

NYWBA

NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

Annual Mentoring Circles Reception February 10, 2015

NYWBA's Mentoring Circles Program will hold its **Annual Reception** for new and continuing members on February 10, 2015 (see full announcement, p. 5).

Keynote Speaker: Hon. Loretta Preska,

Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

The New York Women's Bar Association
invites you to join us in honoring our special guests

***The Newly Elected, Re-Elected,
and Newly Appointed Judges of
New York County***

at a **Cocktail Reception**

Thursday, February 26, 2015, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The Yale Club, 50 Vanderbilt Ave., NYC
(at 44th St., across from Grand Central's west entrance)

Cost: \$75 Members (NYWBA & WBASNY) and
\$90 Non-Members (paid in advance);
\$100 for all if paid at door (space permitting)

Note: No charge for NY County Judges who are newly elected, newly re-elected, or newly appointed; for Justices of the Appellate Division, First Dep't; or for New York Court of Appeals Judges; Chief Judges of S.D.N.Y. and Second Circuit

RSVP: Space is limited, so RSVP promptly at
www.nywba.org/JudgesReception

We ask that all judges RSVP, even if they are honorees, so we can account for all attendees.

Sponsorship: Law firms, companies, and individuals are invited to make a donation to help support this event at the following sponsorship levels:
Platinum (\$1,000) Gold (\$750) Silver (\$500)
Sponsors will be acknowledged at the event, on our website, and in the NYWBA Newsletter, and they will be entitled to: Platinum - three admissions to the event, Gold - two admissions, Silver / Friend - one admission. (Contributions of \$100 or more are welcome and will be recognized at the "Friend" level.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE **Promoting Professional Growth and Celebrating our Judiciary**

FEBRUARY 2015



Yacine Barry-Wun

Long before the popular trend celebrating mentors, NYWBA created the innovative concept of "mentoring circles." Unlike traditional one-on-one mentoring relationships, circles bring together women lawyers at various stages in their careers, and from a range of practices, who meet on a regular basis throughout the year, generate many valuable professional contacts, and help foster close bonds over the years. Circle members help colleagues work through professional and personal challenges and career transitions. Joining a circle is a once in a year opportunity, and the time frame to sign up is now, as we are holding our annual **Mentoring Circles Reception** on **February 10**. We are honored to have **Hon. Loretta A. Preska**, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, as keynote speaker for this event (see pp. 1, 5). Thank you to **Mentoring Committee** Co-Chairs **Allison M. Surcouf**, **Randy Shapiro**, and **Elisheva Ackerman** for planning this event.

I am delighted as well to invite you to **NYWBA's Judicial Reception** at the Yale Club on **February 26**. This annual cocktail reception honors all of the newly elected, newly re-elected, and newly appointed judges in New York County. It is an excellent opportunity to meet and celebrate the new judges joining the bench and to mingle with their colleagues and the attorneys who come to support them. Our thanks go to event Co-Chairs Vice President **Jennifer P. Brown** and **Magnolia Levy**, Executive Director **Karen Lu**, and the entire Judiciary Reception team.

I hope you are taking advantage of the many programs, events, and networking opportunities that NYWBA offers. I have been attending many outstanding pro-

(Continued on Page 2)

Announcements & Calendar of Upcoming Events

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- 2/4 – M&F: Anatomy of a Family Court Case, Part 2 – p. 3
 - 2/9 – Tech Committee Mtg. – p. 3
- 2/10 – Mentoring Circles Reception – pp. 1, 5
- 2/10 – International Human Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 2/17 – Program & Events Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
 - 2/17 – Civil Courts Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
 - 2/23 – Crim. Law Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
 - 2/26 – Annual Judicial Reception – p. 1
- 3/3 – Reproductive Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 3/4 – Women Federal Chief Judges Event – p. 7
- 3/4 – M&F: How to Best Represent Clients – p. 3
- 3/9 – MentorJet: Networking Program – p. 5
 - 3/10 – Breast Cancer Event – p. 5
- 3/10 – International Human Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 3/12 – CLE: Mediation in the Commercial Division & SDNY – p. 5
 - 3/12 – Madame Presidenta Screening – p. 4
 - 3/18 – Civil Courts Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 3/19 – Injunctive Relief: A Judge's Perspective – p. 2

NYWBA NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

At its November 4, 2014 meeting, the *NYWBA Committee on Nominations* nominated the following candidates to serve for the positions and terms stated below. The elections will be held at the Association's Annual Membership Meeting on **April 22, 2015**. (See meeting notice, page 3.)

OFFICERS (2014-2015)

President:	Jennifer P. Brown
Vice Presidents:	Amy B. Goldsmith Julie Hyman Andrea Vacca
Treasurer:	Deborah G. Rosenthal
Recording Secretary:	Virginia A. LoPreto
Corresponding Secretary:	Myra L. Freed

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors to be Installed – Class of 2015-2018

Yacine Barry-Wun	Kay Marmorek
Leona Beane	Amanda B. Norejko
Jo Ann Douglas	Amy Saltzman
Catherine M. Foti	

Directors to be Installed

(to fill vacancies for unexpired terms)

Jean J. Han (2013-2016)	Jocelyn L. Jacobson (2014-2017)
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Directors – Continuing in Office

Michael W. Appelbaum	Hon. Judith J. Gische
Elizabeth A. Bryson	Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler
Dawn M. Cardi	Hon. Kelly O'Neill Levy
Hon. Laura E. Drager	Susan M. Moss
Felice B. Ekelman	Francesca A. Sabbatino
Morgan M. Fraser	Victoria A. Turchetti

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Class of 2015-2017

Elizabeth A. Bryson	Francesca A. Sabbatino
Jo Ann Douglas	Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann

Class of 2014-2016

(to fill vacancy for unexpired term)

Yacine Barry-Wun

NYWBA MEMBERS OF WBASNY BOARD (2015-2016)

Yacine Barry-Wun	Marjorie Martin
Elizabeth A. Bryson	Deborah G. Rosenthal
Dawn M. Cardi	Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann
Jo Ann Douglas	Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff
Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin	Farah Zaman
Julie Hyman	

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

grams held by our Committees, including the **Reproduction Rights and Women's Health Committee's** second CLE on *The State of the Uterus: An Update on Roe v. Wade*, as well as a program on ethical and professional dilemmas presented by the Matrimonial and Family Law Committee (see article on p. 7), and, a presentation on leadership moderated by the **Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee**.

If you haven't renewed yet, please do so as soon as you can. Your dues gain you membership not only in the NYWBA, but also with our statewide organization – the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY). By joining our organization, you can attend free CLE programs presented by NYWBA, join our 30-plus Committees, and network with professionals in many practice areas. Members also have the opportunity to assume leadership roles in WBASNY, the second largest bar association in the State of New York!

Speaking of WBASNY, NYWBA had the pleasure to host a Reception Dinner at a restaurant in midtown to welcome the WBASNY Officers, Board members, Delegates, Committee Chairs, and Chapter representatives to Manhattan on January 23, the night before the WBASNY quarterly Board and Committee meetings. We were thrilled that so many WBASNY leaders joined us. We are proud to keep this tradition going strong, and to play host to our colleagues who travel from across the state to attend statewide meetings three times a year in Manhattan. (See article and photos on p. 9).

We are also very excited to announce that two of our members, **Patricia Ann Fersch** and **Judith E. White**, will be the recipients of **WBASNY's Hanna S. Cohen Pro Bono Award** this spring. Don't miss the opportunity to celebrate the presentation of this award and to mingle with members of NYWBA and other Women's Bar Association Chapters at this year's annual **WBASNY Convention**, which will take place **May 15-17** at **The Sagamore Resort at Bolton Landing** on the beautiful shores of Lake George. WBASNY Conventions present the perfect opportunity to network, attend CLE programs, and enjoy yourself all at once. Hotel reservations are now open (and going fast – go to www.wbasny.org for details, and be sure to indicate you are a member of "WBASNY" to get the special low rate). I look forward to seeing many NYWBA members at the Convention, where we can discover together a newly renovated spa, and 10,000 square feet of indoor recreational activities, including miniature golf, ping pong, basketball, foosball, and much more! In addition, hiking, volleyball, basketball, five tennis courts, and golf are also available.

Don't forget to mark your calendars to attend and participate in the vote on the slate of nominees for NYWBA Officer, Director and Delegate positions for the coming year. The elections will be held at our **Annual Meeting on April 22**, which will be followed by our annual **Ethics CLE Program** at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC. I know all of the nominees for next year's Officer, Director and Delegate positions will serve with distinction (see full list, p. 2). I am very pleased that our nominee to be the next President is Vice President **Jennifer P. Brown**, an experienced family and matrimonial law attorney with a solo practice in Manhattan. With Ms. Brown's distinguished service as an Officer, Board member, and Committee Chair, I am convinced that the Association will continue to thrive in the years to come.

Yacine

SAVE-THE-DATE!

Injunctive Relief: A Judge's Perspective

Thursday, March 19, 2015

The Federal Practice Committee will sponsor a lunchtime seminar at the NYS Supreme Court, 60 Centre Street, New York, NY.

COMMITTEE NEWS

- The **Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) Committee** is co-hosting a CLE with the **Litigation Committee** entitled *“Mediation in the Commercial Division and in the Southern District of New York.”* The CLE will take place on **Mar. 12**, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at 111 Centre Street, Room 107. RSVP to ADRLitCLE@nywba.org. (See notice p. 5).
- The **Civil Courts Committee** will hold monthly express lunch series meeting on **Feb. 17** and **Mar. 18** from 1:00–2:00 p.m. at the Civil Courthouse, 111 Centre Street, 12th Fl. Boardroom (White St. entrance). The meeting is open to all. Please RSVP to CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org.
- The **Criminal Law Committee** will hold its monthly meeting on **Feb. 23** beginning at 6:15 p.m. at The Hoffinger Firm, 150 East 58th St., 16th Fl., NYC. RSVP to CrimLawChairs@nywba.org.
- The **Federal Practice Committee** is meeting at 6:00 p.m. on **Feb. 3** at 51 Madison Ave., 10th Fl., NYC. The Committee will also present a program on the *“Injunctive Relief: A Judge’s Perspective”* on **Mar. 19**. (See notice, p. 2). For more info and to RSVP, e-mail FederalPractice@nywba.org.
- The **International Human Rights Committee** will hold monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month. These meetings will take place on **Feb. 10**, **Mar. 10**, **Apr. 14**, and **May 12** at Le Pain Quotidien, 81 W Broadway, at 6:30 p.m. RSVP to IntlChairs@nywba.org.
- The **Litigation Committee** is co-hosting a CLE with the **Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) Committee** entitled *“Mediation in the Commercial Division and in the Southern District of New York.”* The CLE will take place on **Mar. 12**, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at 111 Centre Street, Room 107. RSVP to ADRLitCLE@nywba.org. (See notice p. 5).
- The **Matrimonial & Family Law Committee** is co-hosting a program with the **Children’s Rights & Issues Committee** entitled *“Anatomy of a Family Court Case, Part 2: Representing Adults and Children in ACS and Article 10 Matters”* on **Feb. 4** at 6:00 p.m. The Committee’s Mar. 4 meeting will be *“Relocation, Redaction and Recording Making: How Best to Represent Your Client”* at 6:00 p.m. All meetings take place at the Law Office of Virginia LoPreto, located at 565 5th Ave. 9th Fl. (entrance on 46th St. btw Madison/5th Ave.) RSVP for both events at MFRsvp@nywba.org. (See notice p. 5).
- The **Mentoring Committee** will host its **Annual Mentoring Circles Reception: An Evening with S.D.N.Y. Chief Judge Loretta A. Preska**, on **Feb. 10** at 6:00 p.m. at Covington & Burling LLP, New York Times Building, 620 Eighth Ave., NYC (btw 40th/41st Sts.) RSVP at www.nywba.org/MentoringCircles. (See notice pp. 1, 5).
- The **Program & Events Committee** is meeting **Feb. 17** at 6:00 p.m. at the Law Offices of Jennifer Brown and Andrea Vacca P.C., at 570 Lexington Ave., Suite 1600 (at 51st St.). RSVP to Events@nywba.org.
- The **Reproductive Rights & Women’s Health Committee** will meet on the first Tuesday of each month: **Feb. 3**, **Mar. 3**, **Apr. 7** and **May 5** from 6:30–8:00 p.m. at Rottenstreich & Ettinger, 222 East 41st St. (btw 2nd/3rd Ave), 22 Fl., NYC. To RSVP email ReproductiveRights@nywba.org. You must RSVP ahead of time so your name can be submitted to building security.
- The **Solo & Small Firm Committee’s** next meeting will be in March. Email SSFChairs@nywba.org for details.
- The **Technology & the Internet for Lawyers Committee** meets on the second Monday of each month. These meetings will take place on **Feb. 9**, **Mar. 9**, **Apr. 13**, and **May 11** at 6:00 p.m. For location details and to RSVP, email TechChairs@nywba.org.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS – ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

The **NYWBA Annual Membership Meeting** will be held on **April 22, 2015**, when the President & Treasurer will present reports on the state of the NYWBA and its finances, and the Association will hold elections for Officer, Director and Delegate positions. (See p. 2 for the *NYWBA Nominations Committee Report, which includes a list of all open positions, terms of office and nominees, as well as a list of Directors continuing in office.*)

Article XIV, Section 1 of the By-Laws provides that only members who are in good standing and whose membership dues were received by **January 31st** may vote at the Annual Meeting.

Article XVII, Section 10 of the By-Laws provides that any fifty members eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting may, by a writing delivered to the Corresponding Secretary not less than *forty days* prior to the Annual Meeting, propose candidates for officer or director positions to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Such petition must be *received* by no later than **March 20, 2015** and must be addressed to Corresponding Secretary Myra L. Freed, New York Women’s Bar Association, The Chrysler Building, 132 East 43rd Street, # 716, New York, New York 10017-4019.

The Annual Meeting and Elections will be held at **Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC**, 488 Madison Avenue, 10th Fl., NYC (btw 51st/52nd Sts). Immediately after the elections, NYWBA will present an **Ethics CLE Program** (*details to be announced soon*).

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Rebecca E. Algie Josephine M. Bahn Erica J. Cohen Amanda C. Denaro Justine M. Haimi Mayya Mesonzhnik Shandanette J. Molnar	Rachel A. Postman Aneeta K. Rai Nicole Riordan Zoe A. Salzman Amanda Tarallo Orla G. Thompson Alexandra Newman White
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as of 1/6/15

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

With their generous contributions, Sustaining Members make it possible for us to accomplish so much more. We honor and thank them for their support.

Elkan Abramowitz, Esq.
 Amanda C. Denaro, Esq.
 Hon. Leslie Crocker Snyder

NYWBA wishes to acknowledge the generous gift from
FOUNDER AND PAST PRESIDENT
HON. FLORENCE PERLOW SHIENTAG (1908-2009)

Her financial bequest has helped to underwrite the cost of
 this Newsletter and many of our CLE programs.

SAVE THE DATE!

May 14-17, 2015

WBASNY 2015 CONVENTION

The Sagamore Resort, Bolton Landing, New York

“Leaps and Boundaries: How to Avoid Professional and Ethical Dilemmas in Zealously Representing Your Client” By Linda Rosenthal

On December 9, 2014, the NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law Committee sponsored a panel presentation led by **Hon. Ellen Gesmer**, Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, New York County, and **Kristin Bebelaar**, Principal Court Attorney to Justice Gesmer.

Justice Gesmer and Ms. Bebelaar noted that, pursuant to Rule of Professional Conduct 1.1, which governs the “Allocation of Authority Between Client and Lawyer,” a lawyer should always counsel her client that there is a line the attorney shall not cross, even when it comes to dealing with opposing counsel. They noted that the term “zealous” advocacy was actually amended out of the New York State Professional Rules of Conduct in 2009, and emphasized that attorneys are more effective advocates for their clients by not simply following client’s directives, particularly when interacting with other attorneys and, of course, the Court.

Ms. Bebelaar and Justice Gesmer together reviewed additional rules that govern attorneys and, regarding the importance of vetting a client’s claims, highlighted Rules of Professional Conduct 2.1 (advice), 3.1 (non-meritorious claims), 3.2 (delay of litigation), 3.3 (conduct before a tribunal), 4.1 (truthfulness in statements to others), 4.4 (respect for rights of third persons) and, for those times when an attorney realizes that her client has not been truthful in either an affidavit or statement of net worth, Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16 regarding withdrawal.

They highlighted the obligations imposed by Court Rule 130-1.1, which provides that when an attorney signs a paper, she must certify that, to the best of her knowledge, information and belief, the contentions in the paper are not frivolous as defined in that Rule. Judge Gesmer explained that when an attorney realizes there has been a potential misstatement by a client or an attorney, the attorney should always attempt to remedy the infraction. They acknowledged that statements of net worth in particular can be a challenge, since they are typically completed early in the litigation process and often before an attorney has had a meaningful opportunity to learn about a client’s actual finances or truthfulness.

Regarding an attorney’s personal and financial involvement with a client, Rules of Professional Conduct 1.7(a)(2) (conflict of interest) and 1.8 (specific conflict of interest) make it clear: do not do it. Justice Gesmer and Ms. Bebelaar gave examples of matrimonial attorneys who made serious ethical missteps by running afoul of these rules. They offered examples of an attorney who secured an apartment from a client for the attorney’s daughter without disclosing the relationship to the client’s spouse, who ultimately discovered the relationship and that the apartment was renting for less than market rate. The two also recounted how, in a separate case, an attorney was referred to the disciplinary committee after it was learned that the attorney funded a vacation for a client who was simultaneously attempting to defeat child support obligations due to an alleged lack of income.

The panel continued with a discussion of the potential ethical perils associated with trial publicity, including the use of video or audio

recordings of a party and the use of social media, citing Rule of Professional Conduct 3.6. Ms. Bebelaar and Justice Gesmer spent some time discussing the ethics of improperly obtained information, noting that Rule of Professional Conduct 4.4 addresses respect for rights of third persons. In particular, they referenced NYC Ethics Opinion 1989-1 regarding the obligation of a matrimonial attorney upon learning that a client has intercepted a communication between the client’s spouse and her counsel. The speakers emphasized their starting principle: it is always better to act swiftly to remedy a possible breach when it is discovered than to ignore it.

Finally, Justice Gesmer and Ms. Bebelaar addressed generally the issue of dealing with difficult clients and also, separately, dealing with a *pro se* adversary, referencing Rule of Professional Conduct 4.3 (communications with unrepresented persons) for the latter. The two encouraged attorneys to use the ethics hotline (NY City Bar: www.nycbar.org/ethics/ethics-hotline or WBASNY: 914-475-9517) as a resource and to consider whether it might be appropriate to turn away clients that may present too many ethical challenges for a younger or even seasoned attorney to navigate.

Linda Rosenthal is Of Counsel at Bikel & Mandarano, where she practices matrimonial and family law. She is a member of the NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law Committee.



NYWBA President Yacine Barry-Wun, Kristin Bebelaar, Esq., Honorable Ellen Gesmer, and NYWBA Officer Virginia A. LoPreto (l-r).

Mark Your Calendars!

Madame Presidenta: Why Not U.S.?

*While many nations have had female presidents or prime ministers, the U.S. has yet to achieve this. Why not? What can be done to change this? Join us for an important and thought provoking screening of the film **Madame Presidenta: Why Not U.S.?**, followed by a discussion by distinguished panelists. NYWBA’s **International Human Rights Committee** is proud to host this event in honor of the **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. Co-Sponsors: Hispanic National Bar Association, Region II; New York Women’s Bar Association Foundation.***

When: Thursday, March 12, 2015, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: Bickel & Brewer Latino Institute for Human Rights, 245 Sullivan Street, NYC

RSVP: Email IntlChairs@nywba.org for details and to RSVP.

The NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law Committee & the Children's Rights Committee
present

***Anatomy of a Family Court Case, Part 2:
Representing Adults and Children in
ACS and Article 10 Matters***

The program will be moderated by *Hon. Lori S. Sattler, Virginia A. LoPreto* and *Callie Kramer*, and presented by *Hon. Douglas E. Hoffman*, Supervising Judge for the New York County Family Court, and *Hon. Clark V. Richardson*, Judge of the New York County Family Court.

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2015
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Law Offices of Virginia A. LoPreto, 565 Fifth Ave. (enter on 46th St. btw. 5th/Madison Aves.)
RSVP: Email MFRsvp@nywba.org.

**If you are not a current member, join or renew using our secure online membership form at www.nywba.org/Membership.*

Annual Mentoring Circles Reception:

*An Evening with
S.D.N.Y. Chief Judge Loretta A. Preska*

**Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 6:00 p.m.
Covington & Burling LLP**

New York Times Bldg., 620 Eighth Ave., NYC (41st/42nd Sts.)

This year's reception will include a cocktail reception, followed by a discussion with a distinguished guest speaker:

Honorable Loretta A. Preska

Chief Judge for the Southern District of New York

The Mentoring Circles Reception is open to all current members. Register at www.nywba.org/MentoringCircles.

New Mentoring Circles are being formed now. New applicants should email MentoringCircles@nywba.org and include your name, mailing address and contact info; bar admission year (or anticipated year); and area(s) of practice.

**The NYWBA's Alternative Dispute Resolution
& Litigation Committees present**
***"Mediation in the Commercial Division
and in The Southern District of New York"***

Speakers:

Leona Beane, Esq., Mediator

Marni Robin, Esq., Mediator

*Rebecca Price, Mediation Supervisor,
U.S. District Court, Southern District*

Moderator:

Lisa Courtney, Esq., O.C.A.-ADR Office

Program Sponsored by:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

Co-Chairs: *Leona Beane, Esq., & Lisa Courtney, Esq.*
and **Litigation Committee**

Co-Chairs: *Kathy Lynch, Esq., & Francesca Sabbatino, Esq.*

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2015
Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Place: New York City Civil Court
111 Centre Street, Room 107, NYC
CLE: 2.0 CLE* Credits pending (professional practice)
Cost: Free - Members ** \$10 - Non-Members ***
RSVP: Go to www.nywba.org/ADRLitCLE to register
Info: Email ADRLitCLE@nywba.org

* CLE: New York Women's Bar Association is a founding chapter of the Women's Bar Assn of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE Credit is in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for the above-listed credit hours for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

** **Membership:** Members attend CLE Programs for free. If you are not a member, go to www.nywba.org/Membership to join or renew using our secure online membership form.

*** **Financial Hardship Scholarships:** Full and partial scholarships based on financial need are available. For info on the guidelines and to apply, contact CLE Chair, Amy B. Goldsmith at CLE@nywba.org or 212-216-1135. All requests are confidential.

The New York Women's Bar Association Diversity Committee & The National Association of Women Judges are proud to sponsor the following program:

***"MentorJet: Networking Fun for Law
Students, Judges, Lawyers, and Other
Legal Professionals"***

NYWBA's Diversity Committee, in connection with the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) has planned an exciting "speed-networking" opportunity, "MentorJet," for New York City area law students to meet judges and other experienced legal professionals one-on-one to discuss their legal careers and personal experiences. Join us for a night of speed mentoring, modeled in the speed-dating format, designed to provide attendees with informal mentoring opportunities with distinguished judges and attorneys, and a chance to learn more about legal practice areas as they embark in their own legal careers.

Date: Monday, March 9, 2015
Time: 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Place: New York University School of Law
40 Washington Square, NYC
Cost: Free for Members*
RSVP: Email diversity@nywba.org to RSVP as a mentor or mentee. *Space is limited so advance registration is required.*

**If you are not a current member, join or renew using our secure online membership form at www.nywba.org/Membership.
No charge for law students and junior attorneys.*

Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert

presents

Breast Cancer: Upworthy Ideas

This program will be Moderated by **Hon. Jennifer Schecter**, Past Co-President, JALBCA; with opening remarks by **Jamie Sinclair**, Co-Chair, NYCLA Committee on Women in the Law; and the introduction of speakers by **Hon. Richard Lee Price**, Chair, Law-Related Education, NYCLA. The featured speakers are **Devra Davis, Ph.D.**, Founder and President of Environmental Health Trust and **Mary Ann Massie, MD**, Attending Psychiatrist, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

The event is being sponsored by
NYCLA Committee on Women in the Law and
Women's Bar Association of the State of New York.

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Place: New York County Lawyers' Association
14 Vesey Street, NYC

Cost: The event is free to the public.

RSVP: To RSVP email Executive Director, Jennifer
Fiorentino at jennifer@jalbca.org.

Info: For additional info, visit:
<http://jalbca.org/events/spring-symposium-2015/>.

NOTES ON MEMBERS

• Congratulations to member **Hon. Fern A. Fisher**, who will receive the **Ida B. Wells-Barnett Justice Award** on Tuesday, February 3rd at 6:00 p.m., presented by the New York County Lawyers' Association and Metropolitan Black Bar Association, in honor of Black History Month. Justice Fisher is the Director of the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program and Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts.

• NYWBA is pleased to announce that at the WBASNY Convention on May 15, 2015, members **Patricia Ann Fersch** and **Judith E. White** will receive WBASNY's prestigious **Hanna S. Cohn Pro Bono Award**. This award is given to Women's Bar member(s) for contributions to the provision of *pro bono* legal services to the community in which the member practices, beyond the recipient's employment responsibilities. NYWBA nominated Mss. Fersch and White for their leadership in the establishment NYWBA's **Matrimonial Pro Bono Project**, which provided a new and unique approach to addressing the needs of indigent parties involved in divorce proceedings for representation. Thanks to this project, attorneys with expertise in matrimonial cases can now provide representation *pro bono* to indigent divorce litigants through a program that is a) authorized by the courts, and b) managed by an Administrator who (i) works in the courts, (ii) is selected by New York Law School through a process created by the law school and our award nominees, and (iii) is paid by funds granted by the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation (a 501(c) charity) based on an application by our award nominees. The project is so successful that it has now been replicated in Kings County, and OCA is in the process of determining how it can be implemented in other counties across NYS. Congratulations to both honorees! Be sure to plan to attend the WBASNY Convention to cheer them on (see notice, p. 3).

Has something noteworthy happened to you or another member? Send your news to Newsletter@nywba.org.

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New York Women's Bar Association Foundation Honored By The Feerick Center By Annie M. Ugurlayan

On September 16, 2014, The Feerick Center for Social Justice hosted a breakfast reception in honor of the **New York Women's Bar Association Foundation** in the new Fordham Law School building at Lincoln Center. In 2009, the Feerick Center received a \$100,000 gift from the NYWBA Foundation which was funded by longtime NYWBA member and past President **Norma Z. Paige**. The grant funded scholarships for two female students each year for five years who need scholarship support and who are committed to public service and addressing poverty-related issues that often impact women and children in New York and beyond. The fellows have contributed valuable work on many of the Center's projects, including the Domestic Violence and Consumer Law Project, the Unaccompanied Immigrant Children's Project, and The Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO), which provides limited legal advice to low-income New Yorkers being sued by debt collectors. Each of the projects address critical legal and social issues affecting women and children throughout the country. Professor John D. Feerick, Founder and Senior Counsel, and Dora Galacatos, Executive Director, thanked the Foundation for its generosity to the Feerick Center and for providing a means for students to enhance their legal education while also offering much needed financial assistance.

Many of the Foundation's Board of Directors were in attendance and were inspired by the presentations from former and current fellows, all of whom stressed that the fellowship had a profound impact on their law school experience and in their careers.

The Foundation is working to find ways to continue its valuable, productive collaboration with the Feerick Center. If you wish to become involved, please send an email to info@nywbaf.org.

Annie M. Ugurlayan is a member of the NYWBA Foundation Board of Directors. She is a Senior Staff Attorney at the National Advertising Division of the Better Business Bureau.

The New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity that funds charitable, philanthropic and educational programs to aid women and children. Its mission is to eliminate gender bias and other forms of discrimination from the legal system and legal profession; to promote the social and economic equality, safety and well being of women and children; and to address the unmet legal needs of women and children. For more info, visit the Foundation website at www.nywbaf.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

Women Federal Chief Judges Event Wednesday, March 4, 2015

NYWBA, the Westchester Women's Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and FBA's SDNY Chapter will host the Chief Judges of the Federal Courts in the S.D.N.Y. and E.D.N.Y. at a special gathering.

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WBASNY BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD IN JANUARY 2015

Every member of the New York Women's Bar Association is also automatically a member of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY). On January 24, 2015, representatives of Women's Bar Associations across New York State (which are all WBASNY "Chapters"), participated in WBASNY's bi-monthly Board and Committee meetings.

NYWBA President **Yacine Barry-Wun** attended the WBASNY Executive Committee meeting, consisting of the Presidents of all Chapters plus WBASNY's Officers. Other NYWBA Representatives attended meetings of numerous other WBASNY Committees, including Nominations, Legislation, Awards, Family & Matrimonial Law, Criminal Law, Diversity, Health Issues & Reproductive Rights, Membership, Domestic Violence, Amicus, Convention 2015, and Elder Law / Trusts & Estates. The Committee meetings were followed by lunch and then the formal Board meeting, with all WBASNY Officers and designated Chapter Delegates in attendance. The January meetings were held at the offices of New York Life Insurance Company in the Murray Hill area of Manhattan, and more than 140 members from 18 Chapters were in attendance.

The keynote speaker at the Board meeting was **Hon. Fern Fisher**, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts and Director of the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program, who spoke eloquently about the NYS Courts' programs and initia-

tives. Among other business during the Board meeting, the Awards Committee Co-Chairs announced that two NYWBA members - **Patricia Ann Fersch** and **Judith E. White** - will be presented with the prestigious Hanna S. Cohn Pro Bono Award at the WBASNY Convention on May 15, 2015 (see "Notes on Members" on p. 6; Convention Announcement on p. 3).

The evening before the WBASNY meetings, NYWBA hosted a welcome dinner for Women's Bar representatives from across the state. This event was organized and hosted by President Barry-Wun and included five WBASNY Officers, many Chapter Presidents, and more than 20 other representatives from as far away as Albany and Buffalo, and as near as the five Boroughs. Attendees relaxed, mingled, and discussed a wide range of topics while enjoying a three-course Turkish dinner in midtown Manhattan.

The photos below provide just a glimpse of the festivities. These regular meetings and events help to ensure that WBASNY has a strong voice in Albany, and that each Chapter has a strong voice in WBASNY. Most important, they provide an informal setting to promote friendship and good relations among the individual members from the various Chapters and at the state level, which furthers our effectiveness and enriches us all. If you would like to get involved at the state level, send an email to Ms. Barry-Wun at President@nywba.org.



NYWBA member Hon. Fern A. Fisher delivers keynote remarks to WBASNY Board of Directors at January meeting in her capacity as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts and Director of the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program.



Dana Northcraft (left), Co-Chair of the NYWBA Reproductive Rights and Women's Health Issues Committees, and Leyla Kiosse, Co-Chair of the WBASNY Legislation Committee, address the WBASNY Board of Directors in support of proposed federal regulations to protect women's rights.

SAVE THE DATE!
June 10, 2015
NYWBA 80th Anniversary Dinner
at the Marriot Marquis NYC

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We thank our current members for their continued support and involvement, and we look forward to welcoming new and renewing members. Take advantage of our many membership benefits - join committees, network, participate in mentoring circles, attend our signature events, and get CLE credits at our innovative and compelling programs at a significantly reduced cost. It's easy to join or renew - go to www.nywba.org/Membership to access our secure online membership form.

Current members should send updated address and contact information to ED@nywba.org. This will help us keep you informed about our programs, events, and other benefits of membership.

Newsletter and Advertising Information

Submissions must be sent to the Newsletter Committee (Chairs Alexandra Campbell and Jessica Cygler) by the 10th of the month for publication in the following month's Newsletter. Please submit articles, announcements, upcoming event programming, photos, committee news, member news, and ads to newsletter@nywba.org. Submissions should be proofed and cite-checked, and NYWBA retains the usual editorial discretion to omit or edit all contributions. Send an email to newsletter@nywba.org if you have questions or are interested in joining the Newsletter Committee.

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