

Lawyers Alliance for New York Honors Pro Bono Service At the 2005 Cornerstone Awards

On Thursday, November 17, 2005, representatives of the nonprofit and legal communities gathered at the Colgate-Palmolive Company to honor outstanding pro bono service by business lawyers in New York City. The annual Cornerstone Awards hosted by Lawyers Alliance for New York celebrated the extraordinary work done by nine individuals and three institutions, as well as by Lawyers Alliance's 700 person volunteer network as a whole.

"The Cornerstone Awards represent the very best tradition of the legal profession, volunteer work by lawyers from firms and corporations for clients who could not otherwise afford their services," said **Christine D. Rogers**, chair of the Board of Directors of Lawyers Alliance and a partner at **Arnold & Porter LLP**. "The 2005 Cornerstone Award winners are in illustrious company. They join the 17 institutions and 80 individuals who have been honored with Cornerstone Awards since 1997," added Ms. Rogers, in her welcoming remarks at the reception.

Lawyers Alliance Legal Director **Elizabeth Guggenheimer** presented the honorees with their Cornerstone Award red bricks. The honorees drew enthusiastic applause from friends, family members, colleagues, nonprofit clients, and pro bono and firm leaders.

The 2005 Institutional Honorees

Proskauer Rose LLP was recognized for the firm's continuous and meaningful pro bono business law services to nonprofits, including exceptional expertise that Proskauer Rose LLP has provided to Lawyers Alliance's clients in employment law, sophisticated corporate transactions, and nonprofit regulatory and compliance matters.

Shearman & Sterling LLP was honored for the firm's increased and sophisticated pro bono legal services to nonprofits that are improving the quality of life in low-income neighborhoods, including organizations that are stimulating economic development throughout New York City as well as those building a better future for inner city youth, immigrant communities, and the elderly.

Barbara A. Schatz and the Nonprofit Organizations/Small Business Clinic at Columbia Law School received a special award for the exemplary training and guidance that Professor Schatz gives to law students, and the attention and thoroughness she and the students show in providing essential legal assistance to many nonprofit organizations that are building a better New York.

continued on page two



◀ **Steven Krane of Proskauer Rose LLP with Board Chair Christine D. Rogers**

J.J. Stevenson III, Saralyn M. Cohen, John Madden, and George Wade, all of Shearman & Sterling LLP



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continued from page one

Individual Honorees

Phillip Azzollini, Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, was recognized for his long term service as pro bono counsel to Figure Skating in Harlem, an innovative organization providing educational and athletic opportunities for girls in the Harlem community.

Carolina A. Fornos, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, was honored for being a tremendous asset to Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health, which she has helped with intellectual property, governance, employment, and other business law matters.

Marc Hurel, DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary US LLP, received an award for helping the Brooklyn Cooperative Federal Credit Union to secure a long-term lease, enabling it to continue to provide essential financial services to people in Bushwick, Brooklyn.

Stephen D. Millas, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, was honored for using his skills as an attorney specializing in real estate to assist Jovenes 24 Horas A.D., Inc., 116-120 Grove Street Housing Development Corporation, and Jazzmobile so they can operate their programs and fulfill their missions.

Sheree Reinbach and Miriam McKibben, Arent Fox PLLC, were recognized for expanding the stock of affordable housing by assisting Neighborhood Housing Services of

New York City with the sale of nine single and multifamily homes to first-time homeowners in the Bronx.

Melissa G. Rosenberg, Goodwin Procter LLP, received an award for providing timely and quality employment law guidance to an increasing number of nonprofits, including Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center, Ifetayo Cultural Arts Facility, Internationals Network for Public Schools, Hudson Guild, Literacy Assistance Center, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and Recreation Rooms & Settlement.

Rita Tendolkar, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, was honored for providing critical legal services to nonprofit organizations working with families and children, including Northside Center for Child Development, El Guapo, and American Woman's Economic Development Corporation.

Michelle Vago, Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, was recognized for bringing her depth of corporate and transactional legal expertise to nonprofits, including Rocking the Boat, Canarsie Adolescent Recreational Program, New York Center for Interpersonal Development, and Council for Unity, Inc.

We at Lawyers Alliance applaud the Cornerstone Award recipients and all of our volunteers for the contributions they have made to a better New York. ■



Left to Right:
Marc Hurel,
Carolina Fornos,
Christine Rogers,
Phillip Azzollini,
Miriam McKibben,
Michelle Vago,
Melissa Rosenberg,
Stephen Millas,
Barbara Schatz,
Saralyn Cohen,
Rita Tendolkar,
Sheree Reinbach,
and Steven Krane