

center news

Foundation Announces Relationship Grants for 2016-17 Academic Year

The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation announces the recipients of its 2016-17 Relationship Grants program. In all, the Foundation Directors voted to award grants totaling over \$200,000 dollars to non-profit organizations in cities where the law firm of Brown Rudnick has offices. These grants support inner-city education programs and commence with the current academic year.

The Foundation Grants Committee, chaired by Brown Rudnick Orange County Partner Catherine Castaldi, received more than 80 letters of interest from qualified organizations interested in applying for this year's grants. Two dozen of them were invited to submit full proposals, and final selections were made in June 2016.

The Foundation awarded new one-year grants to a number of previous grant recipients, including:

Thompson Island Outward Bound (Boston) to support the Connections science education program for Boston public school students.

East Boston High School (Boston) to increase scientific literacy at East Boston High School through curriculum enhancements and inter-school programing.

Arts & Business Council of Greater Boston (Boston) to continue the Brown Rudnick Holiday Art Contest and Teen Art Law program in Boston public schools, and to support the Corporate Art Lending Program where public school student art is loaned to businesses.

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Visit the [Center Website](#)

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Cover Story Continued, New Relationship Grants for 2016-17 Academic Year Announced

College Bound Dorchester (Boston) to support the Maritime Apprentice Program serving older, high-risk population through a work and education program.

Hartford Public Library (Hartford) for the Leap into Learning Child Care Program, which provides early literacy training and resources to home daycare centers.

The Mark Twain House & Museum (Hartford) to continue a summer reading and writing program at the museum for 10th graders as part of Capital Prep School's 6-week summer academy.

The NYC Urban Debate League (New York) to support the award-winning debate program for NYC students city-wide. Brown Rudnick also provides general counsel representation to the League on a pro bono basis.

United States Capitol Historical Society (Washington, D.C.) to support the We, the People Constitutional Program which educates D.C. public middle school students through historical tours and classroom lessons, and to continue the Constitutional Challenge essay contest that Brown Rudnick helped to create through this relationship.

LIFEbeat (London) for group mentoring and summer camps that support the organizations transformational learning programs for inner-city teenagers.

Mousetrap Theatre Projects (London) a theater and arts program educating and connecting disadvantaged youth to the arts.

University of California, Irvine (Orange County) to support a portion of the Saturday Academy of Law, a program offered to disadvantaged, high-achieving 9th grade students from the Santa Ana, CA school district.

Century High School in Irvine (Orange County) to support college visits for economically disadvantaged high school students children as well as college placement test preparations.

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foundation news

The Center for the Public Interest Celebrates 15th Anniversary

On June 16, in the Brown Rudnick Hartford Office, the Center for the Public Interest Executive Director Al Wallis and Coordinator Elizabeth McGeoy, as well as Foundation Board Members, Firm Attorneys and Staff, joined Hartford Relationship Grantee's from both the Hartford Public Library and The Mark Twain House for a celebratory lunch of the Center and Charitable Foundation's 15th anniversary, and a recap of this past year's Hartford programs.



...and the Celebration Continued in London

On September 12, a similar celebratory event was held at Brown Rudnick's London office. Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Relationship Grantee's LIFEbeat, Mousetrap and Brown Rudnick attorneys and staff joined with Charitable Foundation President Jeff Jonas, Foundation Director Chris Toms, and Center Executive Director Al Wallis for lunch to discuss and reflect on the Center and Foundation's work and celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Center for the Public Interest.



foundation news

New York City Urban Debate League Relationship Grantee Visit

The New York City Urban Debate League hosted Brown Rudnick Partners, Attorneys and Staff at its Harlem Summer Debate Institute at Columbia University. The Debate League is a long-time recipient of a Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Relationship Grant, as well as a firm pro bono client.

Brown Rudnick spent the morning observing advanced public forum debaters, as they worked in groups to identify the frameworks and impact of their arguments. Middle and high school students participated in an open discussion asking Brown Rudnick volunteers questions about careers in law, educational experiences and how it can all relate to debate.

The day concluded with a passionate demonstration debate from advanced debaters who argued the pro and con sides to the question, “Should there be a uniform basic income provided by the United States Government?”

Continued on page 5.



Pictured above, Brown Rudnick volunteers provide feedback to the debaters.



For more information on
NYCUDL and their summer camp
(s) please visit

<http://debate.nyc/>



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“Seeing kids no older than 11 develop nuanced arguments to complicated questions in such a short order really demonstrated what a great program the New York City Urban Debate League is and how it is in broadening kids’ horizons and providing skills that will last the rest of the kids’ lives. Thanks for inviting me to this great event.”

-Jonathan Fitzsimons, Summer Associate

“It was an honor to witness and participate in the work being done by the New York City Urban Debate League. It was also fun. The bravery, skill and ambition of these students was inspiring. I am so proud that the Center has contributed to this program. It is hard to imagine any educational program being more worthwhile and impactful on young lives.”

-May Orenstein



From left, Brown Rudnick visitors Elizabeth McGeoy, May Orenstein, Erik Fogel (NYCUDL Executive Director), Al Wallis, Jonathan Fitzsimons, Tiffany Lietz.



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Teens Showcase Their Creativity at LIFEbeat

In July, Brown Rudnick London Associates Peter Wozny and Emma Jane Price, and Paralegal Francesca Cassidy Taylor visited LIFEbeat, a UK charity providing transformational learning experiences for teenagers and a long-time Brown Rudnick grantee. They were able to experience LIFEbeat's summer program, which is funded by the Foundation's grant. Here, 50 teens from disadvantaged backgrounds attended the camp in order to find and express their creativity, discover new ideas and to learn from others.



Foundation Grant Support of Capital Historical Society "We the People" Challenge in Washington D.C.



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Center Summer Events with College Bound Dorchester Relationship Grantee



The Center kicked off the Boston Summer Events for 2016 in June with a group of Brown Rudnick volunteers and rowing with College Bound Dorchester's Maritime Apprentice Program. Volunteers received a lesson on the "Catch, Drive, Finish, Release and Recovery" motions required to get boats moving as a team in the Boston Harbor. Filling two boats, they spent two hours with program leaders and participants rowing throughout the Seaport District, Rowes Wharf and underneath the Moakley Bridge.

A special thank you, to Brown Rudnick volunteers, Stephanie Calnan, Harrison Freeman, Nicholas Kinnon, Xue Yi (Sherri) Liao, Danielle Amabile, Al Wallis and Elizabeth McGeoy.

"It was nice to be able to see what the Foundation does. The grants seem to make a real difference to the recipients. It wasn't bad getting to row on the Boston Harbor either!"

-Harrison Freeman, Summer Associate

College Bound Dorchester, is a five-year relationship grantee of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation. This organization has used grant funds to support its Maritime Apprentice Program which serves an older, high-risk population in Boston through work and education programs. In March of 2015, this program was transitioned to College Bound Dorchester. For more information on College Bound please visit <http://collegebounddorchester.org/about/what-we-do/>.

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Send us your photos!



*Pictured above Xue Yi Liao (Sherri)
Summer Intern*

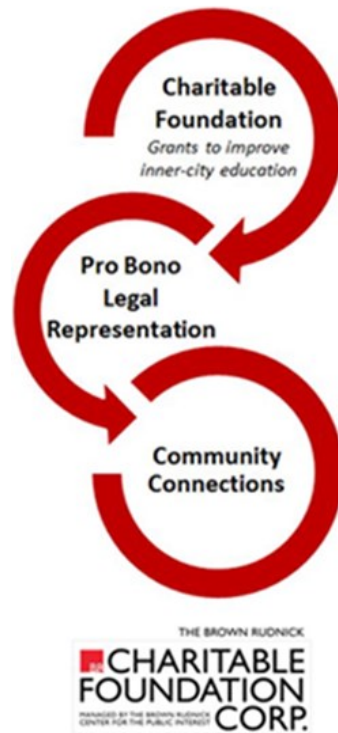
What does the Center mean to you? Has a Relationship Grant or Community Grant helped your school, or helped bring an innovative educational program to life? Maybe as a lawyer, your work on a pro bono matter helped make a difference in someone's life. Or, perhaps you participated in a volunteer day organized by the Center that you found particularly fulfilling. Share your experience with us! Send us your photos of what the Center means to

you. Send to emcgeoy@brownrudnick.com

You can also post photos to the Brown Rudnick [Facebook](#) page at and don't forget to include #CenterSelfie!

To participate, send your digital photo (with proper photo credit and a brief caption) to [Elizabeth McGeoy](#)

(By submitting your photo you agree that you are responsible for ensuring that you have the right to submit the photos, including authorization for the photos use by the Center and Foundation from anyone appearing in the photo.)



grantee news

Round Table, Inc. Community Grantee Visit

In June, the Center for the Public Interest Executive Director Al Wallis and Coordinator Elizabeth McGeoy visited community leader, George Brenner, and Community Grantee, Round Table, Inc. Grant funds helped purchase Windows-based computers for the afterschool homework center inside the oldest public housing development in South Boston, MA. At least a dozen school age children gather for homework, team sports and other productive activities available to them within their own neighborhood.

Round Table, Inc. is a nonprofit that serves the low income and at risk youth of South Boston. The organization's goal is to steer youth away from alcohol, drugs, violence and gangs by offering healthy alternatives such as urban agriculture and feeding programs, a community center computer lab and recent team sport opportunities. To learn more about Round Table please visit www.roundtableinc.org.



grantee news

Grant Helps “Trumpet in” New Band Program

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to Capitol Region Educational Council Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School for the development of a band program. The funds support Hartford students who are attending the Hartford regional magnet school in Avon.

“As an arts magnet school, we provide our students from both Hartford and 42 suburban communities with a quality academic education that is rich in arts instruction. Being part of a band creates the cooperative, positive, confidence-building environments our students need. We are committed to building a band program for our students, and we are grateful that the Foundation grant is helping to defray some of the costs.” -Justin Bank, Ana Grace’s Theme Coach and grant applicant

Grant Helps Second Graders Add and Subtract

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to Hartford Public Schools to support the school system’s math curriculum for 100 second-grade students. The grant helped purchase an individualized, online math program that aligns with the Common Core State Standards Initiative, an educational initiative in the U.S. that outlines what K–12 students should know in English language arts and mathematics at the end of each grade.

“We are grateful for Brown Rudnick’s support. The math website allows teachers to assign specific activities to support individual student needs. It also provides reports for teachers to analyze each student’s progress. With this tool, we can customize our math curriculum and increase students’ opportunities to learn in keeping with the Common Core State Standards Initiative.” - Lori Koplin, a Hartford Public Schools second-grade teacher and grant applicant



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.

grantee news

Grant Supports Educational Program for “High Risk Youth”

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to Roca, an outcomes-driven organization serving nearly 750 high-risk, justice-system involved young men annually in the Greater Boston area. The grant helped Roca upgrade its alternative educational program in Boston and was used to purchase books and other educational materials to be used for HiSET test preparation, group instruction and one-on-one tutoring, and as a lending library for homework assignments or recreational reading.

“I work intensively to support and motivate high-risk males, age 17-24, to re-engage in education and enter the workforce. Having these educational materials will help us implement GED/HiSET and other educational programming to help students succeed.”

- Kristen Cahillane, Roca’s High-Risk Youth Educator and grant applicant

Grant Helps Reduce Summer Learning Loss

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to Trinity Academy that supported a two-week summer experience at the school designed to help stem summer learning loss and provide students with enhanced cultural, environmental and educational opportunities.

“Trinity Academy is an independent, tuition-free elementary school that provides a safe and nurturing environment for students from low-income families in the Hartford area. Our goal with the summer program is to reduce the effects of the summer slide for our students through fun reading, math and physical education activities.”

- Karen Connal, Trinity Academy’s Head of School and grant applicant

THE BROWN RUDNICK



VIDEO!

Center Debuts New Video!

To learn more
about the
Foundation’s
Community
Grants, watch the
Center’s latest
video [here](#)

grantee news

Grant Helps Urban Assembly Bronx Academy Students

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to the Urban Assembly Bronx Academy of Letters in New York City to support a literature and performing arts program focused on Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Specifically, the grant helped purchase costumes, props, theatrical accessories, and stagecraft.

The project showcases students' knowledge of *Macbeth* by building expertise about a scene and then presenting what they have learned to an audience. Students will first read the play, accompanied by a graphic novel version of the text (with the original Elizabethan English) to assist in visualizing the scenes. Students will learn to recognize theatrical conventions and stage directions, and they will be encouraged to consider multiple staging options for the play and how differences in performance can shape meaning, tone, and subtext. Upon completion of the play, students will be required to select one scene in the play to demonstrate their knowledge of the play's complex themes.

*"The vast majority of my students will be the first in their family to attend college. Access to culturally significant texts is crucial, and it's important to provide them with engaging entry points to intellectually challenging and meaningful work. This multi-modal project centered around Shakespeare's *Macbeth* will connect a group of high schoolers in the South Bronx to language, literacy, and culture that will, undoubtedly, open up other doors in their minds and hearts."* - John Farranto, a South Bronx 10th grade English teacher and grant applicant

Grant Brings Educational Program to Inwood Academy for Leadership

The Foundation awarded a Community Grant to Inwood Academy for Leadership in New York. The grant will support an academic ... continued



continued...reconstruction project where students will gain hands-on experience with the restoration of a 1963 Volkswagen Beetle. Working collaboratively, students will learn the basics of body work, engine mechanics, and interior restoration in a practical, engaging learning environment. The grant will help purchase new and replacement Volkswagen Beetle parts.

"Learning by doing has become a major force propelling the rise of business opportunities for entrepreneurs. The goal of this project is to provide students with access to vocational training as part of their academic curriculum, and to give young people the opportunity to learn skills that can in the future lead to a decent paying job." - John Harrison, an Inwood Academy English and Career and Technical Teacher and grant applicant



community involvement



Keeping Boston's Island Classroom Beautiful



In August, a group of Brown Rudnick attorneys, summer associates and staff participated in a volunteer day on Thompson Island.

A long-time Foundation Relationship grantee, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center, is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide adventurous and challenging experiential learning programs that inspire character development, compassion, community service, environmental responsibility, and academic achievement. The Foundation provides a grant for the Connections program, which brings Boston school children to the island for hands-on science learning.

The day was filled with work activities, from setting up for corporate events to clearing trees brush and weeds. The work helps the island continue to run at full capacity for thousands of Boston Public School children. For many of these students, it was the first time they've been on a boat or experienced science up close in the salt marsh!

London Legal Walk

Brown Rudnick's London office participated in the annual London Legal Walk, a legal community event to raise funds in support of Law Centers and pro bono agencies. The team's effort raised over £500 for London Legal Support Trust.



community involvement

Center Summer Event at Rosie's Place



On September 9, the Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest participated in its second volunteer day of the summer at Rosie's Place. Founded in 1974, Rosie's Place is the first women's shelter in the United States. Its mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment that helps poor and homeless women maintain their dignity, seek opportunity and find security in their lives.

Throughout the day, volunteers worked with Rosie's Place staff to prepare and serve soup and bread followed by a complete lunch including tacos, rice, broccoli and garnishes. Between 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. they were able to serve over 160 guests.



Lawyers Have a Heart Road Race

A Brown Rudnick team of 13, including the firm's Boston Summer Associates, ran in the *9th Annual Lawyers Have Heart 5k Road Race* in support of the American Heart Association and its mission to fight cardiovascular diseases and stroke. In total, over 2,200 people (and over 100 firms) participated in the event.



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pro bono accolades



New York Office—On July 6, 2016, Center for the Public Interest Executive Director Al Wallis presented a Brown Rudnick legal team in the New York Office with a Pro Bono Accolade. The accolade acknowledged and applauded the team's impressive contributions to the mission of the Pro Bono Committee and the Center, to the Legal Profession and to their Communities and the Firm.

The team recently provided pro bono legal representation to a client referred by Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project ("DVLEAP"). In the 2016 NY Court of Appeals ruling in *S.L. v. J.R.*, Brown Rudnick's appellate amicus brief helped a mother to secure a landmark decision insuring that in parental child custody contests, due process entitles the parents to a hearing before the court makes its custody determination.



Pictured from left back row, Amy Cunningham, Elizabeth Hosang, Al Wallis.

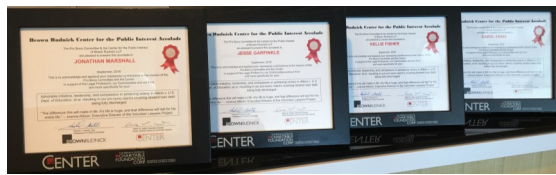
Front Row, Cameron Moxley, Sigmund Wissner-Gross, Rahman Connelly. Not pictured Jessica Meyers.

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pro bono accolades



London Office — An accolade was presented to the London office in honor of the remarkable achievement of being #35 among the top 200 U.S. Law Firms in the INTERNATIONAL PRO BONO RANKINGS for 2015 by the American Lawyer.



Boston Office — An accolade was presented to Kellie Fisher, Jonathan Marshall, Jesse Garfinkle and Carol Ennis for achieving victory in the bankruptcy case of Atkins v. U.S. Dept. of Education, et al. resulting in our pro bono client's crushing student loan debt being fully discharged due to his health and poverty hardships.



Recipients Pictured from left, Jesse Garfinkle, Kellie Fisher, Jonathan Marshall

pro bono representation

U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Affirmative Action Policy

On June 23, 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Affirmative Action Admissions Policy of the University of Texas.

In the original 2012 appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, the firm's management committee authorized Brown Rudnick to pin many other law firms in signing onto an amicus brief urging the U.S. Supreme Court to decide in this manner. Al Wallis coordinated the effort.

The amicus brief was coordinated by the Boston Bar Association (BBA), and argued that the university's race-conscious admissions policy serves a compelling governmental interest, one that is directly relevant to the goals of the legal profession, because underrepresentation of lawyers of color harms the legal profession and society as a whole. The BBA was joined in its amicus brief by a coalition of organizations, including Brown Rudnick, united by a shared commitment to advancing diversity in the legal profession. The Court's decision shows agreement with the BBA's analysis and means that the admissions policy at the University of Texas, as well as similar policies at schools across the country, may remain in place.



**Read more via the
New York Times June
23rd article [Supreme
Court Upholds Af-
firmative Action Pro-
gram at University of
Texas](#)**

pro bono representation

Brown Rudnick London Lawyers Resolves a Human Rights Claim Against the Police

In early 2014, a Brown Rudnick legal team in the London office issued a human rights claim against the Metropolitan police, on behalf of a pro bono client who had been refused police vetting clearance and was then immediately dismissed by her employer from her catering position at the police station. The vetting decision was challenged on the basis that the client had no criminal record and the police had taken into account convictions of her adult son who did not live with her. The reason for the decision was not communicated to the client for several months, which caused her difficulties explaining to prospective employers why her role had terminated.

While the client stood a relatively good chance at trial, the risk of losing and having to pay adverse costs would have forced her to go bankrupt. Just weeks before trial the police agreed to engage in settlement discussions, during the course of which they agreed to pay the client a substantial portion of the damages sought and to provide her with a letter of apology and explanation acknowledging that the client herself had not been at fault. The letter was of particular value to the client who recognized this was not a remedy any court could have awarded. As part of the settlement, the police also agreed to pay to the Access to Justice Foundation a portion of the costs the client would have incurred had she been a paying client. The Brown Rudnick team comprised Neill Shrimpton, Ravinder Thukral, Emma Quinn and Imogen Steiert.



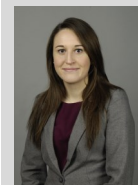
Neill Shrimpton



Emma Quinn



Ravinder Thukral



Imogen Steiert

The Foundation's "Golden" Years: Remembering David Golden



Foundation Directors Board Retreat, April, 2008.

(David Golden, front, second from the left)

plished attorney in Brown Rudnick's Hartford office, he threw himself into the Foundation role with enthusiasm, optimism and his great smile. It would be difficult to gauge any individual Board member's contribution to the collective success of our Foundation over the past 15 years, but I know that I always felt the wind to our back when David was engaged in Foundation business, and especially when he accompanied me on meetings with our Foundation grantees.

David left the Foundation Board in 2008 when he departed the Firm and went on to become General Counsel for Woodbridge Group of Companies, LLC. David continued his strong commitment to community service. He was the current President of Temple Bnai Israel in Willimantic, CT where he was passionate about fostering awareness and preservation of cultural heritage. He was both a founding member and the President of The Tolland Education Foundation, which distributes community-funded grants to educators to provide innovative learning opportunities for Tolland's children. This summer, so young and with so much more promise ahead of him, David passed away. It is a shocking and sad loss for his family and for those who knew him. I am pretty sure the world was made a better place for David having been in it. I am certain that our Foundation was. He is missed.

In my Center world, there are few more treasured people than those who agree to serve as Directors of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation. To serve as a Board Director, there is a significant time commitment, many hours donated for meetings, work and grantee visits – and no compensation. So it is purely the interest in "doing good" and in guiding our investment in improving inner-city education that attract our Board members.

David Golden, who was elected to two Board terms from 2005-2008, was one of these special people. An accom-



*David presents a Foundation grant check to the
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center.*