

We Glance Back to Look Ahead For Your Foundation

by Juanita Sales Lee



Juanita Sales Lee is a longtime FBA leader and a sustaining charter life fellow of the Foundation. She has served the FBA in many capacities including as national president in 2008-2009. She recently retired and lives in northern Alabama.

The Foundation was pleased to fund more than \$150,000 in grants, scholarships, and awards in 2019. From the Annual Civics Essay Contest to the McNew Law Student Scholarship to community outreach and diversity programs, we depend on your support to help us achieve our mission to promote and support legal research and education, advance the science of jurisprudence, facilitate the administration of justice, and foster improvements in the practice of federal law. As I begin my year as foundation president, I ask you to consider our many programs and initiatives and pledge your support.

Education

The Foundation offers two higher education scholarships each year and sponsors both the annual Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition and the FBA Civics Essay Contest.

The Robert A. McNew Scholarship, whose namesake is the founder of the Fellows of the Foundation program and an FBA past president, promotes the practice of federal law by awarding a scholarship of \$5,000 to an FBA law student associate member attending an ABA-accredited law school. The application deadline is Nov. 30.

The Federal Bar Association Public Service Scholarship, which is funded by the Earl W. Kintner Memorial Fund and honors the late two-time FBA president, provides \$5,000 as assistance to a graduating high school senior planning to attend a four-year college or university. At least one of the parents (or guardians) of the student must be a current federal government attorney or federal judge and member of the Federal Bar Association. The application deadline is May 1.



The 2019 Robert A. McNew Law Student Scholarship was awarded to Kiera Murphy, a third-year law student at University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, Minn. Kiera spearheaded the creation of the FBA student chapter at the University of St. Thomas School of Law.



Joseph Boland of Herndon, Va., a senior at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C., was the recipient of this year's Public Service Scholarship. Joseph led an award-winning team of students who studied Gonzaga's history with slavery.

The Foundation is proud to sponsor the Annual FBA Civics Essay Contest, which this year asked middle and high school students to consider cyberbullying and the First Amendment. This year's first-place winners attended an awards ceremony at the Supreme Court with Associate Justice Neil Gorsuch and also enjoyed private tours of the Supreme Court and the Library of Congress. The high school winner was Annaclare Spletstoeszer of San Diego, Calif., and the middle school division winner was Deeya Viradia of San Jose, Calif.

Service

The Foundation also funds programs that recognize exemplary community, public, and charitable service by FBA members. The Ilene and Michael Shaw Public Service Award and the Shaw Younger Lawyer Public Service Grant are made possible by the generous contributions of Ilene and Michael Shaw. Michael Shaw was a dedicated FBA leader who believed that the members of the FBA represent an untapped resource of experience, expertise, and goodwill that can be shared with the community.

The Ilene and Michael Shaw Public Service Award recognizes and funds exemplary public service programs sponsored by FBA chapters nationwide. This year's recipient was the Richmond Chapter for "Civics Day," an annual program that welcomes at-risk, Richmond-area middle and high school students to the Richmond Division of the Eastern District of Virginia.

The Ilene and Michael Shaw Younger Lawyer Public Service Grant each year enables a chapter younger lawyer committee to provide service to the public through the development and implementation of



FBA Civics Essay Contest Winners. From l to r: high school winner Annaclare Spletstoeszer of San Diego, Calif., and middle school division winner was Deeya Viradia of San Jose, Calif.

public service projects and pro bono law-related services. The Tampa Bay Chapter received this year's Public Service Grant for "The Sam M. Gibbons U.S. Courthouse Tour," which invites students from middle schools with diverse student populations and lower socioeconomic status to tour the courthouse, watch hearings, meet with judges, and expand upon classroom lessons about the functions and duties of the federal court system.

Named in honor of the late wife of former national FBA President Stanley M. Fisher, the Elaine R. "Boots" Fisher Award is presented as a memorial to the outstanding and unselfish contributions made by "Boots" to improve the quality of life and opportunities of all persons. The Foundation makes a charitable contribution to an organization of the award recipient's choice. Hon. Jerome A. Holmes, a judge with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, received the 2019 "Boots" Fisher Award for his exemplary community, public, and charitable service. Judge Holmes has chosen Trinity Legal Clinic of Oklahoma to receive this year's contribution. Through partnerships with existing community-based organizations, Trinity provides access to legal services for low-income individuals in the Oklahoma City area.

Outreach

Each year several Foundation-funded grants support community service, diversity efforts, and educational projects or programs that involve FBA chapter, section, division, or member participation.

The Foundation provides funds to chapters to conduct community outreach programs with the local federal courts for the National Community Outreach Project. Events include "schoolhouse to courthouse" events, high school mock trials, tours of various agencies, and opportunities for students to observe live court proceedings. Nine chapters participated in the National Community Outreach Project, held in April across the country.

Chapter Community Outreach Grants support community service projects and pro bono activities that involve FBA chapter participation. The following chapters received Community Outreach Grants in 2019: P. Michael Mahoney (Rockford, Ill.), South Carolina, South Florida, Tampa Bay, and Vermont.

The Foundation Diversity Grants fund projects that are focused upon the elimination of bias or the promotion of diversity—including race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any other unique attribute. FBA members, chapters, sections, and divisions may participate. In 2019, Diversity Grants were awarded to: Knoxville Chapter, Oregon Chapter, and South Florida Chapter.

Invest In Your Community

The work of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association is only possible through charitable gifts from FBA members like you. Support the advancement of justice and help the Foundation serve the legal community by making a donation today.

As 2020 approaches, we look forward to FBA Centennial Celebration and fulfilling the Foundation's mission better than ever in our own 66th year. I hope you will help us make it an exciting one. ☉

Editorial Policy

The Federal Lawyer is the magazine of the Federal Bar Association. It serves the needs of the association and its members, as well as those of the legal profession as a whole and the public.

The Federal Lawyer is edited by members of its Editorial Board, who are all members of the Federal Bar Association. Editorial and publication decisions are based on the board's judgment.

The views expressed in The Federal Lawyer are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the association or of the Editorial Board. Articles and letters to the editor in response are welcome.