

2010 DUSHMAN AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED



(From left) LaSonnya Hart, Joseph Ryan, Michael Camilleri and Al Wallis.

Brown Rudnick CEO Joseph F. Ryan announced the 2010 recipients of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest *M. Robert Dushman Awards* at this year’s “State of the Firm.”

The *Pro Bono Award* was presented to **Michael Camilleri**. Mike, who is a director and treasurer of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation and active in leading Hartford office pro bono efforts, is also very engaged in civic life. The *Community Service Award* was presented to **LaSonnya Hart**, who is quite involved with the Center, has been described by one of her co-workers as “an inspiration” when it comes to her volunteer and community activities. Mike and LaSonnya are each entitled to direct the Firm to make a one-time \$2500 donation to the reputable charity of their choice.

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FIFTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST



"Little Winter"
First Place (tie)
Amanda Rigal
Junior
The Boston Latin Academy



"Wintery Wonderland"
First Place (tie)
Tamika Reid
Senior
The Boston Latin School



"Tasting Snowflakes"
People's Choice Award
Amber Mateo
8th Grade
The Harbor School



"Warm Smiles and Laughter"
Second Place
Phi Ngo
Junior
The Boston Latin Academy

The annual awards celebration of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation/Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts, Inc. (VLA) Holiday Art Contest was held at Brown Rudnick's Boston office in December. The Event Center was filled with representatives from Boston Public Schools, teachers, parents, student artists and Brown Rudnick supporters. The contest winner's artwork was made into a holiday card and was offered for sale to people in the Firm and others, raising \$3,700 to support the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of MA.



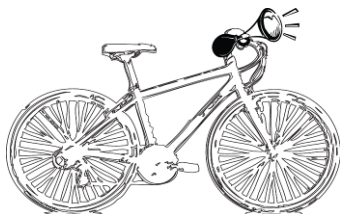
In 2004, the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation awarded a Relationship Grant to the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts, Inc. (VLA) to initiate an annual holiday card contest aimed at supporting arts education in Boston Public Schools. Since then, the Foundation and VLA have teamed each year on this project, along with assistance from the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest and the support of the Boston Public Schools. The contest provides an opportunity for educators to engage students in an art enrichment program.

Above, 2009 Holiday Card Contest winners and their supporters

BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION ELECTS 2010 DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation has elected 2010 Directors and Officers. Brown Rudnick partner **Steven Wasserman** was newly elected to the Board of Directors for a three-year term. Directors reelected were Brown Rudnick partners **Joseph Ryan, Paul Cicchetti, Jessica Collins** and **Brian Gallogly**. Partner **Edwin Pease** was subsequently elected for a one-year term to fill a vacancy.

At the conclusion of the elections, the Directors thanked the outgoing board members, **Carl Axelrod, Kenneth Asher** and **David Bright**, for their years of dedicated and enthusiastic service.



RECYCLING BENEFITS THE FOUNDATION

Brown Rudnick's Boston office home, One Financial Center, was honored at the end of 2009 by the Building Owners and Managers Association of Boston with the "Earth Award" in recognition of sustainable building operations. In appreciation for Brown Rudnick's own green effort contributions, the building management awarded two \$500 International Bicycle Centers gift cards to the Firm.

To celebrate the new year, Brown Rudnick raffled the two gift cards within its domestic offices, with all proceeds from this raffle donated to the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation.

While **Cheryl McGrail** and **Carl Axelrod** were the raffle winners, each receiving a \$500 gift card, the Foundation (and therefore, inner-city education) also won big, receiving a donation of \$664.

2010 Officers :

Chairman: Joseph F. Ryan
President: Cheryl B. Pinarchick
Vice-President: Brian P. Gallogly
Vice-President: Henry W. Menn, III
Treasurer: Michael J. Camilleri
Secretary: Douglas A. Cohen

The Foundation's Grants Committee will be chaired by Jessica Collins, while the Development Committee will be chaired by Michael Camilleri.



Raffle Winners Cheryl McGrail & Carl Axelrod

Raffle coordinators:

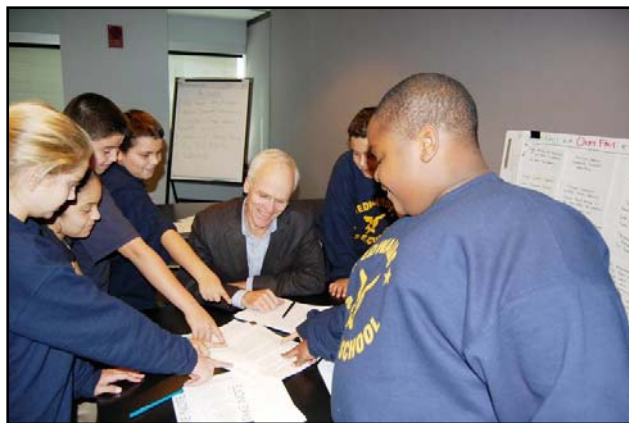
- Boston** - Kym Patrico
- Hartford** - Diana Nelson
- New York** - Denise Kaer
- Providence** - Derek Brooks
- Washington** - Sandy Carkin

CITIZENS SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL



Three months of preparation paid off in early December when the Brown Rudnick Mock Trial Team participated in the final mock trial before a jury in the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts, U.S. District Court Judge Patty Saris presiding. Brown Rudnick's team, sixth graders from the Edwards Middle School, were wonderfully coached by 5 Boston associates, Benjamin Chapman, Ryan Moore, Elizabeth O'Donoghue, Travis Rodgers and Maureen Sturtevant. Others in the firm participated, as court clerk (Kym Patrico), witnesses (Saul DeLa Guardia, Darien Fleming and Allyson Roklan) and jurors (Benjamin Gould, Raisa Litmanovich, Jennifer Recht and Rachel Rosen).

The Evening of Mock Trials is the culmination of the ten-week Legal Program, co-sponsored by Discovering Justice and Citizen Schools. The Legal Apprenticeship Program matches Boston middle-school students with local attorneys who volunteer their time to help students prepare to litigate cases. This special program teaches young people from underserved about the value of the justice system while also helping them realize the power of their own voices. Over the last ten years, the Evening of Mock Trials has become one of the great celebrations in the city of Boston. Brown Rudnick, through the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, has been a proud sponsor of the Citizen Schools Mock Trials.



Brown Rudnick CEO, Joe Ryan, helps out with the coaching.

BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION CORPORATION AWARDS NEW COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick LLP, has recently awarded two new *Community Grants*. Created to primarily support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the *Community Grants* subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence, New York or Washington, D.C. within the coming year.

In Boston, The **School of the Future** will receive a grant in support of a differentiated English curriculum. According to **Adam Kinory**, teacher and grant applicant, “By definition, differentiated instruction is the process of ensuring that what a student learns, how he/she learns it, and how the student demonstrates what he/she learned is a match for that student’s readiness level, interests, and preferred mode of learning. Over the course of the last two years, we have systematically revised the 11th and 12th grade English curriculum to adopt the tenets of differentiated learning. With support of organizations such as the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, we can implement the final phases of our program.”

In Hartford, a grant has been made to **HartBeat Ensemble** to support an after-school theater program as part of HartBeat Ensemble’s Youth Play Institute (YPI). YPI brings urban and suburban youth together for an intensive month-long play creation process. By teaching youth to communicate with one another through theater, the program breaks down racial and economic stereotypes. Throughout the research-based curriculum, students receive one-on-one training and group instruction in playwriting, decision-making, conflict resolution, acting and theatrical design. According to **Cindy Martinez**, Director, Youth Play Institute, Community liaison, and grant applicant, “We have found that maintaining professional production values for the YPI plays is an essential element to the program. When students see that their work is being supported by professional design and technology, they inevitably raise their level of commitment and hard work. We are grateful that Brown Rudnick’s Charitable Foundation will allow us to offer our students this quality production equipment.”

Al Wallis, Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., said, “The Foundation is very pleased to support these two educational initiatives, each of which seeks to provide an innovative way through traditional learning barriers to reach students in need. The School of the Future has a highly diverse student population which presents numerous teaching challenges surrounding language barriers, reading levels, and learning styles. The teacher and school will adopt an innovative learning structure that seeks to maximize learning opportunities for inner-city students by matching a curriculum to their unique learning style and skill level. The HartBeat Ensemble also uses an innovative educational approach. It’s socially conscious play productions and educational programs provide students with a unique platform for self-expression and self-exploration.”



Al Wallis visits the Blackstone School in Boston, a recent Community Grant recipient



ADVOCATING FOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE POOR

Each year, Brown Rudnick joins with hundreds of Boston lawyers, and with state and local bar associations, to Walk to the Hill – the Massachusetts’ State House – advocating for civil legal services funding throughout the commonwealth. The firm was an active participant in this year’s walk. The Brown Rudnick group (pictured at left), included Christian Rivera, Shelly Shaw, Gregory Smith, co-captains Al Wallis and Edward Naughton, and Kristin Gerber. Photo courtesy of the Massachusetts Equal Justice Coalition.

BROWN RUDNICK FILES U.S. SUPREME COURT BRIEF ON BEHALF OF CRIMINOLOGISTS IN GUN CONTROL CASE, OTIS MCDONALD V. CITY OF CHICAGO

Brown Rudnick has filed an amicus brief in the Second Amendment case before the U.S. Supreme Court, *Otis McDonald v. City of Chicago*. The firm represents Northeastern University’s James Alan Fox, the Lipman Family Professor of Criminal Justice and Professor of Law, Policy and Society, and Jack Levin, the Irving and Betty Brudnick Professor of Sociology and Criminology.

Brown Rudnick’s representation is provided through the firm’s Center for the Public Interest. The legal team included litigation partner Elizabeth A. Ritvo and litigation associates Amanda Buck Varella and Dylan P. Kletter, as well as Albert W. Wallis, Executive Director of Brown Rudnick’s Center for the Public Interest. The firm is providing its services on a pro bono basis.

The brief argues the Chicago handgun ban should be upheld because it has been an effective legislative response to handgun violence, saving hundreds of lives. Professors Fox and Levin presented the criminologists’ view in support of the Chicago handgun ban, arguing that the ban has helped reduce handgun homicides involving family members and intimate partners; favorably impacted Chicago’s overall handgun homicide rate relative to other cities once economic and demographic factors are considered; reduced the supply of handguns, which correlates with a reduction in handgun crime; and protected its citizens from the increase in crime associated with increased availability of handguns. The research data, they assert, shows that, post-ban the number of handgun homicides in homes has decreased and that Chicago residents are now safer in their homes than they were before the ban.

This is the second gun control case in which Brown Rudnick filed an amicus brief on behalf of Professor Fox. In February 2008, the firm provided pro bono legal representation in the U.S. Supreme Court Gun Case entitled *D.C. v. Heller*. In that matter, the Washington D.C. handgun ban was struck down by the Court.

JEANS FOR JUSTICE AT BROWN RUDNICK



National Pro Bono Celebration
October 25-31, 2009

The American Bar Association declared October 25-31 as Pro Bono Week, "a coordinated national effort to showcase the great difference that pro bono lawyers make to the nation, its system of justice, its communities and, most of all, to the clients they serve." In recognition of this effort, Brown Rudnick employees were encouraged to wear jeans to work and donate \$5 to a fund for a legal aid program which works with pro bono attorneys. The firm raised a 5-office total of \$815 and by a vote of local office participants, each office's funds were donated to support a local organizations providing free legal representation to those in need. Donations were made to:

- Boston – Greater Boston Legal Services. <http://www.gbls.org>
- Hartford – Center for Children's Advocacy. <http://kidscounsel.org/>
- New York – New York Legal Aid. <http://www.legalservicesnyc.org/index.php>
- Providence – Rhode Island Legal Services. http://www.rils.org/about_us.htm
- Washington, DC – Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. <http://www.washlaw.org/>

ASSISTING THE HOMELESS

Twice a year, Brown Rudnick attorneys in Boston provide legal advice at a homeless shelter through the Boston Bar Association's Lawyers Clearinghouse. Below, attorneys confer after last autumn's Clinic at the Mederios Center.



RECENT PRO BONO LEGAL ENGAGEMENTS

- Environment.** Advising a non profit on environmental matters in connection with land donation (Attorney Franca DeRosa).
- Homeless.** Representing a homeless individual in connection with recovery of tax liability from a stolen 401K check and closing of CORI records (Attorneys Edward Naughton & Travis Rodgers).
- Gun control.** Filing of amicus curie brief for pro bono client (criminologists) in support of respondent City of Chicago in the case of McDonald v. City of Chicago (Attorneys Elizabeth Ritvo & Amanda Varella).
- Artist’s rights.** Advising individual regarding pre-distribution review of film through a referral from the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts (Attorney Elizabeth Ritvo).



Elizabeth Ritvo

- Tax-exempt formation.** Providing counsel regarding incorporation and obtaining tax-exempt status for a non profit organization (Attorneys Jessica Collins & Shelly Shaw).
- International assistance.** Formation of an LLC that will help the poor in developing countries to become self-sustaining by teaching them trades and selling their products in the USA. (Attorneys David Gammell & Adriana Schick).
- Educational program.** Advice to an educational program serving children regarding drafting corporate governance guidelines. (Attorneys Jessica Collins & Nina Andersson-Willard).
- Conscientious objector status.** Representation of military academy student appealing denial of conscientious objector status. (Attorneys Daniel Abrahams, Amy Walborn, Tammy Hopkins & Howard Wolf-Rodda). (Designated a Pro Bono Impact Project.)
- Unemployment benefits.** Representation of indigent individual in conjunction with Manhattan Legal Services and the Boston Bar Association’s Volunteer Lawyers Project. Each participating associate and summer associate will have the opportunity to represent, in teams or alone, an individual client in an administrative appeal of an unemployment benefits determination. (Attorneys Diane Nardi & Benjamin Welch). (Designated a Pro Bono Impact Project.)

3%

As a signatory to the national Pro Bono Institute’s Law Firm Pro Bono Challenge ®, and to underscore our institutional commitment to pro bono activities, Brown Rudnick pledges to its best efforts to ensure that, our firm will annually contribute, at a minimum, an amount of time equal to 3 percent of the firm’s total billable hours per attorney to pro bono work. The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is proud that we met the Challenge in 2009.

NANCY WILSKER HONORED AS WOMAN OF JUSTICE



In December, Nancy R. Wilsker was honored as a "woman of justice" by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* in partnership with the *Women's Bar Association* and *Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers*. This award was given to individuals who have made meaningful and inspiring contributions in the fields of social justice and advocacy. Specifically, Nancy was recognized for her work with Brown Rudnick's Women's Initiative, Diversity Committee and Charitable Foundation, as well as for her role as Trustee and Pro Bono General Counsel to Facing History & Ourselves. Finalists were honored at an awards luncheon at the InterContinental Hotel in Boston.

DIANE NARDI AND BROWN RUDNICK HONORED AS 2009 PRO BONO LEADERS

Legal Services of New York City presented awards to both Diane Nardi and to the firm of Brown Rudnick in recognition of their ongoing representation of indigent individuals in appeals of the denial of their unemployment benefits. In New York, this work has been part of the firm's summer associate program for the past several years.



AL WALLIS ELECTED TO APBCO LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Al Wallis has been elected to the 2010 Leadership Committee of the national Association of Pro Bono Counsel ("APBCo"). Established to support the professional development of full-time pro bono counsel at commercial law firms, APBCo has over 100 members from over 75 law firms. The group's mission is to encourage and support the delivery of pro bono legal services to individuals and nonprofit organizations who would otherwise be unable to obtain counsel. Al will serve as a Vice President of the organization.

BROWN RUDNICK GOES RED TO SUPPORT EDUCATION & RESEARCH ON HEART DISEASE

This year at the annual Go Red for Women Luncheon, the American Heart Association's Connecticut Chapter awarded Mark Asmar the "Heart of Gold" Award posthumously in recognition of his early support of the cause and his own battle with heart disease. During the event, Brown Rudnick CEO **Joseph Ryan** announced that the Firm was contributing \$20,000 to the American Heart Foundation.

Brown Rudnick Partner Mark Asmar passed away in September 2009. Mark was a distinguished attorney with over 40 years of experience who practiced real estate law in the Firm's Hartford, Connecticut office. A dedicated and active member of the Greater Hartford community, Mark was a longtime supporter of the American Heart Association.



Brown Rudnick domestic offices also participated in the American Heart Association's National Wear Red Day on Friday, February 5. Firm employees were encouraged to wear red and for a \$5 donation, received a pin and the opportunity to wear jeans to work for the day. \$1,245 raised was donated to support the American Heart Association's critical research and education for heart disease in women.



BROWN RUDNICK CONTINUES ITS ANNUAL SUPPORT OF THE UNITED WAY

In October, Brown Rudnick's Boston and Hartford offices celebrated the annual United Way Campaign with a week of events and fundraising. Brown Rudnick CEO, Joseph Ryan, kicked off the campaigns with a welcome to both offices.

In Hartford (below), Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation recipients Shelter for Women/Gray Lodge attended the office kick off to talk about how much the history teacher funded by the Foundation's grant has made a difference to the program/girls. Hartford also held a chili cook-off to raise funds for the campaign.



In Boston (below), a “speed dating non-profits” event was held, with participants spending 5 minutes at each of three tables where representatives from organizations receiving United Way funds --- Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Year Up! and Bird Street Community Center – described their missions and programs. As a direct result of this event, a Boston office effort was coordinated by the library staff to support the Bridge Over Troubled Waters, a social service agency which provides help to troubled youth. The library collected books and games to stock three common areas at the organization. Kathleen Gerwatowski and Nancy Wilsker’s family visited the organization on a weekend to deliver the donations and help set up the book shelves.



A HOLIDAY HELPING FROM BROWN RUDNICK

Hartford: The Hartford office recently donated food and clothing to benefit the Marshall House, a shelter run by the Salvation Army in Hartford's Asylum Hill neighborhood. It also held its annual holiday office breakfast in honor of Mark Asmar, its long time sponsor, and made donations to various charitable endeavors in memory of his generous and philanthropic nature.

Boston: The Boston office again answered the annual appeal from the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF) to help respond to children's wish lists as part of their annual Holiday Gift Drive. Brown Rudnick volunteers purchased holiday gifts for children in state custody and gathered together to wrap them in the Boston office before delivering them to DCF.



New York City: The New York office continued its annual support of Toys for Tots by collecting toys and funds for the organization.

Washington, DC: The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation has given a grant again this year to the DC Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights which supports their school partnership program. The D.C. office is again holding a Winter Clothing Drive in support of our partner school, the Whittier Elementary School.

EMERGENCY RELIEF TO HAITI

Brown Rudnick made a \$25,000 firm donation to support emergency international disaster relief efforts in the aftermath of the catastrophic Haiti earthquake. CEO Joseph Ryan said in announcing the contribution: "The need for humanitarian assistance to help provide emergency search and rescue and medical assistance, as well as to provide food, shelter, water and sanitation for displaced persons is overwhelming. The International Red Cross has estimated that as many as 3 million people may be in need of emergency relief." The Firm donation was made to the Red Cross which has a large scale relief effort in Haiti underway, as well as to Partners in Health, an organization that has been providing health care to the poor in Haiti for over 20 years and which has established an emergency field hospital to aid quake victims.



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Please contact Al Wallis or Kym Patrico to discuss any matters regarding the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest. Thanks especially to Kym Patrico, Lisa Murray, Alexis Zukowski and Connie Kelly for their assistance with this newsletter. And finally, apologies for any errors or unintentional omissions, which may from time-to-time occur in the Center Quarterly – maybe even this one.

- Al Wallis



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