



## CENTER CONNECTIONS

Welcome to the Summer/Autumn 2018 Edition of Center Connections. Each quarter, we share and celebrate our recent pro bono, charitable giving and community service work. We hope you enjoy reading about some of our latest community successes and connections and your comments would be welcome!

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### Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation



*Pictured above left, Arthur Pearson, Thompson Island Outward Bound and Al Wallis, Center for the Public Interest Executive*

*Director. Pictured above right, Jim Grace, Executive Director, VLA-MA and Al Wallis.*

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation announces the recipients of its 2018-19 Relationship Grants program. The Foundation awarded 15 grants totaling over \$200,000 dollars to tax-exempt organizations in Boston, Hartford, Orange County (CA), Providence, London (UK), New York City, and Washington, D.C. Read more about our 2018-19 grantees [here.](#)

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## Supporting Our Grantees Through Volunteerism



This summer, longtime Foundation Relationship Grantee, The New York City Urban Debate League, hosted Brown Rudnick summer associates, staff and attorneys at its Hunter College Debate Camp. The group of Brown Rudnick volunteers, led by Center for the Public Interest Coordinator Liz McGeoy, spoke with campers and watched them debate the topic of arranged marriages in a parliamentary-style debate.

A special thank you to Brown Rudnick volunteers, including Uchechi Egeonuigwe, Ezra Roth, Ijeoma Ozoma, Lydell Benson, Gerald Cicero, Brenda Rohena, and Denise Kaer.



Our grant supports a student program studying Huckleberry Finn. Brown Rudnick's Hartford Office hosted the 2018- 2019 Relationship Grantee's from the Mark Twain House & Museum for a discussion of this past year's program.



Pictured above, longtime grantee LIFEBeat hosted a summer camp at at Stanford Hall.

"It was great to see the magnitude of the positive impact the charity has on these young people. Some of their stories are truly horrific and to see them making friends and building a community for themselves is magical". **Peter Wozny**, Brown Rudnick London Associate.

## September 11th - We Will Never Forget



September 11, 2001 is a profound day in our nation's history, one that touched all of us in a very personal way. That day, Brown Rudnick made a commitment to remember and thank our public safety officials for what they did during that tragedy, and for what they continue to do every day - serve and protect the public.

As a remembrance and a small gesture of our appreciation, every year since that tragedy we have been providing lunch to our local NYC and Boston firefighters down the street and walking over in a group to say "we remember" and "thank you".

*Thank you* to the firefighters at NYC Fire Station #65, (top photo above), Boston Fire Station Engine 10 Tower Ladder 3 (bottom photo above), as well as the Brown Rudnick volunteers in the Boston and New York offices who visited their firefighters.

## Pro Bono News



### **Court Announces the Pro Bono Honor Roll for 2018**

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts takes pleasure in recognizing the efforts of those attorneys who provide legal assistance, without compensation, to those who face substantial economic hardship (and often language barriers) so that they are able to navigate through the bankruptcy process. These services greatly benefit the bankruptcy system of our nation and all of its components. Those volunteer efforts include pro bono service in one or more of the following areas: reaffirmation agreement clinics, pro se clinics, bankruptcy seminars and training for volunteer lawyers, mentoring of volunteers, legal representation for qualifying parties in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings and participation in financial literacy programs in high schools throughout the state.

### **2018 Honor Roll**

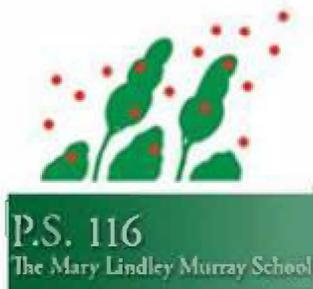
Tristan Axelrod  
Kellie Fisher  
Adam Grandy  
Emily Koruda  
Steve B. Levine  
Tyler Lewis  
Steven D. Pohl  
Andrew P. Strehle

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## The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Recently Awarded Community Grants to the Following Tax-Exempt Organizations



[The School of the Future](#) (New York, NY) to purchase three computers as part of a virtual reality curriculum designed to help 10th-grade English students sharpen their literacy skills.



[P.S. 116 Mary Lindley Murray Elementary School](#) (New York, NY) to support its Breakfast with Books program. Initiated by the Parent Teacher Association of P.S. 116. The Community Grant will help purchase six laptops and headphones to create listening stations for early-arrival students to encourage independent reading.



**John F. Kennedy  
Elementary School**  
7 Bolster Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
(617) 635-8127

[The John F. Kennedy \(JFK\) School](#) (Boston, MA) to purchase six iPads and cases for students in the school's to first-grade Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) classroom.

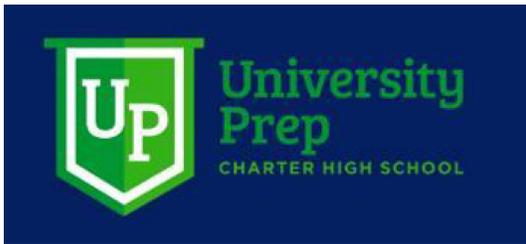


## Read to a Child

[Read to a Child](#) (Hartford, CT) to support its Lunchtime Reading Program at the MD Fox School in Hartford. The grant will be used to purchase additional books and supplies for English Language Learners participating in the Lunchtime Reading Program.



[Roca](#) (Boston, MA) to purchase supplies for a new mobile version of its library of textbooks,



[University Prep Charter High School](#) (Bronx, NY) to purchase 20 TI-84 graphing calculators to be used for math class.



[826 Boston](#) (Boston, MA) to help cover the setup costs associated with furnishing an on-site, student-focused writing center in partnership with Boston International Newcomers Academy (BINcA) in Boston, MA.

GED prep materials, fiction and non-fiction books, and unique learning activities for its Boston site. In 2016, the Foundation awarded a similar grant to Roca to help upgrade the organization's GED/HiSET educational programming.



[William Cullen Bryant High School](#) (Long Island City, NY) to support its music department by helping to repair 40% of the school's instrument inventory and purchase a new set of instrumental method textbooks.

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*Please contact Al Wallis or Elizabeth McGeoy to discuss any matters regarding the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest. 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*