

BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION CORP. ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT AND FOUR NEW DIRECTORS



At the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Foundation's Board of Directors, **Cheryl B. Pinarchick** was elected as Foundation President. She succeeds Carl E. Axelrod, who has served as Foundation President since 2004.

A Partner in Brown Rudnick's Litigation Department, Ms. Pinarchick's practice focuses on the efficient resolution of complex commercial and civil disputes. She is also very active in the employment arena, counseling clients on a wide variety of employment issues. Ms. Pinarchick served as a Foundation Vice President for two terms and as a Director of the Board since 2004. She is actively involved in providing pro bono legal representation and volunteer support to local non-profit organizations through Brown Rudnick's Center for the Public Interest.

During the Annual Meeting, the Foundation also elected Board Directors, **Brian P. Gallogly** and **Henry W. Menn III**, as Vice-Presidents, and re-elected Brown Rudnick CEO, **Joseph F. Ryan**, as Chairperson; **Kenneth R. Asher** as Treasurer; and **Douglas A. Cohen** as Clerk. Additionally, four new Board Directors were elected: **Mary D. Bucci**, **Michael J. Camilleri**, **Christopher J. Carolan** and **Paul W. Cicchetti**. Together, these attorneys will guide the Foundation's grant programs designed to improve inner-city education.

Congratulations to all!

"We applaud outgoing President Carl Axelrod on five years of inspirational leadership. As we move into 2009, working with Cheryl, the new Officers and Board Directors, we are well poised to continue and deepen the Foundation's focus, breadth and success in helping to improve inner-city education." -- Albert W. Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp.

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Winners of 4th Annual Holiday Card Contest Announced at Awards Celebration

The Foundation recently held its annual Award Ceremony for Boston public school students, teachers and parents to celebrate the selection of the 2008 student art work to be made into Brown Rudnick/ Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts, Inc. (VLA) holiday cards.

As part of Brown Rudnick's ongoing commitment to "going green" this year the winning card was available as an e-card as well as a traditional print card. Proceeds from the card sales support the work of the VLA.

In 2004, the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation awarded one of its Relationship Grants 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. Students submit artwork for possible selection as the cover of one or more VLA/Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation cards.



First Place card (left) by Anna Zeng, age 18, from Another Course to College and First Runner-Up card (right) by Lauren Doherty, age 17, from Boston Latin Academy.



A special thank you to all of our VLA Holiday Card Contest Judges!

First Year Associates Make Pro Bono a Priority

As part of the Center for the Public Interest's commitment to pro bono work, Brown Rudnick attorneys Christian Rivera and Al Wallis led a team of first-year attorneys in staffing a legal clinic for the homeless at the Pine Street Inn. Clinics are organized by the Boston Bar Association's Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing and Homelessness. Brown Rudnick staffs the clinics twice a year and the pro bono client work is ongoing. Other participants included Benjamin Gould, Allyson Picard, Monica Cafaro, Amber Elias, Angelo Thalassinis, Kristin Gerber, and Katherine Marques.



"Working with the Boston Bar Association's Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing and Homelessness enabled me to learn about the broad spectrum of legal challenges that homelessness presents. It was an extremely rewarding experience to help our clients resolve the various legal issues that they faced."

-- Allyson Picard, 1st year associate

"I am honored to be a part of Brown Rudnick's commitment to pro bono work. By advising those who would otherwise not have access to legal counsel we are truly making a difference for those who need our help the most."

-- Angelo Thalassinis, 1st year associate

Sample of New Pro Bono Matters:

Legal Aid Program: Representation regarding employee layoffs. (*Attorney Elise Busny*)

Association for Human Services: Assistance with memorandum of understanding with partnering agencies relating to financial literacy outreach project. (*Attorneys Doug Cohen & Beth Kennedy*)

German Ghetto Workers and Bet Tzedek: The New York office continues its engagement in a project representing of survivors of German controlled ghettos during Holocaust in connection with restitution claims made under new program instituted by German government. (*Attorneys Al Wallis, Andrew Dash, Patrick Cox, Chris Carolan, Laura Weiss, Patrick Chen, Diane Nardi, Shoshana Kaiser & Inese Jundze*)

Unemployment Benefits Appeal Project: Representation of individuals in administrative appeals contesting the denial of their unemployment benefits. (*Attorneys Elise Busny, Katherine Marques, Nicolas Dunn, Andrew Sroka, Caleb Piron, Allyson Picard, Monica Cafaro, Matthew Karr, Amber Elias, Matthew Sgro, Ben Welch, Lan Marinelli & Shivani Kaul*)

Educational Non-Profit: Through the New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, we have been engaged to obtain tax-exempt status for this organization working to address school truancy. (*Attorneys Steve Wasserman & Tim Bennett*)

Indigent Artist: Advising possible compilation of client's written work by a newspaper. (*Attorneys Mark Leonardo & Shivani Kaul*)

HOW OUR PRO BONO CLIENT BOUGHT A FIREHOUSE



Carl Axelrod



Christian Rivera

Brown Rudnick recently provided pro bono legal counsel to ZUMIX, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides performing arts-based educational programs at no cost to children in East Boston. The Brown Rudnick legal team included Carl Axelrod, Jason Mahler, and Christian Rivera, with assistance from Carole Brennan.



Jason Mahler



Carole Brennan

This team worked through a myriad of complex legal and government relations issues involving a unique partnership between the City of Boston, East Boston Community Development Corporation and ZUMIX. As a result, a complicated real estate deal was closed to the satisfaction of all parties, and with a long-term benefit for the children in the community.

Brown Rudnick was asked directly by the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts to handle this engagement because of its complexity and sensitivity. Through our Center for the Public Interest, the Firm represented ZUMIX in the acquisition of an abandoned firehouse from the City of Boston, with involvement by the East Boston Community Development Corporation. The financing for the acquisition and development of the site involved multiple loan sources as well as the proceeds from New Market Tax Credits, and this project represents ZUMIX's largest financial and institutional undertaking to date.

For the past 18 years, ZUMIX has provided its programs and services, which include instrumental music instruction, technical audio support training, and the sponsorship of local live-music concerts, out of an outdated and outgrown rented facility. ZUMIX is now developing the 9,000 square foot former firehouse, with its fourteen-foot-high ceilings and open floor plan, into a state-of-the-art performance space with classrooms, practice areas, an in-house recording studio and radio station, as well as office and exhibition space. This new location will allow a large number of waitlisted children to be able to access ZUMIX's programs, and will provide a sophisticated, state-of-the-art venue for these programs to continue to grow.



Cooking up Contributions for Brown Rudnick's 2008 United Way Campaign

In October, Brown Rudnick celebrated its annual United Way Campaign with a week of events and fundraising. Brown Rudnick CEO, Joe Ryan, kicked off the Boston campaign week with a breakfast in the Events Center. Fundraising events such as the fan-favorite chili-contest and bake sale were held throughout the week. Brown Rudnick and its employees donated approximately \$36,000.



To the left of the podium, Kenneth Murphy, Peg Sprague and Quita Sullivan, all from United Way. To the right are Al Wallis, Kym Patricio, and Nina Anderson-Willis (who provides pro bono legal representation to the United Way), all from Brown Rudnick.

Leading the Way for the American Cancer Society



For the second consecutive year, Brown Rudnick was the lead law firm "challenge team" in the Boston Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk benefiting the American Cancer Society. Brown Rudnick fielded the largest law firm team participating in the Walk. Julia Forbes organized the team, the core of which included Brown Rudnick walkers and fundraisers Diana Pierce, Linda Charron, Betty Sullivan, and Sharyn MacEachern. Many others in the Firm made a financial contribution. The team raised over \$7,000 in donations to fight cancer.

Brown Rudnick Donates Paper to the Boston Latin School

In November, the Brown Rudnick mailroom took the Firm's old letterhead and boxed up the paper to send to the school. This provided student artists with an immediate resource and a real life example of a "green" business initiative.

Pictured to the right are letters from Mr. Moy's art class at the Boston Latin School. The students thanked Brown Rudnick for the paper which will be used for art projects.



MBA Celebrates More than a Decade of Support from Brown Rudnick

Brown Rudnick, through its Center for Public Interest, recently donated \$25,000 to the Massachusetts Bar Association's 2009 Mock Trial Program. Since 1998, Brown Rudnick has contributed more than \$250,000 as the lead financial underwriter of this program.

"The MBA Mock Trial Program is a legacy project for Brown Rudnick. Supporting and coaching students in mock trials through several programs in Massachusetts and Connecticut has been an important part of our focus on improving inner-city education. The mock trial partnership with the MBA program, which Brown Rudnick has supported for over a decade, has been consistently rewarding for all involved." states Al Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest.



"We are sincerely grateful for Brown Rudnick's continued support of this important community learning program, which provides hundreds of Bay State students participatory-educational opportunities with the legal system,"

-- Edward W. McIntyre, MBA President

Al Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, Elise Busny, Brown Rudnick partner, Edward McIntyre, MBA President, and Joe Ryan, Brown Rudnick CEO.

Brown Rudnick Mock Trial Talent on Display at Program Finals



Supported by a grant from the Foundation, two Brown Rudnick-coached teams of middle school students participated in the final trials at the U.S. District Court in Boston. All Boston first-year associates served as coaches over a three month period in this Citizen Schools/Discovering Justice program. The Edwards Campus Team was captained by first-year associate Monica Rose Cafaro and the Mario Umana Campus Team was captained by first-year associate Valerie Mersier. Many judges, law firms, lawyers and students gathered for the final WOW! event.

Brown Rudnick's Hartford Office Shares Holiday Gifts

Brown Rudnick's Hartford, Connecticut office recently made charitable donations to five area not-for-profit community organizations:

- **Operation Fuel**, a private, not-for-profit organization that provides emergency energy assistance to elderly, disabled and low-income working poor families who are facing financial crisis and are not eligible for government benefits.
- **TheaterWorks**, a non-profit professional theater company in downtown Hartford that is experiencing economic difficulty.
- **Brady's Smile**, a memorial foundation for Brady Blaine Hinton, the nephew of Brown Rudnick attorney Katie Hinton. Brady's Smile provides financial assistance to defray medical expenses and seeks to establish a scholarship program for educational institutions benefiting children in need.
- **The Junior League of Greater New Haven, Inc.**, a not-for-profit women's organization that provides leadership, volunteer training, and service opportunities to less-enfranchised women in the City of New Haven and its surrounding communities.
- **Breakthrough II Magnet School** in Hartford's North End. Brown Rudnick employees purchased winter coats, boots, clothing and toys for the children in need at the school. Pictured below are some of the students with the Brown Rudnick's Jeanne Lavoie and Diana Nelson.



"Every year we make charitable giving a priority. This year, in the face of the global economic downturn, it seemed more important than ever to support our local not-for-profit community organizations. I am delighted that Brown Rudnick can assist these worthy groups so that they have adequate resources to continue to serve the greater Hartford community."

-- Franca L. DeRosa, a partner in Brown Rudnick's Hartford Office

An Extra Holiday Helping for Rosie's Place



To benefit Rosie's Place, a long-time pro bono client, Brown Rudnick's **Boston** office collected and donated toiletries. Also, Brown Rudnick hosted Rosie's Women's Craft Cooperative which sold handcrafted gifts to support women associated with Rosie's Place. A special applause to Brown Rudnick attorney, Margaret Pinkham, who organized this toiletry drive.

This Rosie's Place effort continued when Brown Rudnick partner, Gordon Penman, donated prepaid gift cards to be given as holiday presents to many of the 240 children served by Rosie's Place. Both Margaret and Gordon are pictured to the left with Rosie's Place volunteers.

The Spirit of Giving at Brown Rudnick

Boston held its annual "Holiday Toy Drive" in which Brown Rudnick employees "adopted" a child in the custody of the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, anonymously providing clothes and gifts to children. This year, 55 children were adopted by the Boston office and donors gathered on the final day to collectively wrap their gifts for delivery.



New York held its annual "Toys for Tots" event in the office. Brown Rudnick employees donated \$1,350 to be used for the purchase of toys.



I want to thank each of you for your wonderful spirit of giving. Especially in this economic time of such distress for everyone, the fact that you once again joined with us in such a tremendous way shows such warmth and kindness and generosity on each of your parts. Each night, I just thank god for the wonderful good people who help us and the children and families we serve. It is a blessing and it is rare. I am very grateful and know how much work this also is for you to organize.

-- Saf Lerman-Carusio, Executive Director, Kids Fund, Department of Social Services, Boston

Boston Community Leadership Academy Students Choose to Make a Difference

With the help of a Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Relationship Grant given to Thompson Island/Outward Bound, students from Boston Community Leadership Academy (BCLA) were able to participate in and graduate from the *Choices* program. The grant allowed students from the BCLA to spend a week on Thompson Island in October participating in *Choices*, a program that builds trust and self esteem and also engages the students in identifying a problem they would like to address in their community.



"Nothing can compare to the great things I learned on Thompson Island. I learned on responsibility for my actions. I learned respect for everyone. I did not make friends, as I think of everyone as family." -- James

"I learned to have courage." -- Andre

"You have to face your fears step by step. Bring home kindness and love. Just because we are young doesn't mean we can't do anything. We have to start right now." -- Anonymous

In December, at a luncheon hosted by Brown Rudnick, nine students from the *Choices* program presented their plan to Brown Rudnick on how they proposed to address urban violence.



Brown Rudnick Answers A Call to Protect

For several years, through the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, the Firm has been supporting a national program, a *Call to Protect*. *Call to Protect* distributes new and recycled pre-programmed emergency wireless phones free of charge to domestic violence victims. Because of the Firm's ongoing support of this program, Brown Rudnick has consistently been able to donate approximately 25 phones and accessories (including chargers and extra batteries) every 2 - 3 months. Brown Rudnick attorney Dan Brown coordinates this effort.



"All of the support staff, attorneys, and other professionals at Brown Rudnick LLP thank you for organizing this important program. We are thrilled to be able to have once again participated, and hope that our contribution will help ensure the safety of many victims of domestic violence."

-- Dan Brown, Brown Rudnick attorney

Brown Rudnick Assists in Hurricane Ike Rebuilding Efforts

In conjunction with a visit to Houston on a business matter, a Brown Rudnick team of lawyers visited an area devastated by Hurricane Ike and devoted part of a day to rebuilding efforts. Organized through our Center for the Public Interest, the Brown Rudnick team included Doug Cohen, Michael Kozlik, James Bedar, Lan Marinelli, and James Hauser.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

JANUARY

- 8 **Boston:** Boston Community Leadership Academy / Thompson Island Outward Bound Lunch (1pm)
- 14 **All Offices:** Charitable Foundation Board Meeting (8-9am)
- 22 **Boston:** Walk to the Hill (12pm)
- 30 **Boston:** Job Shadow Day (9-1pm)

FEBRUARY

- 11 **All Offices:** Charitable Foundation Board Meeting (8-9am)
- 12 **NYC:** Pro bono legal clinic for Holocaust Project
- 27 **Boston:** Pro bono legal clinic for Holocaust Project

MARCH

- 11 **All Offices:** Charitable Foundation Board Meeting (8-9am)
- 27 **Boston:** Lawyer's Clearinghouse Homeless Legal Clinic, Mederios Center (9am)
- 27 **Boston:** Massachusetts Bar Association's Mock Trial Finals, Fanueil Hall (10am)

Center for the Public Interest 2009 Calendar



The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest created a calendar to celebrate the Firm's pro bono, charitable giving, and volunteer work. The calendar was printed on recycled paper as part of the Firm's ongoing commitment to being more environmentally conscious. Please contact Kym Patrico at (617) 856-8175 to request a calendar.

For more information, please contact Kym Patrico at (617) 856-8175

Just Us.

The difference between a successful non-profit organization and one that is floundering is often a function of the Board of Directors. To the outside world, the board member's role may be associated largely with fundraising, but a board director carries more responsibility than that. Some commentators list ten or more areas of significant, official responsibility, and almost all would agree that board members have fiduciary duties that involve setting policy for the organization, monitoring performance, and preparing for board and committee meetings and keeping up to date on its activities. Each serves as a "public figure" for the organization.

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, Corp. is, legally, a non-profit organization with a 17-person board. To the extent that the Foundation has been successful, a very sizeable measure of the credit belongs to its board members, collectively and individually. A healthy board, though, knows that it must stay fresh and vigorous and that often means a periodic "turn-over" on the board, with some long-time members departing and new ones joining. And, so it is with considerable gratitude that we say thank you to several of our board members who stepped down at this year's annual meeting of the Foundation.

We applaud outgoing Foundation President, Carl E. Axelrod, for five years of dedicated and inspirational service, and we welcome incoming President, Cheryl B. Pinarchick, whose philanthropic commitment is marked by demonstrated effective leadership, enduring service to the community, and enthusiasm.

Board Directors David Golden (Hartford), Brian Lamoureux (Providence), Paul Hartnett (Boston) and Robert Stark (NYC) certainly gave of their time, each serving for several years on the Board, participating in meetings, committees and events. They also gave their wise counsel, their keen perspectives and their good fellowship to the cause of improving inner-city education through charitable giving. Our Foundation, and therefore our community, is a bit different and a lot better for their involvement.

Even as we enthusiastically welcome our newly elected Board members -- Michael Camilleri, Chris Carolan, Paul Cicchetti & Mary Bucci -- and look forward to the significant contributions they will make during their terms, we pause, smiling somewhat wistfully as our friends and colleagues depart our Board, leaving with us the mark of their contributions, personalities and their high ideals.



Al Wallis, Executive Director,
Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest



A public interest focus is alive and well in our Firm. The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is an integral part of the Firm, with a mission to champion, coordinate and celebrate the Firm's involvement in pro bono legal representation, community service activities and charitable giving.

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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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