BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY

Honoring Public Service at Brooklyn Law School and the Accomplishments of the Class of 2023

Tuesday, April 4, 2023
5:00 – 6:00 pm
Forchelli Conference Center
Reception to follow
Welcome
Dean Michael T. Cahill, President, Joseph Crea Dean, and Professor of Law

Presentation of Distinguished Commitment to Public Service Award to Seth Goldstein
Dean Michael T. Cahill, President, Joseph Crea Dean, and Professor of Law

Keynote Speaker
Seth Goldstein, Partner, Julien, Mirer, Singla & Goldstein PLLC, A Working People’s Law Center

Presentation of Faculty Award for Excellence in Public Service to Professor of Law Minna Kotkin
Shirley Lin, Assistant Professor of Law

Presentation of Alumni Award for Excellence in Public Service to Janet Ginzberg
Elizabeth Schneider, Rose L. Hoffer Professor of Law

Presentation of Public Service Awards to the Class of 2023
Stacy Caplow, Associate Dean for Professional Legal Education

Presentation of Pro Bono Leadership & Access to Justice Awards
Jacqueline Cheney, Executive Director, Public Service Law Center

Closing Remarks
Jacqueline Cheney, Executive Director, Public Service Law Center

Reception
Our Honorees

Members of the Class of 2023, who will pursue a wide array of careers, have performed exceptional pro bono and public service work at organizations ranging from Brooklyn Law School’s own clinics and pro bono projects to The Legal Aid Society and from the Louisiana Capital Assistance Center to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Over the course of these students’ law school careers, they have devoted about 75,000 hours to assisting individuals including immigrants, small business owners, survivors of domestic violence, people threatened with eviction from their homes, children, and others, as well as helping government agencies provide critical services to the public. The Pro Bono Scholars are devoting thousands of additional hours to working full-time at nonprofit organizations. Our pro bono project leaders have dedicated their time and passion to running the Law School’s 22 current projects.

STUDENTS WHO PERFORMED OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE

GOLD – 1,000+ hours

| Elizabeth Anapol               | Simone Kaliko                         |
| Katelynn Anderson             | Erin Larkin Jensen                    |
| Ramsha Ahmad                  | Juliana Lopez                          |
| Wilson Baer                   | Paige Massaker                         |
| Claire Branscombe             | Katana Meganck                         |
| Casey Doyle                   | Phoebe Menaker                         |
| Denise Eliot                  | Jake Mulham                            |
| Daisy Fernandez               | Sydney Parks                           |
| Shoshana Finkel               | Samantha Past                          |
| Kelsey Gooden                 | Bryanna Rainwater                      |
| Salma Guzman-Avila            | Eliana Sands                           |
| Raina Hasan                   | Anjani Shah                            |
| Jacob Hirsch                  | Benjamin Smith                         |
| Nicole Horn                   | Alexander Starbuck                     |
| Elisa Jastremski              | Justine Woods                          |
SILVER – 500-999 hours

Cory Anderson           Sarah Mucha
Rebecca Balmer          Allyssa Myers
Chelsea Calabro         Kaitlyn Pavia
Gregory Chang           Angela Pugliese
Hui Chen                Aliyaa Reeves
Collin Chipetine        Cariana Salvatierra
Rachel Conte            Brittany Serafin
Zshornelle Daniel      Karissa Smith
José del Rosario Cardona Bailie Smith-Hunter
Eliza Estrella          Carly Spielberg
Abby Fink               Carly Sternberg
Joseph Getz             Deborah Teslyar
Yessenia Gonzalez       Samantha Wehrmann
Zachary Hirschfeld      Katherine Will
Nicolette Kelly         Julia Williams
Jacquelyn Kushner       Andrew Wilson
Anastasia Kyriakos      Regina Yu
Christian Maloney       Danielle Yurkew
Madeline Martinez

PUBLIC SERVICE – 100-499 hours

Shina Bharadwaja        Jillian Ingrisano
McKenzie Blake          Joel Krinsky
Lauren Brady            Jeffrey Lefkowitz
Mariya Budiyanskaya     Karol Liguori
Anna Correani           Rosaleen Maresco
Kathryn Daly            Nina Nisanova
Amanda D’Aniello        Minal Patel
Anthony Dimauro         Alejandra Pereira
Zane Elsisi             Maria Read
Talia Falco             Leisa Rockelein
Nicolle Feldman         Kimberly Rose
Clarice Feliciano       Erica Thompson
Daniel Gavin            Tamara Valcin
Armaan Genomal          Carl Wu
Eun Byul Im
PRO BONO LEADERSHIP

Student-led projects are at the heart of the BLS experience. They offer unique leadership and practical opportunities while helping underserved populations. This celebration, in part, is to honor those graduating students who displayed outstanding student leadership in the school’s pro bono projects. These students founded projects, revived and revitalized dormant projects, and took over other projects requiring sophisticated oversight. For all your hard work, we thank you, graduating pro bono project leaders:

Elizabeth Anapol
Rebecca Balmer
Gregory Chang
Jamie Cliff
Nicolle Feldman
Daisy Fernandez
Abby Fink
Chloe Fishbein
Matthew Fulton
America Garza
Kathleen Giunta

Simone Kaliko
Anastasia Kyriakos
Mikayla Leef
Benjamin Malone
Paige Massaker
Casey Mefford
Sarah Mucha
Sydney Parks
Rachel Schwartz
Karissa Smith
Cherry Srivastava

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Pro Bono Scholars

BLS’s Pro Bono Scholars are spending their final semester providing direct legal services to low-income individuals:

Natasha Harris
Cariana Salvatierra
Benjamin Smith

Alexander Starbuck
Danielle Yurkew
Seth Goldstein
Partner, Julien, Mirer, Singla & Goldstein PLLC, A Working People’s Law Center
Public Service Awards Ceremony 2023 Keynote Speaker
Distinguished Commitment to Public Service Award

Seth Goldstein is a leading national labor law attorney and partner at the labor and employment law firm of Julien, Mirer, Singla and Goldstein LLP in New York City. Seth represents public and private unions including Amazon Labor Union and Trader Joe’s Workers United, before the National Labor Relations Board, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the U.S Department of Labor. Seth leads arbitration before state and federal courts.

Seth’s thirty years’ experience and unique perspective on labor law helps him represent unions of any size. He provides daily proactive advice to clients dealing with employer labor law violations, wage and hour issues, union election strategy, grievances, arbitration, and collective bargaining negotiations.

Previously, Seth worked for seventeen years as Senior Business Representative for Local 153, OPEIU. He has negotiated hundreds of union contracts, including the first contract for a private school’s undergraduate residential advisors at Wesleyan University, and successfully unionized the first tech company, Kickstarter. In addition, he successfully litigated cases at the National Labor Relations Board against major corporations such as Coop City, WeWork, Menards, and Alorica.

Seth graduated from Binghamton University with distinction in Russian History. He graduated from University at Buffalo—School of Law. In his leisure time, Seth enjoys hiking, spending time with family, and traveling.

Minna Kotkin (1951-2021)
Faculty Award for Excellence in Public Service

Professor Minna Kotkin was a longtime and esteemed member of the Brooklyn Law School faculty and a trailblazer in employment law and sexual harassment law. Joining the faculty in 1984, she was a professor of law and director of the Federal Litigation Clinic and the Employment Law Clinic, specializing in employment discrimination law and sexual harassment issues. She also taught civil procedure, administrative law, civil rights law, and interviewing and counseling. In 2020, in response to the nationwide shutdown of businesses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic,
Professor Kotkin launched the Pandemic Employment Relief Clinic, which rallied hundreds of law students to help New York workers who had been displaced, particularly freelance or gig workers. In recognition of this work, the Law School received the New York State Bar Association President’s Pro Bono Service Award. Professor Kotkin also wrote and lectured extensively on issues of employment discrimination, with a particular emphasis on sexual harassment and confidentiality.

A pioneer and leader in clinical legal education, Professor Kotkin served as the chair of the Association of American Law Schools’ Sections on Litigation and Clinical Legal Education, the steering committee of the Association's Equal Justice Project, and the boards of directors of the Global Alliance for Justice Education, Disability Advocates, Inc., MFY Legal Services, and Manhattan Legal Services. Before joining the Law School's faculty, Professor Kotkin was the litigation director of New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. She is survived by her partner, Deena Hellman, her sons, Eli and Sam Stillman, and their father, Joseph Stillman.

Janet Ginzberg ‘93
*Alumni Award for Excellence in Public Service*

Janet Ginzberg was a Senior Staff Attorney in the Employment Law Unit of Community Legal Services of Philadelphia from 1999 to 2021. She advised and represented low-income individuals in a broad variety of employment-related matters, including discrimination, wage theft, working conditions, criminal records, child abuse expungements, the Family and Medical Leave Act, and pension and disability benefits. Ms. Ginzberg partnered with private law firms in class action and impact litigation and also worked with coalitions and individuals to advocate for legislative and policy reforms aimed at workers’ rights. She served on the Legal Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania from 2011 to 2021 and the Mayor’s Domestic Workers Task Force. She left CLS in 2021 to focus on reproductive justice and access to abortion.

Before going to CLS, Ms. Ginzberg was an associate at the law firm of Connolly Epstein Chicco Foxman Oxholm & Ewing, practicing in the areas of employment law, commercial litigation, personal injury and intellectual property. From 1995 to 1997, Ms. Ginzberg was an Assistant City Solicitor in the Civil Rights Unit of the Law Department of the City of Philadelphia. Ms. Ginzberg served as law clerk to the Honorable James T. Giles of the U.S. District Court of Pennsylvania from 1993 to 1995. She graduated *cum laude* from Brooklyn Law School in 1993.