



 THE BROWN RUDNICK
**CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION CORP.**

MANAGED BY THE BROWN RUDNICK
CENTER FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST

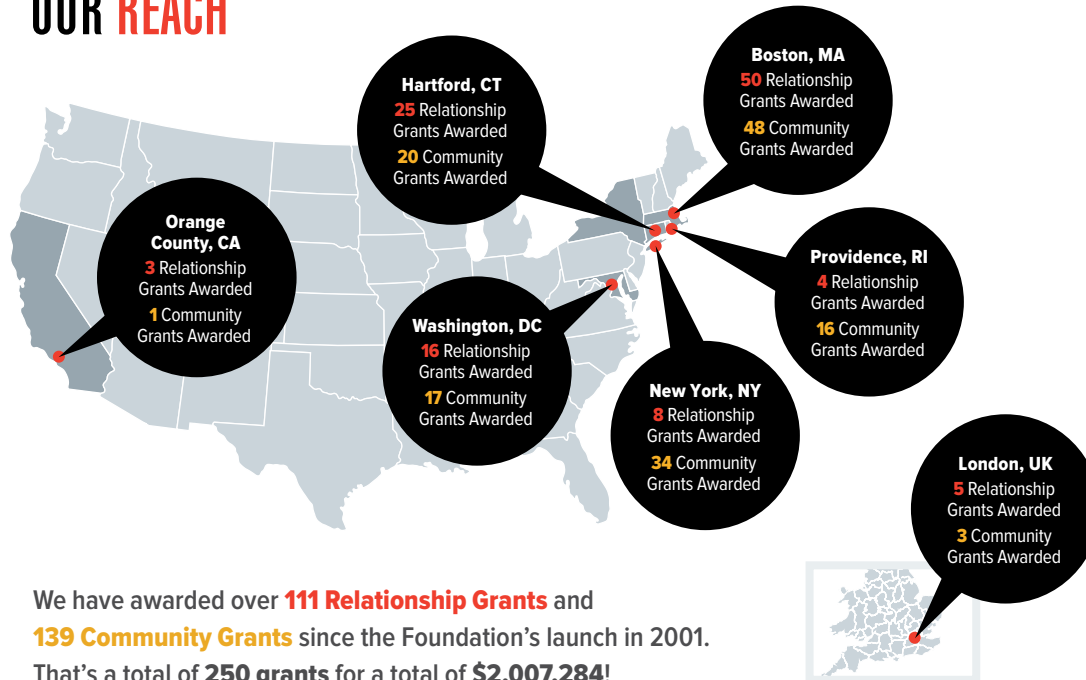
IT'S OUR FOUNDATION



OUR MISSION

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, which is managed by the Center for the Public Interest, has a mission to make grants which bring energy and interest of Brown Rudnick volunteers together with opportunities and resources to create positive social change. To maximize its effect, the Foundation focuses on inner-city education in Boston, Providence, Hartford, NYC, Washington, D.C., Orange County and London (UK).

OUR REACH



We have awarded over **111 Relationship Grants** and **139 Community Grants** since the Foundation's launch in 2001. That's a total of **250 grants** for a total of **\$2,007,284!**

OUR FOCUS

RELATIONSHIP GRANTS

These annual grants seek to improve inner-city education by forming a relationship with a tax-exempt organization that optimally includes providing financial support, pro bono legal representation and volunteer connections.

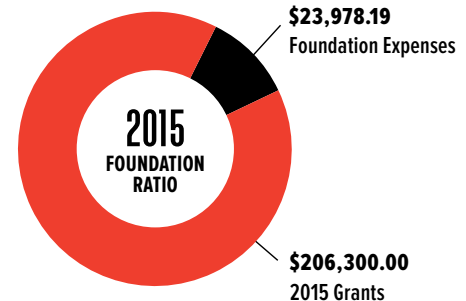
COMMUNITY GRANTS

Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the Foundation's Community Grants subsidize small, immediate, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education.

PRO BONO WORK & VOLUNTEERING

Brown Rudnick seeks opportunities to extend its support of grant recipients through pro bono legal representation and volunteerism.

OUR NUMBERS



A RELATIONSHIP GRANT IN ACTION

The NYC Urban Debate League: From Baking Cupcakes to Making History

Eric Fogel, a Bronx public school teacher, bootstrapped the launch of an after-school debate team in 2008. He so strongly believed in the educational power of debating that he rose regularly before dawn to bake and sell cupcakes to fund the program.

Eric presented his fledgling program to the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, which immediately recognized its potential. In 2010, a Foundation grant allowed the debate program to expand to provide free educational debate opportunities and essential resources to more students at the school. The small school, located in the nation's poorest congressional district, soon transformed into the first Title 1 school to become a national debate champion!

In 2011, the greater NYC debate system collapsed due to a lack of government funding. Eric responded,

and soon the Bronx debate program expanded into the New York City Urban Debate League (NYCUDL), incorporating 50 schools across the entire city.

In 2012, the Foundation provided pro bono legal representation to help the NYCUDL obtain tax-exempt status, and today it is the largest public school debate organization in the nation. Free debate education is offered to 75 schools, and 95% of the program's graduating seniors are accepted to college each year, many with full or partial scholarships.

In 2012, the First Lady presented NYCUDL with the prestigious National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award at a White House ceremony.

According to Eric, "We literally would not have a New York City debate league today without Brown Rudnick."

RELATIONSHIP GRANTS PROCESS



SPRING
Foundation issues Request for Letters of Interest



SPRING/SUMMER
Grants Committee screens submittals and invites select applicants to submit full proposals



SUMMER
Final selections made by Foundation Board and grant recipients notified



EARLY FALL
Grantees announced and grants commence for upcoming academic year



RELATIONSHIP GRANT RECIPIENT THE NEW YORK CITY URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE (NYCUDL)

MISSION: To use debate to close the education and civics achievement gap by providing the best opportunities, resources and training so that all NYC students may become great debaters.

SUCCESS: The Foundation has been a NYCUDL major financial contributor and greatest champion. As a result, a single after-school program grew into the city-wide NYCUDL, rescuing public school debate programs in NYC and earning recognition by First Lady Michelle Obama as one of the leading after-school programs in the nation.

Photo: New York City Great Debaters

23 GRANTS IN TOTAL 
have been awarded for the
2015 Academic Year.

COMMUNITY GRANTS IN ACTION

Supporting Front-Line Educators in 2015

The Foundation considers grant applications nearly every month and awards an average of 12 grants, each up to \$2,000, annually. The financial support we've given has enabled frontline educators to foster connections, encourage activities and unleash countless contributions to improve inner-city education throughout the communities in which we live and work.

In 2015, nine organizations in five cities received Community Grants:

Boston, Massachusetts

- Specialized Keyboards and Musical Instruction at the Harbor Pilot Middle School/VSA of Massachusetts

New York, New York

- Community Garden Curriculum and Project at the P.S. 32 Samuel Mills Sprole School

- New York City Opera Program at the P.S. 193 The Gil Hodges Elementary School
- Walk/Run Program at Seeds in The Middle/P.S. 221

Hartford, Connecticut

- Literacy "Tub" Program at the Hartford Public Library
- "Nature's Classroom" Sphere Summer Program at the Watkinson School

Providence, Rhode Island

- Summer Book Club at the Reservoir Avenue School

Washington, D.C.

- Arts in Urban Education Involvement at the DC Prep Charter School
- Science Laboratory Materials at the Septima Clark Public Charter School



COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS FRONT-LINE EDUCATORS

MISSION: To subsidize small, immediate, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within the coming year in the cities where the Foundation awards grants.

SUCCESS: A total of 144 Community Grants (previously called Insight/Foresight Grants) totaling \$247,074 have been awarded.

Photo: The Adams School in East Boston received a Community Grant for the purchase of four iPads and accessories for use by the Autism Strand at the school.

COMMUNITY GRANT OVERVIEW



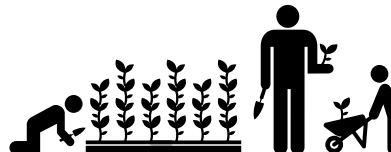
APPLICANT

A "front line educational worker" who is involved in education or a related field in a city where the Foundation makes grants



RECIPIENT

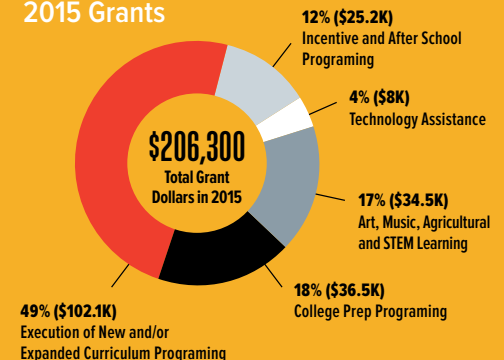
A non-profit or tax-exempt organization that is willing to accept the grant and use it in the required manner



PURPOSE

To fully fund a specific, one-time education-related need or idea which promises to improve inner-city education

2015 Grants



PRO BONO LEGAL WORK & VOLUNTEERING

The Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts Gives Massachusetts Community a Voice

The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest has partnered with the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts of Massachusetts (VLA-MA) to close the gap in legal counsel, education, and organizational support to the Massachusetts arts community through three distinct initiatives:

VLA-MA Holiday Card Contest: Created in 2004, the card contest provides an opportunity to engage Boston school students in an art enrichment program. The contest was initiated with a Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Relationship Grant and with support from the Center and Boston Public Schools. An awards celebration is held for student winners, teachers and families at Brown Rudnick's Boston office, and the winning entry is used to create a holiday card and sold to benefit the VLA-MA.

VLA-MA Artist Pro Bono Initiative: In 2005, through the Center, Brown Rudnick created and launched a pro bono project focused on representing artists who are being denied payment for their artistic endeavors or who are seeking to protect their ownership of such artwork. Brown Rudnick's Administrative Partner and Chair of the Firm's Pro Bono Committee, Andrew Strehle, manages this successful initiative with additional attorneys across multiple practice groups.

Teen Art Law: The VLA-MA offers an educational program about intellectual property laws to Boston-area high school students interested in the arts.

Award-Winning Conduct

Brown Rudnick is a three-time recipient of The Arts & Business Council of Greater Boston's Robert B. Fraser Award for Pro Bono Excellence.

- In 2014, Firm Partner Steven B. Levine and an associate were recognized for their pro bono legal representation of the Council in filing an influential amicus brief in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. The court's decision interpreted state law to protect the work of 13 artists in a bankruptcy case in which they challenged the trustee of a gallery for ownership and return of their artwork.
- In 2012, Brown Rudnick Partner Andrew Strehle received the award for inspiring and leading the Firm's work in the VLA-MA Artist Pro Bono Initiative.
- In 2006, Brown Rudnick and Al Wallis, the Executive Director for the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest, were honored for their support of the VLA.



PRO BONO RECIPIENT THE VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS OF MASSACHUSETTS (VLA-MA)

MISSION: To provide pro bono legal services and educational programming to low-income and indigent artists in Massachusetts, and to support and encourage art education in Boston Public Schools.

SUCCESS: The VLA and Brown Rudnick are taking a leadership position in helping existing artists and young, aspiring artists.

Photo: The 2015 VLA Holiday Card Contest winner "A Little Sparrow" Artist: Zhiyuan Gao, 2nd Grade School: Tobin K-8.

105,256  **HOURS**

of pro bono legal representation provided by Brown Rudnick since 2001, totaling the billable equivalent of \$44,053,351.

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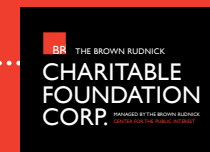
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Pro Bono
Legal Program



Volunteerism



Legal-Related
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Inner-City
Education Grants

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Please visit us at www.brownrudnickcenter.com

2015 ANNUAL REPORT