



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Lisa Murray
617.856.8509
lmurray@brownrudnick.com

BROWN RUDNICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF 2005 *RELATIONSHIP GRANTS* PROGRAM

Boston, MA, December 13, 2004 – Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., a non-profit, tax-exempt entity established by Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, is pleased to announce the recipients of the Foundation's 2005 *Relationship Grants* program. Grants were awarded to ten non-profit organizations across Boston, MA; Providence, RI; Hartford, CT; and New York, NY.

The objective of the Foundation's *Relationship Grants* is to improve inner-city education by developing a relationship with a non-profit organization that optimally includes financial support, pro bono legal representation and volunteer time. *Relationship Grants* are awarded annually to organizations that have demonstrated both the need for funding and the willingness to develop an effective volunteer effort with the Foundation. The grant applications and an explanation of the program can be found at <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/relationship.htm>

According to Albert W. Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., "Since the Foundation's *Relationship Grants* were first awarded in 2001, we have built relationships with many organizations that strive to help the less enfranchised through educational services. From mock trial programs to reading initiatives and art contests, the Foundation's *Relationship Grants* will continue to make a difference in inner-city communities."

The 2005 *Relationship Grant* recipients are:

- **Reach Out & Read** – This nationally-acclaimed organization active in Boston, Hartford, Providence, and New York City, will use the grant to purchase books for children, which will be distributed by their physicians as part of regular pediatric care. This is the second consecutive year that Brown Rudnick has awarded Reach Out & Read a *Relationship Grant*. Through the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, the law firm of Brown Rudnick also provides pro bono representation and volunteer time.

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In Boston:

- **Boston Medical Center** – The grant will launch the innovative “Building Bridges Project,” a pilot program within the existing Family Advocacy Program (FAP) which will focus on the educational needs of traumatized children.
- **Neighborhood House Charter School** – A *Relationship Grant* recipient since the Foundation was started, this grant will continue funds for the High School Placement Program originally initiated with the Foundation’s support.
- **Facing History & Ourselves** – Brown Rudnick is pro bono counsel to this organization. A second year recipient, the grant will underwrite a Facing History & Ourselves educational event built around the showing of a documentary film about hatred at the Brookline Coolidge Corner theatre. Last year’s grant helped to sponsor a successful public educational event celebrating the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*.
- **Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA)** – This is the second *Relationship Grant* awarded to the VLA, allowing the continuation of its Holiday Card Art Contest for Boston public high school students which was initiated in 2004 with Foundation support. In addition to the financial support, the Center coordinates contest volunteers and pro bono attorneys representing artists referred by VLA.
- **Citizen Schools/St. Clair Discovering Justice Project** – Brown Rudnick will continue its support of the Legal Apprentice Program which creates two mock trial programs a year for Boston middle school students. Brown Rudnick has coached teams through this program twice a year since 1999 and is currently preparing a mock trial team for December 2004 trials.

In Hartford:

- **Community Solutions** – The original grant three years ago helped to create a mock trial program for troubled Connecticut youth who are in the care of this organization. Brown Rudnick attorneys coach the teams, who then conduct the mock trial in juvenile courtrooms (sometimes before the very judge who sentenced the youth). The 2005 grant will be used to continue the mock trial program and broaden the scope of the hands-on civic curriculum.
- **Science Center of Connecticut** – The Science Center provides educational programs in math, science, environment and technology. As a first time *Relationship Grant* recipient, the Science Center will use the funds to support the existing “Science for All Scholarship Program,” allowing some 1,000 Hartford Public School students to have an intense, enjoyable learning experience at the Center.

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In Providence:

- **Providence Plan** – Building on last year’s grant, the 2005 *Relationship Grant* will help to fund the training of approximately 30 teachers and support the AmeriCorps program in partnership with “Ready to Learn Providence,” a program which expands early child literacy opportunities. The grant will also be used to solicit matching contributions from other funding sources.

In New York City:

- **B.E.L.L. Foundation, Inc.** – A first year *Relationship Grant* recipient, B.E.L.L. provides academic and social enrichment services to low-income elementary school children with after school and summer programs. The Boston-based organization is expanding its services to New York City, and the grant will support a portion of the salaries for a couple of new school site managers. Brown Rudnick is also working with BELL to develop volunteer or pro bono engagements.

About Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP

Brown Rudnick is a full-service, international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm’s 200 attorneys provide representation across key areas of the law: Corporate & Securities, Corporate Finance, Intellectual Property, Project and Structured Finance, Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Energy, Government Law & Strategies, Health Care, Real Estate, Complex Litigation and Trusts & Estates. Combining a dedication to excellence with the implementation of sophisticated technologies, Brown Rudnick provides its clients with a breadth and depth of expertise uniquely suited to their legal needs.

The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm’s strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity encompassing the Firm’s pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. The Center supports the mission of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., which provides grants in support of improving inner city education. For more information about the Center, please visit www.brownrudnick.com/what/center.htm

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