

Valerie & Kenneth Standard Create Fund to Honor Parents While Fostering Equal Educational Opportunities for Minorities

When Valerie and Ken Standard were discussing their upcoming 50th Wedding Anniversary earlier this year, they decided on a celebration with family and friends to mark the momentous occasion. They also decided that well-intentioned gifts from loved ones and others should be directed to something more lasting that would make a difference in the lives of others. That led to Ken approaching The New York Bar Foundation to discuss the possibility of creating a fund within the Foundation, and the wheels were set in motion.

Valerie and Ken agreed to establish an endowment fund that would be named in honor of their late parents, Weed H. and Ena De Gazon Salmon, and Byron S. and Winifred Sealy Standard. In 1920, Valerie's father, Weed Salmon, emigrated to the U.S. from St. Lucia (BWI) at the age of 20 and her mother, Ena De Gazon, then 18, arrived on our shores from St. Lucia four years later. At 21, Byron Standard made his way to the U.S. from Barbados (BWI) in 1912 and five years later, Winifred Sealy, 18, also emigrated from Barbados. The two sets of parents eventually met and married, settled in Brooklyn and raised their individual families. Along the way they instilled in their children an appetite for education and the life opportunities that higher education, in particular, created. Many years later, Ken and Valerie began their life journey together, after the sister of a high school classmate of Ken's introduced them. During that journey, they became the parents of three children and grandparents of four.

Ken and Valerie's parents came to America with limited education, but they valued, supported and encouraged Valerie, Ken, and their siblings in their efforts to achieve higher education. For this reason, the Fund will



Valerie S. and Kenneth G. Standard on their Wedding Day with their parents, left to right, Winifred Sealy Standard, Ena De Gazon Salmon, Byron S. Standard and Weed H. Salmon.

be used to provide financial support through grant awards for education of disadvantaged students, who at this time are predominantly minority. The Standards stated, "Educational and professional achievements of the minority population lag far behind the general population, with unfortunate consequences for them, and equally important, for society in general. The legal profession, in particular, lags. We have a paucity of minority lawyers. The Fund will support efforts to reduce this achievement gap."

Grants will be awarded to the New York State Bar Association for law-related educational programs that benefit New York State's youth, such as Youth Law Day Programs conducted by its Committee on Minorities in the Profession. Funding may also be used to support the *Kenneth G.*

Standard Diversity Internship Program created several years ago by the Association's Corporate Counsel Section. Funding would provide a stipend to minority law students who accept internships with not-for-profit organizations that are unable to compensate them.

We invite you to join Valerie and Ken in this effort to inspire more minority and disadvantaged youth to be educationally ambitious and to bring a more diverse face to the legal profession, by mailing your

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...dedicated to aiding charitable and educational projects to meet the law-related needs of the public and the legal profession.

Message from the President

We are deeply grateful to Valerie and Ken Standard for establishing the Weed H. and Ena De Gazon Salmon and Byron S. and Winifred Sealy Standard Fund for Educational Opportunities that is described on the front page of our newsletter. What a terrific way to celebrate a milestone in their lives, to honor their parents and to do good for others at the same time. We hope creating the fund with our Foundation will be an inspiration to others.



M. Catherine Richardson

After our grant awards were announced in June, members of our Board of Directors and Fellows District Chairs began to personally deliver the awards to each grantee. We do this to let the organizations “working in the trenches” know that we appreciate their efforts to help others through their law-related projects, to learn more about their programs, and to tell them a little bit about the work of our Foundation. Mark Longo’s visit to the Red Hook Youth Court lets you in on a secret; those who make the visits get great personal satisfaction from having this opportunity.

Additionally, we highlight several Fellowships and Scholarships that our Foundation administers. We are proud of the accomplishments of these law students and are pleased to add them to the list of those who have benefited from your generous gifts to The New York Bar Foundation.

Finally, when you are making the decision for your year-end charitable giving, please write a generous check to The New York Bar Foundation to help us provide financial support for important law-related projects in the State of New York.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine".

M. Catherine Richardson

Peers Judging Peers at Red Hook Youth Court

Mark A. Longo, **Chair of the Fellows** in the Second Judicial District, recently made a grant award presentation to the Red Hook Youth Court, Brooklyn. The next day, he sent a note to the Foundation about his visit that included the following:

“I’m the lucky one again! [Yesterday] I delivered the grant check, as scheduled. I was able to stay for awhile and got to see a mock demonstration of a Youth Court proceeding. It’s really impressive to see what these kids are doing. Peers judging peers to the extent they can all relate to each other as such in a proactive way in an effort to help each other from going down the wrong road in the future.

“The ‘questioning’ by the jury was pointed and pertinent and the advocacy both on behalf of the community and the respondent clearly reflects that some excellent potential trial lawyers are in the making here.

“I made a point afterward to say to the participants in the process that they were involved in a “win-win” situation here since they were not only helping their peers but could take great satisfaction in feeling good that they themselves were becoming better people because of their involvement.”



Mark Longo presenting a grant award to the Red Hook Youth Court. Youth Court participants include Priscilla Auffant, Corvenia Collins, Desiree Fajardo, Jermaine Lambson, Sarah Martinez, Shaniece Montalvo, Conroi Polius, Dequan Samuels, Amaya Santos, Brandon Serra, and Jasmin Sierra along with project director James Brodick and youth court coordinator Ericka Tapia.

“Once in a Lifetime Opportunity” for Judge Briant Fellow

Flushing, Queens native **Hai-Ching Yang**, a student at the University of Washington School of Law (Seattle), was chosen by the Chief United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York to serve as the inaugural *Hon. Charles L. Briant, Jr. Fellow*. The fellowship is administered by The New York Bar Foundation.

Ms. Yang pursued the Judge Briant Fellowship as a judicial intern in the Court this past summer. More than 300 applications were submitted for the \$5,000 fellowship, which has been applied to Ms. Yang’s tuition or other appropriate law school-related expense during her second year of law school.

Ms. Yang describes her fellowship experience as follows:

For the Judge Briant Fellowship, I had a chance to experience the inside workings of a federal court under Chief Judge Loretta A. Preska’s mentorship. After witnessing a maritime negligence trial from beginning to the end during the first week of my internship, I knew that this summer would be quite the experience. For instance, one of the main projects I worked on this summer related to pandemic emergencies. I drafted a legal memorandum on rights implicated during a pandemic emergency, edited the Court’s emergency manual, interviewed relevant personnel, and produced a report updating the Court on the status and concerns of the Court’s emergency preparedness plan. Other projects and cases I handled for the Court included topics ranging from maritime, antitrust to criminal and translation costs issues.

Additionally, I had the opportunity to meet the current Justice Sonja Sotomayor

during her Senate confirmation, as well as other judges from the District Court, Second Circuit, and foreign countries. I witnessed the famous trials of summer 2009, such as the Madoff and AIG cases. Furthermore, I attended brownbag lunches with judges and interns, New York County Lawyers Association and Federal Bar Association events, and law firm events.

I am extremely fortunate to have worked with Judge Preska. She taught all the interns the dos and don’ts of being an attorney and advised attorneys to impart their wisdom to us. Everyday, I was intimately involved with every step of the litigation and settlement process. The Judge Briant Fellowship has given me a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I hope to utilize this experience for a career dedicated to public service

–Hai-Ching Yang

A *summa cum laude* graduate of Cornell University (Ithaca), Ms. Yang is pursuing a J.D. degree and expects to graduate from law school in 2011. She is a recipient of the President’s Scholarship from the Asian Bar Association of Washington and the Lim, Ruger & Kim Scholarship from the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Law Foundation. Ms.

Yang earned a B.A. degree in Sociology and Asian Studies while at Cornell where she was a member of the Quill and Dagger Senior Honor Society, the Golden Key International Honor Society and Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society. She was recognized with the Office of Minority Educational Affairs Award for Scholarship and Leadership and the Community Service Award for Ithaca Asian American Heritage Month while at Cornell.



Hai-Ching Yang with Hon. Loretta A. Preska and beneath a photo of Hon. Charles L. Briant, Jr. that hangs in the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, New York

Beth A. Rubenstein, Winner of Judge Bernard S. Meyer Scholarship, Honored at Reception

Beth A. Rubenstein of New York City, a student at St. John's University School of Law (Queens), was recently chosen as the recipient of the 2009 Judge Bernard S. Meyer Scholarship. Funded by the law firm of Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. (Garden City), the \$5,000 scholarship is administered by The New York Bar Foundation.

Ms. Rubenstein was honored at a luncheon reception held at the firm's Garden City office where she had an opportunity to learn more about Judge Meyer, his career, and the positive impact he had on those who had the privilege of knowing him as an attorney, judge, scholar, colleague and friend. Additionally, Ms. Rubenstein was introduced to Judge Meyer's daughter, Patricia Meyer-Peterson, a guest speaker at the reception.

Ms. Rubenstein is recognized for her legal scholarship for a paper she wrote, "It Will Take More Than **Hall v. Nalco** to Eradicate the Ambiguities of the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978: When Will the Law Overcome its Impotency?" The paper discusses the Pregnancy Discrimination Act (PDA), an amendment to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of

1964, which affords women equal employment opportunities by prohibiting discrimination in the workplace on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. It demonstrates the PDA failed to anticipate medical developments, such as in vitro fertilization, which has led to ambiguous judicial interpretations of the law. Ms. Rubenstein determines that, "Instead of forcing the courts to interpret the purpose and limitations of the PDA, Congress should exercise its power to amend the law."

Ms. Rubenstein is an honors student at St. John's where she is a member of the *St. John's Law Review*. She is a recipient of the Ruth W. Fine Scholarship and the Charles A. Frueauff Foundation Scholarship. Additionally, she has been awarded the CALI Award for Excellence in Legal Research & Writing II and the CALI Award for Excellence in Alternative

"My entire career has been devoted to assuring a just and honorable legal system and helping to create a judiciary that merited the trust of the people of New York."

Judge Bernard S. Meyer

Dispute Resolution. She is a consultant at the St. John's University School of Law Writing Center, a mentor/coach at St. John's University Middle School Mock Trial Program and a member of the Jewish Law Student Association.

Judge Meyer was an associate judge of the New York Court of Appeals from 1979-1986 and practiced with Meyer Suozzi from 1987 until his death in 2005. He earned his law degree at the University of Maryland School of Law and was a graduate of Johns Hopkins University. Among his notable accomplishments, he served as special Deputy Attorney General of New York in charge of the Special Attica Investigation and was a member of the Governor's Commission on Integrity in Government.

Established in 2004 by Meyer Suozzi, the award is available to second-year law students attending a law school in New York State and was presented to the student who exhibited excellence in legal writing and advocacy skills through an essay contest. The scholarship has been applied to Ms. Rubenstein's 2009/2010 academic year tuition at St. John's.

You can access the essay in its entirety on the "Success Stories" page at the Foundation's web site, www.tnybf.org.



Beth A. Rubenstein

Intellectual Property Law Section Fellow Focused on 'Wild Cats'

Thanks to a generous gift to the Foundation from the Intellectual Property Law Section, law student Ted Wills had been provided an opportunity to work this past summer on IPL issues relating to wild cats at Panthera, New York City. Panthera was awarded a \$5,000 Foundation grant to conduct an IPL Section Fellowship and selected Mr. Wills, now in his third year of studies at New York Law School, to participate in it.

Among other intellectual property law-related assignments during his fellowship, Mr. Wills carried out research, studied scientific literature and conducted interviews with scientists

on data sharing issues. He drafted a policy paper addressing the problems and provided solutions to issues associated with sharing the analysis of data collected in the field by researchers through a Panthera grant.

A charitable organization, Panthera's mission is to conserve the world's 36 species of wild cats. Working with the world's top cat biologists, local and international non-governmental organizations, scientific institutions and government agencies, Panthera focuses its efforts on the largest and most imperiled cats: tigers, lions, jaguars and snow leopards. Its staff includes some of the world's foremost wild cat experts and its conservation strategy focuses in large part on the production of scientific data about wild cats. It provides financial assistance to students,

"This Intellectual Property Law Section Fellowship has provided a great opportunity to do something other than what you would experience in a law firm."

Theodore Wills

researchers and scientists through various grant programs and provides technical assistance to a variety of wildlife conservation publications. In consultations with the world's governments, Panthera relies on this scientific content to demonstrate the need for conservation of large wild cat species whose existences are threatened.

By assisting Panthera to better carry out its mission, Mr. Wills helped to improve conservation laws in the United States and across the world that contribute to the conservation of large wild cat species whose existences are threatened. Mr. Wills holds B.S. and Master of Education degrees from Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN).



Left to right, Panthera executive director Luke Hunter, Ted Wills, NY Law School student and recipient of the Intellectual Property Law Section Fellowship, Kay Crawford Murray, Foundation Board Director and Dan Hunter, Professor of Law and Director, Institute for Information Law & Policy, New York Law School. Ms. Murray presented the Foundation's IPL Section Fellowship grant award to Panthera.

Foundation Honored for Philanthropy

The Legal Project of the Capital District Women's Bar Association has conferred its 2009 Swyer Companies Corporate Leadership Award to The New York Bar Foundation. The award is presented in recognition of a corporation or philanthropist whose generous support makes a significant difference in The Legal Project's ability to serve the community.

Through its grant making program, the Foundation has provided financial support to help create and expand The Legal Project's programs, including the Domestic Violence Legal Connection and the Small Business Legal Network. The Legal Project supplies a variety of free and low cost legal services to the working poor, victims of domestic violence and other underserved individuals in the Capital District of New York State.



Photo by Joan Heffler

Foundation Vice President, John J. Kenney, accepting the Swyer Companies Corporate Leadership Award from The Legal Project's President Michelle H. Wildgrube during a Pro Bono Reception. Lydia Kulbida, right, WTEN News Anchor, managed the Reception's proceedings.

150 Abused or Neglected Children Given a Chance For a Better Life Through Foundation Grant

In addition to the severe traumatic impact to the victim, abused and neglected children often suffer the effects of the stressed and burdened court system. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the Southern Tier, Corning, is dedicated to providing a consistent and caring advocate for children in the court system. Through its program, volunteers are trained to serve as a neutral third party to Family Court, Article 10 proceedings (abuse and neglect cases). A CASA volunteer is appointed to a case by a Family Court Judge and then sets out to research and gather as much information as possible about the life of the abused or neglected child. The volunteer then submits a written objective report to all parties involved in the case so that everyone is fully informed about the child's situation. CASA volunteers carry one case at a time. Their reports assist in keeping the system moving on behalf of the child to reach the objective of placing the child in a permanent, safe and secure home.

Through its grant making program, the Foundation recently provided funding to CASA of the Southern Tier to support the following goals:

- Retain 50 CASA volunteers by providing quality supervision in Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties in the rural Southern Tier of New York State
- Recruit and train 35 new volunteers
- Provide CASA advocacy services for 150 children
- Provide ongoing in-service training and education to CASA volunteers

VALERIE & KENNETH STANDARD

CREATE FUND, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

check (made payable to The New York Bar Foundation) in the envelope included with this newsletter. Please note on the envelope that the gift is for the *Salmon/Standard Fund*. Call Foundation headquarters at 518/487-5651 or go to www.tnybf.org to make your gift by credit card. Valerie and Ken and a number of their friends and family members have contributed to the Fund this year and Valerie and Ken plan to continue to contribute to the Fund on an annual basis.



Valerie and Kenneth Standard on vacation earlier this year.

A Special Evening in Honor of the late Judge Charles L. Briant, Jr.

A Special Evening benefiting The Hon. Charles L. Briant, Jr. Fellowship Fund within the Foundation was recently held in New York City. Many of those in attendance were former law clerks and judicial interns who served in Judge Briant's Chambers during his years of judicial service.

The fellowship has been established to commemorate the selfless dedication of Judge Briant to public service and the federal courts. Judge Briant was appointed a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York in 1971. He served on the Court for 37 years and as the Court's Chief Judge for seven of those years.

The Hon. Charles L. Briant, Jr. Fellowship Fund Committee spearheading the creation of the Fund and fundraising efforts includes Victoria E. Briant, Melanie L. Cyganowski, Edward G. Eisert, Katelin O'Rourke Gorman, Maria T. Guerin, William P. Harrington, Vilia B. Hayes, Robert Klump, Robert S. Marin, Jeffrey Moerdler, David M. Murphy, Charles C. Platt, Bruce H. Schneider and Thomas A. Tormey.

We invite you to use the enclosed envelope to make a contribution to The Hon. Charles L. Briant, Jr. Fellowship Fund, noting the name of the Fund on the envelope.



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3. Left to right, Lori O'Rourke, JoMarie Pica, Allie Kleva, Kathy Sohr, Sara Miro, Lisa Gallagher McCabe

4. Mary Duffy, left, and Vilia Hayes

5. Left to right, David Greenspan, Jeff Moerdler, Bob Marin, Jim Smit



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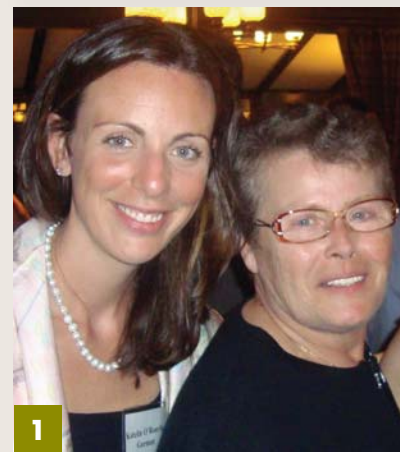
6. Left to right, Tom Kissane, Michael Straus, Prof. Debra Straus, Charles L. Briant, III

7. Seated, left to right, Mike Gorman, Kevin F.X. O'Rourke, Jenna Overzat; standing, Katelin O'Rourke Gorman, Kevin B. O'Rourke

8. Victoria Briant, left, and Adria De Landri



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1. Katelin O'Rourke Gorman, left, and Mary Duffy

2. Left to right, Kevin Meade, Adam Hemlock, William P. Harrington, Emmett Murphy

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Foundation Board Director Robert L. Haig, right, presented one of 66 grants awarded by the Foundation this year to Legal Services New York City. Accepting the grant from Legal Services were left to right, Andrew Scherer, Executive Director and President, Fern Schair, Board Chair and William Krandsdorf, Bankruptcy Assistance Project.

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