



New Year's Resolution: Give Back in 2015

Happy New Year! Each new year gives us a chance

to reflect on the past, look forward to the future, and resolve to make some changes and improvements in our lives. If your New Year's resolutions include giving back through volunteer service or charitable donations, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association is here to help. Here are two opportunities available to you:

1. Apply for a Chapter Community Outreach Grant

We know that FBA members across the country are committed to community service and outreach, and it is the Foundation's honor to be able to support such worthy activities through our Chapter Community Outreach Grant program. Over the past several years, the Foundation has supported many worthwhile activities across the country. Last year, the Foundation provided funding to six FBA chapters:

- **Chattanooga Chapter (Tenn.): The 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act**

The chapter developed an oral history commemorating the anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act and a program to remember Chattanooga's historical struggles and triumphs. These activities aimed to unite the community and to inspire today's youth to learn about the law.

- **North Central Florida Chapter: University of Florida Law Student Writing Competition**

The writing competition at the University of Florida Levin College of Law is designed to address current topics of interest and to foster closer interaction among practitioners, judges, and students.

- **Northern District of Ohio Chapter: Prisons, Punishment, and Penalties in Ohio**

This half-day seminar will bring together state and federal officials to discuss prison reform. The program coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Criminal Justice Act.

- **Orange County Chapter (Calif.): Pro Bono Promotion Lunch**

Presentations at this luncheon identified available federal pro bono opportunities, highlighted the value of participation to attorneys, and recognized volunteers who have made exceptional contributions to the pro bono field.

- **San Joaquin Valley Chapter (Calif.): Yosemite Law Day 2014**

This program was designed to educate 300 middle school students about the importance of the Rule of Law. The event, which took place in Yosemite National Park, included an essay contest, an address from a judicial officer, and a dramatization of a historical event.

- **William D. Browning Tucson Chapter (Ariz.): Criminal Justice Act Training CLE and Reception Outreach**

In an effort to increase FBA membership among the CJA Panel, which is disproportionately low, the chapter worked with local federal judges and CJA representatives to establish a first-of-its-kind CJA mentoring program.

Perhaps your New Year's resolution is to get involved in community service. Now is an excellent time to work with your chapter leaders to develop a program. All FBA chapters are encouraged to apply for a Chapter Community Outreach Grant, which can be up to \$5,000. Information and the application guidelines are available on the Foundation's website, www.fedbar.org/foundation.

2. Join the Foundation's Fellows Program

The Foundation of the FBA's Fellows program provides recognition to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to and leadership within both the Federal Bar Association and the legal community. Each Fellow makes a personal commitment to financially support the work of the Foundation. Fellows receive exclusive invitations to an annual Fellows Dinner (held each March during the midyear meeting).

The Fellows program is an honor accorded to only a very small number of FBA members. There are currently 221 Fellows, including 11 FBA members inducted as the Class of 2014 during the FBA's Annual Convention last September:

- Ernest T. Bartol – Mineola, N.Y.
- Laura A. Conover – Tucson, Ariz.
- Alan E. Goldsmith – Alexandria, Va.
- Martin D. Holmes – Nashville, Tenn.
- George Jackson III – Chicago, Ill.
- Joseph S. Leventhal – San Diego, Calif.
- Sharon V. Lovejoy – Honolulu, Hawaii
- Sheri Mecklenburg – Chicago, Ill.

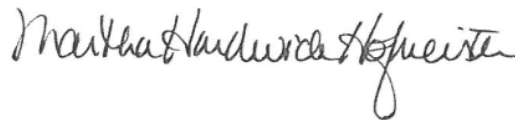
- Hon. Joanna Seybert – Central Islip, N.Y.
- Vildan A. Teske – Minneapolis, Minn.
- Becky R. Thorson – Minneapolis, Minn.

The complete list of Fellows is available on the Foundation's website, www.fedbar.org/foundation.

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for the Class of 2015, please contact the Foundation at (571) 481-9100 or email foundation@fedbar.org. Fellows must be FBA members in good standing and have been a member of the FBA for at

least five years. Nominations are accepted throughout the year.

The Foundation of the Federal Bar Association offers you many opportunities to give back to your community and to your profession. I encourage you to take a closer look and learn more about how we can help you reach your New Year's resolutions. ©



Take a Closer Look at the **FOUNDATION** of the Federal Bar Association



The Foundation of the FBA provides **Chapter Community Outreach Grants** of up to \$5,000 to support community service or outreach projects that involve FBA chapter participation. Projects must address the need for legal services in the community or fall under any component of the Foundation's mission.

Past grants have included funding for an oral history to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act; a legal writing program; a diversity seminar; a self-help legal clinic; a mentoring program and many others.

Programs such as these are made possible by gifts from FBA members like you. Take a closer look at the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Learn more about our initiatives and how you can support our work. Visit www.fedbar.org/Foundation today.

\$17,250
Granted to
FBA Chapters
in 2014