollment in local law schools. The Bar Foundation is proud to be a partner in this program and is grateful to the PSD's Office of Strategic Partnerships and the Pepper Center for Public Service at Troutman Pepper for putting it together.



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We join in congratulating Su Ming Yeh, recipient of the 2022 Philadelphia Bar Foundation Award and are honored to be recognized, along with Ballard Spahr LLP, as recipients of the 2022 Pro Bono Award.

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For more information, please contact:

Christopher D. Durham

Chair, Human Resources Committee and Co-chair, Access to Justice Annual Event, Philadelphia Bar Foundation

Partner, Duane Morris LLP

215.979.1510 | cddurham@duanemorris.com

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We're big fans of people who look out for people.

Congratulations to the 2022 Award Recipients. Hard work doesn't always get the recognition it deserves, so when it makes a community better, we take notice. Thank you for all your efforts, and keep making us stronger.



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together, we can do so much.”
– Helen Keller

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The Members of
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extend their heartfelt congratulations to
the Philadelphia Bar Foundation's
2022 Award winners:

Su Ming Yeh, Esq. and the law firms of
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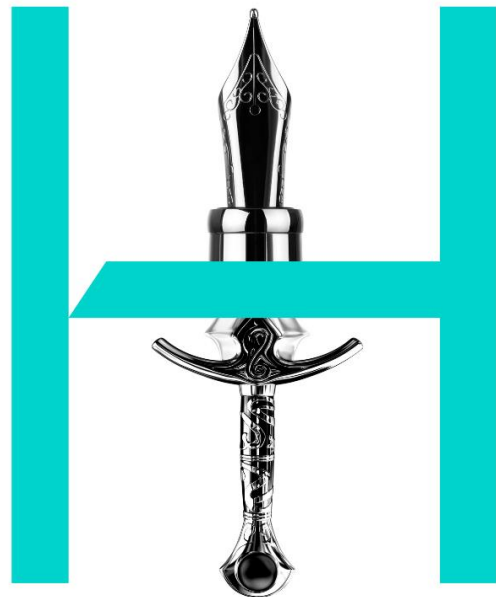
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