



# NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER 2016

In August 2016, the New York State Court of Appeals issued a landmark decision in *Matter of Brooke S.B.* WBASNY contributed to an amicus brief in this case in support of the decision that the Court of Appeals reached. Past President and Board Member **Elizabeth A. Bryson**, served as a key player in drafting sections of the amicus brief. Thank you, Beth.



Deborah G. Rosenthal

*Matter of Brooke S.B.* concluded that in an unmarried couple, a partner without a biological or adoptive relation to a child now has standing to seek custody and visitation under Domestic Relations Law Section 70(a). *Matter of Brooke S.B.* overturned *Matter of Alison D.*, decided in 1991, and brings New York law in line with many other states that recognize non-biological and non-adoptive parents for the purpose of custody and visitation and gives priority to the best interests of the child in making these decisions.

On September 8, 2016, we held our **Annual Membership Reception** at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP. Over 250 people attended this festive event. Many thanks to Membership Committee Co-Chair **Michael W. Appelbaum**, New York Women's Bar Foundation President **Gretchen Beall Schumann**, and WBASNY President Elect **Amy Baldwin Littman**, who addressed the attendees. Corresponding Secretary **Magnolia D. Levy** and

*(Continued on Page 2)*

### Announcements & Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 10/4 – Reproductive Rights & Women's Health Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 10/5 – Matrimonial & Family Law Comm. Mtg. – pp. 2, 3
- 10/13 – Elder Law & Disabilities Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 10/17 – Int'l Women's Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 10/18 – **CLE: A Cyber Breach Primer** – pp. 1, 3
- 10/20 – Update Your Corporate Face – pp. 2, 3
  - 10/23 – Bike MS – p. 5
  - 10/25 – Civil Courts Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
  - 10/25 – Program & Events Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
  - 10/26 – Foundation Breakfast Panel – p. 6
- 10/26 – Committee to Advance the Status of Women Mtg. – p. 3
  - 10/27 – Mentoring Circles Reception – pp. 1, 5
- 10/28 – New York Shape the Law Conference – p. 2
  - 11/1 – Criminal Law Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 11/1 – Reproductive Rights & Women's Health Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 11/10 – Committee to Advance the Status of Women Mtg. – p. 3
  - 11/14 – Int'l Women's Rights Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
- 11/16 – Employment & Equal Opportunity for Women Comm. Mtg. – p. 3
  - 11/17 – Civil Courts Comm. Mtg. – p. 3

Check [www.nywba.org](http://www.nywba.org) for more Meetings, Programs & Events.

## NYWBA Litigation Committee

presents

### **A CYBER BREACH PRIMER: Cybersecurity, Cyber Governance, And Cyber Insurance: What Clients Need to Know**

Presented by:

*Nicole Joy Leibman and Joseph B. Shumofsky  
Sills, Cummis & Gross P.C.*

**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2016, 6:00-7:30 PM

**Place:** Sills, Cummis & Gross P.C.

101 Park Ave., 28th Floor, NYC

**CLE:** One Credit Pending

**Cost:** Free - Members\*\* / \$35 - Non-members\*\*\*

**RSVP:** [Litigationchairs@nywba.org](mailto:Litigationchairs@nywba.org)

\***CLE:** NYWBA is a founding chapter of the WBASNY, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending 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](http://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 Co-Chairs at [CLE@nywba.org](mailto:CLE@nywba.org) or 212-216-1135. All requests are confidential.

## NYWBA Mentoring Circles Reception

October 27, 2016

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

1251 Avenue of the Americas

21st Fl., NYC

**Cost:** \$20.00 per person

**RSVP:** <http://bit.ly/2d1hDLj>

**Info:** Email [MentoringCircles@nywba.org](mailto:MentoringCircles@nywba.org).

See page 5 for more information.

*President's Message (Continued from Page 1)*

Past President **Jennifer P. Brown** co-chaired this successful event. Jennifer Brown was also presented with an engraved bowl in recognition of her many accomplishments as immediate Past President of the NYWBA. Thank you to **Julie Hyman** for being the unofficial photographer for this event and for so many other NYWBA functions.

On September 29, 2016, the **Reproductive Rights Committee** hosted a CLE program at Blank Rome LLP, entitled "**The State of the Uterus: An Update on Roe v. Wade**." This program was informative, especially in light of the United States Supreme Court Decision in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt*, issued in June, 2016, which struck down Texas laws which placed burdens on abortion clinics. The program featured **Brigitte Amiri, Bethany Sousa, Elena Lavarreda** and **Brynn Weinstein** as speakers.

October is shaping up to be a busy month. On Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., the **Matrimonial and Family Law Committee** will present "**Do Something! My Soon-to-be-Ex Doesn't Follow Court Orders!**" The program will address when you should make a contempt application and will be followed up with judicial insights from **Hon. Laura E. Drager** and **Hon. Matthew F. Cooper**. RSVP to [reception@brmatlaw.com](mailto:reception@brmatlaw.com).

On October 18, 2016, the **Litigation Committee** will be presenting a CLE entitled "**A Cyber Breach Primer: Cybersecurity, Cyber Governance, and Cyber Insurance: What Clients Need to Know.**" **Nicole Joy Liebman** and **Joseph B. Shumofsky** will speak at this program, hosted at Sills, Cummis & Gross. You can sign up by emailing [litigationchairs@nywba.org](mailto:litigationchairs@nywba.org).

On October 20, 2016, the **Diversity and Events Committees** will be co-sponsoring a networking event at **Vivrant Beauty**. A professional make-up artist will demonstrate tips and tricks to update your everyday corporate look. To register for this event, email [diversity@nywba.org](mailto:diversity@nywba.org).

Finally, we are thrilled to announce we we have 520 members as of September 29! Thank you to the Membership Co-Chairs, Michael Appelbaum and Beth Bryson, and to all of the Committee Chairs who have contributed to this effort. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so.

*Deborah*

**New York Women's Bar Association**

*is proud to be a co-sponsor of the*

**New York Shape the Law Conference**

Join us for intimate conversations around Wellness + Wealth + Wisdom. This event is open to all self-identified women. During this half-day event, we'll explore the many questions, challenges, and opportunities of being a woman lawyer.

In an unconference, we bring together key stakeholders and create a space where a radically different way of thinking is possible. It's an opportunity to share, connect and innovate.

**Date:** *Friday, October 28, 2016*

**Time:** 12:30 p.m.

**Place:** *Seyfarth Shaw, LLP*  
620 8th Avenue, NYC

**Cost:** NYWBA members use code **NYWBA** for a 10% discount

**Info:** For more information and registration, go to <http://newyorkshapethelaw.splashthat.com>

**NYWBA's Matrimonial & Family Law Committee**  
*presents*

**"Do Something! My Soon-to-be-Ex Doesn't Follow Court Orders!"**

A presentation on how, when and if you should make a contempt application, which will be followed up with insights from **Hon. Laura E. Drager** and **Hon. Matthew F. Cooper**.

**Date:** *Wednesday, October 5, 2016*

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** *Bender & Rosenthal LLP*  
451 Park Avenue South, 10th Fl., NYC

**RSVP:** Email [reception@brmatlaw.com](mailto:reception@brmatlaw.com)

**Update Your Corporate Face**

Please join the **Diversity and Events Committees** for an evening of cocktails, networking, and shopping.

**Date:** *October 20, 2016, 6:00-8:30 PM*

**Place:** *Vivrant Beauty*  
220 Saint Nicholas Ave., NYC

**Cost:** *Free - Members\**  
*\$20 - Non-members*

**RSVP:** Email to [Diversity@nywba.org](mailto:Diversity@nywba.org).  
*Space is limited.*

\* **Membership:** If you are not a member, go to [www.nywba.org/Membership](http://www.nywba.org/Membership) to join or renew using our secure online membership form.

**SUPPORT THE NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION, INC.**

The New York Women's Bar Association Foundation's goals are: (1) to eliminate gender bias and other forms of discrimination from the legal system and legal profession, (2) to promote the social and economic equality, safety and well being of women and children, and (3) to address the unmet legal needs of women and children. It is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization which supports and funds charitable and philanthropic programs to aid women and children throughout Manhattan and beyond.

NYWBAF initiatives are made possible through the financial contributions of members of the New York Women's Bar Association, colleagues and friends. Donations are tax-deductible as charitable contributions.

Help us advance our mission to aid women and children in New York and beyond by giving to the Foundation. Please go to <http://nywbaf.org/donate> to make a contribution.

## COMMITTEE NEWS

- **Committee to Advance the Status of Women in the Profession** will meet **October 26** at 6:00 pm at Satterlee Stephens, 230 Park Ave, Suite 1130, NYC. The committee will also meet November 10, at 6:00 pm at the New York County Civil Court, 111 Centre Street, 12th Floor, NYC. RSVP to [AdvanceStatus@nywba.org](mailto:AdvanceStatus@nywba.org).
- **Civil Courts Committee** will meet on **October 25** and **November 17** at 1:15 pm at the Civil Courthouse, 111 Centre St., NYC. RSVP [CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org](mailto:CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org).
- **Criminal Law Committee** will meet **November 1** at 6:15 pm at The Hoffinger Firm, 150 East 58th Street, 16th Floor. RSVP to [CrimLawChairs@nywba.org](mailto:CrimLawChairs@nywba.org).
- **Diversity and Events Committee** will host **Updating Your Corporate Face**: a cocktails, networking and shopping event on **October 20** at 6:00 pm at Vivrant Beauty, 220 Saint Nicholas Ave., NYC. RSVP [diversity@nywba.org](mailto:diversity@nywba.org). (See notice p. 2)
- **Elder Law & Disabilities Committee** will meet **October 13**. For more info and to RSVP, e-mail [ElderLawChairs@nywba.org](mailto:ElderLawChairs@nywba.org).
- **Employment and Equal Opportunity for Women Committee** will meet **November 16** at 6:00 pm. Location TBD. Email [EEOWChairs@nywba.org](mailto:EEOWChairs@nywba.org).
- **International Women's Right Committee** will meet on **October 17** and **November 14** at 6:30 pm at Le Pain Quotiden, 81 West Broadway, NYC. To RSVP, email [IntlChairs@nywba.org](mailto:IntlChairs@nywba.org).
- **Litigation Committee** presents a **CLE: A Cyber Breach Primer: Cybersecurity, Cyber Governance, and Cyber Insurance: What Clients Need to Know** on **October 18** at 6:00 pm at Sills, Cummis & Gross P.C., 101 Park Avenue, 28th Fl., NYC. 1 Law Practice Management CLE Credit. RSVP: [LitigationChairs@nywba.org](mailto:LitigationChairs@nywba.org). (See notice p. 1)
- **Matrimonial & Family Law Committee** presents: **"Do Something! My Soon-to-be-Ex Doesn't Follow Court Orders!"** with **Hon. Laura E. Drager** and **Hon. Matthew F. Cooper** on **October 5** at 6:00 pm at Bender & Rosenthal LLP, 451 Park Avenue South, 10th Fl., NYC. RSVP [reception@brmatlaw.com](mailto:reception@brmatlaw.com). (See notice p. 2)
- **Program & Events Committee** will meet **October 25** at 6:00 pm at Kirkland & Ellis, 601 Lexington Ave (@53rd St.), NYC. RSVP [events@nywba.org](mailto:events@nywba.org).
- **Reproductive Rights & Women's Health Committee** will meet **October 4** and **November 1** at 6:30 pm at Blank Rome LLP, 405 Lexington Ave., NYC. RSVP [reproductiverights@nywba.org](mailto:reproductiverights@nywba.org).

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.

## NOTES ON MEMBERS

Congratulations to **Virginia A. LoPreto** and **Magnolia D. Levy** on their new partnership LoPreto + Levy, LLP.

We send heartfelt condolences to NYWBA Past President **Bonnie S. Edwards** on the passing of her father, David Edwards, at age 91. Services were held on Long Island on September 11, 2016. Those wishing to do so may make a donation to the family's preferred charity, the South Baldwin Jewish Center, 2959 Grand Ave, Baldwin, NY 11510, or the charity of their choice.

Has something noteworthy happened to you or another member? Send your news to [Newsletter@nywba.org](mailto:Newsletter@nywba.org).

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

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

Ruth E. Bernstein  
Moiria E. Casey  
Nina G. Keller

Gary Roy Klein  
Victoria A. Turchetti

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Leslie Abele  
Jennifer G. Arthungal  
Diana J. Basso  
Shiran Bayin  
Mark Berman  
Allison M. Cabibbo  
Alyson A. Cohen  
Leah G. Cohen  
Christina Davidesko  
Rena C. Dawson  
Caryn C. Doppelt  
Jessie Farrell  
Nicole Guitelman  
Patrick L. Hendrick  
Jessica A. Horani  
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Samantha J. Katze  
Nina G. Keller  
Andrea Krugman  
Chrystina S. Lopera  
Patrick MacDonell

Lisa McAnearney  
Anne Maly  
Elizabeth Marks  
Nicholas Moyné  
Hon. Eileen N. Nadelson  
Marie Napoli  
Rosemary Spring Ortiona  
Kim M. Parker  
Lauren Restivo  
Jenilsys Rodriguez  
Rosanna Roizin  
Dena Rosenberg Verhoff  
Carol M. Rubin  
Shayna E. Sacks  
Jordan N. Sieracki  
Elyssa J. Slutzky  
Dinora Smith  
Stephanie Speirs  
Renee J. Storey  
Yu Tian  
Saraswati Tomar

as of 9/27/16

### **Renew Your Membership for 2016-2017!**

If you have already renewed, THANK YOU!

Renew your membership today and enjoy all NYWBA benefits, including FREE NYWBA CLE PROGRAMS, our award-winning Mentoring Circles, networking events and Committee meetings, access to the "Members Only" sections of our website, access to our Newsletters online, and other benefits.

Save paper & mailing costs, and expedite your renewal by using our secure online membership form at <http://membership.nywba.org>. You can also email NYWBA Executive Director ([ED@nywba.org](mailto:ED@nywba.org)) to confirm your member status or request a paper membership form by email.

## NYWBA MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION

*By Jennifer P. Brown*

The NYWBA held its **Annual Membership Reception** at Skadden, Arps, Meager & Flom on September 8, 2016. The well attended reception was bitter sweet, as it was the first after the passing of our beloved Judge **Judith S. Kaye**, who sponsored the event for the past several years. However, following in what we believed to be her wish, we carried on and it was a fantastic night. We give a special thank you to Skadden, Arps, Meager & Flom for sponsoring our event, and the staff at Skadden for a seamless event.

The room was packed with law students, new lawyers, seasoned lawyers and judges mingling and networking. As always, this event was a wonderful opportunity for our established membership, including

officers and directors, to provide new and prospective members with information about our association and the practice of law.

NYWBA President **Deborah G. Rosenthal**, addressed the full house and announced the record number our membership has reached for the first reporting period, but urged members to spread the word about the benefits of membership and help keep those numbers growing. We heard also from NYWBA Foundation President **Gretchen Beall Schumann** about upcoming events at the Foundation, WBASNY President-Elect **Amy Baldwin-Littman**, about the benefits of WBASNY membership and Membership Co-Chair **Michael W.**

**Appelbaum**, about the importance of membership in our association for women and non-women alike.

I would like to give a warm thank you to the Officers and Directors for presenting me with a beautiful bowl that evening commemorating my year as NYWBA President last year.

Thank you to my reception Co-Chair **Magnolia D. Levy** for all her hard work, as well as **Karen Lu**, our tireless Executive Director, and the many volunteers that evening.

*Jennifer P. Brown is the immediate past president of the NYWBA.*



## MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION (con't.)



The NYWBA will participate in this year's **Bike MS**, and we are hoping you'll join our team for the 30 mile bike ride around Manhattan on **October 23, 2016!**

Bike MS is much more than a physically challenging bike ride for cyclists of all levels—it's a really fun experience.

As you may know, multiple sclerosis (MS) is an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body. MS is different for everyone, and that makes it all the more challenging to solve.

So please, join our team and help us reach our fundraising goal. It's our chance do something that matters and have a great time doing it. Let's ride!

To join our team go to: <http://bit.ly/2bg4L87>

**NYWBA Cycle Team**

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

**NYWBA International Women's Rights Committee  
CLE Program:**

#### **HELMS HURTS:**

*An examination of the American policy blocking  
access to safe and legal abortion worldwide*

**Monday, November 7, 2016**

Location TBD

Email [IntlChairs@nywba.org](mailto:IntlChairs@nywba.org) for more info.

### **NYWBA Mentoring Circles Reception**

The NYWBA's Mentoring Circles Program allows members at all stages of their careers to join with their peers to foster their personal and professional development. Members benefit from direct mentoring as they share ideas for meeting challenges in their careers and personal lives in a supportive and encouraging environment.

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

**Cynthia Greenawalt**

*Professional Coach*

*on Networking & Developing Social Capital*

**When:** *Thursday, October 27, 2016*

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** *Davis Wright Tremaine LLP  
1251 Avenue of the Americas, 21st Fl., NYC*

**Cost:** *\$20.00 per person*

**RSVP:** *[www.nywba.org/mentoring-circles-reception](http://www.nywba.org/mentoring-circles-reception)*

**Info:** For questions or additional information, send a note to [MentoringCircles@nywba.org](mailto:MentoringCircles@nywba.org).

**Note:** You **must** be a **current** NYWBA member to participate. If you are not a current member, go to [www.nywba.org/Membership](http://www.nywba.org/Membership) to join or renew, or email to our Executive Director at [ED@nywba.org](mailto:ED@nywba.org) to have a membership form sent to you.

If you are a member but are not yet part of a mentoring circle and would like to be, email [Mentoring@nywba.org](mailto:Mentoring@nywba.org).

## Reflections by Caroline Ackerman, New York Women's Bar Association Foundation Fellow at Sanctuary for Families

My internship at Sanctuary for Families reaffirmed my passion for advocating on behalf of survivors of domestic violence. During the first two years of law school, I had the privilege of working with survivors through Sanctuary's Uncontested Divorce Project and Courtroom Advocates Project. These programs gave me the opportunity to build relationships with survivors and assist them in filing for divorce and obtaining orders of protection. Through these experiences, I learned firsthand about the power and control dynamics of domestic violence and became inspired to learn how the legal system could protect and support individuals in abusive relationships. My internship at Sanctuary was an invaluable experience that immersed me in current policy debates surrounding intimate partner violence and provided a glimpse into the hardships faced by survivors. My main project was a position paper devoted to domestic violence, female genital mutilation, human trafficking, and forced marriage. As I researched each topic, I gained a deeper compassion and a greater understanding of the needs of survivors and the potential for the legal system to meet those needs.

Intimate partner violence is a continually evolving pattern of violence centered on power and control. Despite advocates' ongoing efforts to provide support to survivors and train law enforcement to identify intimate partner violence, perpetrators have found new ways to torment their victims. Researching the advent of revenge pornography, I learned that the law does not always keep up with new forms of abuse. Revenge pornography involves the nonconsensual disclosure of sexually explicit images. Although the effects on victims are devastating, many states, including New York, have not yet criminalized revenge pornography. As I delved into the proposed legislation, I was driven to help find a legal remedy for victims of revenge pornography.

I also had the privilege of assisting with Sanctuary's amicus brief in the current New York Court of Appeals case, *Brooke S.B. vs. Elizabeth A. C.C.* [Editor's Note: The Court recently decided this case in favor of granting visitation rights.] I interviewed Sanctuary clients, social workers and attorneys to compile narratives that demonstrated the potential harms of adopting a broad or functional definition of "parent." The case concerns the parental rights of individuals in a same-sex relationship after the couple separates. While fully supporting the rights of LGBT parents, Sanctuary and its fellow advocates called attention to the dangers of applying a functional definition of "parent" and proposed an alternative approach to ensure LGBT parents have standing when the couple planned to raise the child together. Sanctuary's work with survivors of gender-based violence gives the organization unique insight into the ways batterers might use a functional definition of parent to continue harassing their victims through custody and visitation proceedings. Through my interviews with Sanctuary lawyers and clients, I realized the extent to which abusers manipulate the justice system to continue tormenting their victims. Abusers begin custody battles, lodge complaints in the international human rights system, and make false criminal accusations. Sanctuary argued that the court's application of a functional definition of parent would create another avenue for abusers to harass their victims by commencing custody battles for children to whom they are not related. Conducting interviews for the amicus brief gave me insight into the dynamics of abusive relationships and illustrated the law's poten-

tial to substantially impact marginalized populations such as low-income communities and victims of gender-based violence.

Recognizing the importance of Sanctuary's role in communicating survivors' experiences and needs to legislators through "white papers" and other forms of advocacy reinforced my commitment to pursue non-profit legal work upon graduation. As an aspiring attorney, I am determined to serve survivors through both policy advocacy and individual representation. I am eternally grateful to the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc. and Sanctuary for Families, especially Dorchen Leidholdt, the Director of the Legal Center, for the opportunity to gain hands-on experience researching today's most pressing domestic violence policy matters.

*Caroline Ackerman is a 3L at Fordham University School of Law.*

### The New York Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc.

invites you to join us for a breakfast panel discussion on the possible impact of the election results on federal policies affecting women and children.

*Moderator*

***Magee Hickey***

Emmy-Award winning television reporter

*Panelists*

***Karen Greenberg***

Defense expert at Fordham Law School and author of *Rogue Justice: The Making of the Security State*, which explains the War on Terror's impact on justice and law in America.

***Sonia Ossorio***

President of NOW New York, who served a leadership role in the passage of New York's first Anti-Trafficking law.

***Carmen Maria Rey***

Sanctuary for Families, Deputy Director of the Immigration Intervention Project

***Date:*** *Wednesday, October 26, 2016*

***Time:*** 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

***Place:*** *The Cornell Club*, 6 East 44th Street, NYC (bet. Fifth and Madison)

***Note:*** *Space is Limited*

***Cost:*** *\$85 per person* (\$90 at the door)\*

***RSVP:*** <http://bit.ly/2dhyX20>

*\*The NYWBA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charity.*

**Remarks on Receiving the Joan L. Ellenbogen Founder's Award from  
the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York Convention,  
St. Petersburg, Florida, Friday, June 3, 2016  
By Martha E. Gifford**

Thank you to the New York chapter, my good friends and colleagues, and especially to Jen Brown and Deborah Rosenthal for their support and efforts.

Thank you to the members of the Awards Committee, and to all the chapters who came together to support the nomination by my chapter.

Thank you to my friends who came all the way to Florida to honor me. Without disregarding anyone else, please let me single out my dear friend, and longtime member of the New York chapter and now of Westchester, Claire Gutekunst, the new President of the New York State Bar Association. Congratulations, Claire!

I am so honored. And when I look at the list of the women who have received this honor before me, and when I think of our founder, Joan Ellenbogen, I am tremendously moved to find myself in their company.

There is much that all of us who have received this award do not have in common. But that fact makes our common devotion to the success of women in our profession, and to the policy goals that this organization pursues for all women, all the more telling.

Let me call out just a few of these remarkable women, and in doing so, I ask all of you, and especially our younger members, to think about what these women have done for women and what lessons we must carry forward from them:

**Betty Weinberg Ellerin** – how significant it has been for other women that she has been a trail-blazer, to use that position consciously for the good of us all, and to share the wisdom gained from her experience.

**Karen DeCrow** – whom I miss terribly – how to live every minute of your life with humor, never-ending energy and in service to women's freedoms and rights, and with joy in that service.

**Doris Hoffman** – who is in my mind always, at every critical moment of judgment and decision – how to teach leadership and consciously mentor, with love, to ensure that our work does not diminish.

My professional life has been devoted to my clients and to my work on mentoring and teaching leadership. Through the latter, I hope that in some degree I've reinforced for other generations of women

lawyers the lessons that I learned from other great women lawyers, such as these:

**Ruth Bader Ginsburg:** she teaches that the law must place no burdens on women in their choices in life and work by virtue of their gender.

**Joan Ellenbogen:** she taught that we women lawyers have a great responsibility to make it unacceptable that women do not have the same opportunities as men.

**Judith Kaye,** whom we celebrate this weekend: despite appearances, as her daughter Luisa said, she was a rebel, not just an innovator, who taught us that eventually we all do for each other, that even though we do not owe each other in every instance we do all owe each other through our lives and through our work.

It is not easy to keep ourselves always mindful of these truths. I promise to recommit to them and to the meaning of this wonderful award, with great thanks to all of you.

*WBASNY Board, Delegates and Committee Members and Chapter Representatives enjoying a reception dinner hosted by the New York Chapter of WBASNY at Sinigual on Friday, September 23.*



**PRESIDENT**  
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Karen Lu

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# NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

A Founding Chapter of THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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## NYWBA Membership Information

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](http://www.nywba.org/Membership) to access our secure online membership form.

Current members should send updated address and contact information to [ED@nywba.org](mailto: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 Wagner**) 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 [newsletternywba@gmail.com](mailto:newsletternywba@gmail.com). Submissions should be proofed and cite-checked, and NYWBA retains the usual editorial discretion to omit or edit all contributions. Send an email to [newsletternywba@gmail.com](mailto:newsletternywba@gmail.com) if you have questions or are interested in joining the Newsletter Committee.

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