

# 2024

## IMPACT REPORT

### New Jersey State Bar Foundation



*Informed Citizens are Better Citizens*



[njsbf.org](http://njsbf.org)

# VOLUNTEERS

**Attorney volunteers are the cornerstone of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's success.**

We provide opportunities for attorneys to serve the public, foster professionalism and promote pride in the profession of law through Foundation programs.

## 2024 BOARD

### OFFICERS

Charles J. Stoia, Esq.  
*President*

Thomas J. Manzo, Esq.  
*Treasurer*

Kathleen N. Fennelly, Esq.  
*Immediate Past President*

John F. Gillick, Esq.  
*Vice President*

Katrina M. Homel, Esq.  
*Secretary*

Angela C. Scheck  
*Executive Director*

### TRUSTEES

Christine A. Amalfe, Esq.

Maria Cristiano Anderson, Esq.

Ronald C. Appleby Jr., Esq.

Kelly Ann Bird, Esq.

Faudia Hameed Clemenza, Esq.

Craig J. Compoli Jr., Esq.

Denise M. DePekary, Esq.

Michele G. Dorney, S.P.H.R., N.B.C.T

Maria Fruci, Esq.

Alexandra V. Gallo, Esq.

Norberto A. Garcia, Esq.

Hon. Helen E. Hoens (Ret.)

Craig J. Hubert, Esq.

Mikeisha Anderson Jones, Esq.

Eugenia M. Lynch, Esq.

Diana C. Manning, Esq.

Timothy F. McGoughran, Esq.

William H. Mergner Jr., Esq.

Aruna K. Pappu, Esq.

Loren L. Pierce, Esq.

Diane K. Smith, Esq.

G. Glennon Troublefield, Esq.



## NCBF PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS AWARD

Awarded in recognition for hosting an informative and interactive webcast in partnership with the New Jersey State Bar Association that reached hundreds of educators, attorneys, and the general public in New Jersey.

“The New Jersey State Bar Foundation’s ability to execute such impactful programs is a testament to the continued involvement and steadfast support of the legal community.”

National Conference of Bar Foundations  
June 2024

## 1,130 VOLUNTEERS

5

Executive Committee Members

22

Trustees

70

Committee Members

283

Speakers Bureau Attorney Volunteers

750+

Mock Trial Coaches, Judges and County Coordinators

**The New Jersey State Bar Foundation fulfills its mission to increase knowledge of the law and legal system with programs, publications, mock trial competitions, educator trainings, scholarships and grant funding which enables us to reach thousands in New Jersey.**

This year, over 4,500 students and teachers participated in our mock trial competitions and over 4,000 educators attended trainings that promote a positive school climate. Over 7,000 members of the community were reached through our public events and Speakers Bureau. Over 400,000 copies of our civics and law-related publications were distributed to schools and the public. Our *Respect* and *Legal Eagle* newsletter subscriptions grew to more than 3,500 and 1,200 orders were filled for civics and law-related publications.

Scholarships were awarded to 17 law students. We awarded grant funding to 38 New Jersey nonprofits for law-related education projects and provided new funding to support nine summer associates and three law fellows interested in serving the public in the nonprofit community. Multi-year grants were awarded to help fund 14 new and existing law clinics at Seton Hall Law School and Rutgers Law Schools in both Camden and Newark.

**We applaud our 1,100 volunteers.** We could not accomplish all we do without support from members of the New Jersey State Bar Association and the broader legal community. These efforts were recognized in June when the National Conference of Bar Foundations awarded the New Jersey State Bar Foundation the 2024 Partnership for Success Award. The collaborative efforts between the Foundation and the Association reflect a shared vision to enhance the public's appreciation and knowledge of the law and legal system through civic and law-related education.

I am proud to present our 2024 Impact Report and invite you to learn more about the New Jersey State Bar Foundation.



Charles J. Stoia, Esq.  
President  
New Jersey State Bar Foundation

*Programs are made possible by donations and through funding from the IOLTA Fund of the Bar of New Jersey.*

## OUR MISSION

- Foster an increased awareness, appreciation, and knowledge of law and the legal system among New Jersey residents.
- Serve as the statewide resource for law-related education for the public.
- Provide opportunities for attorneys to serve the public through Foundation programs.
- Foster professionalism and pride in the profession of law through public service.

# INFORMING ABOUT THE LAW

Our free civics and law-related publications support our mission to serve as an educational resource for New Jersey schools, libraries, senior centers, law firms, community groups, and the general public.

**400,124**  
publications  
distributed

**168,572**  
copies of  
*The Legal Eagle*  
distributed

**132,335**  
copies of  
*Respect*  
distributed

**17,260**  
copies of law  
related  
publications  
distributed

**9,511**  
copies of  
civics  
newsletters  
distributed

**80%**  
of K-12 public  
schools subscribe  
to *Respect* or  
*The Legal Eagle*

**40%**  
of K-12 charter  
schools  
subscribe to  
*Respect* or  
*The Legal Eagle*

“*The Legal Eagle* is excellent as a conversation starter. The articles ignite discussion and debate about legal issues past and present. They can be used for independent writing assignments or lesson supplements. The articles generate great debate among students, faculty, and administration.”

Gerard Ross  
Law Related Education Teacher  
Belleville High School

“The *Respect* newsletter is a great resource for libraries to educate the public about DEIA and implicit bias. The legal perspective is much needed in diversity work and it's important for people of all backgrounds to know their rights!”

Ashley Mitchell  
Adult Services Librarian  
Camden County Library System



# EDUCATING AND INSPIRING

Part of our mission is to foster an increased awareness, appreciation and knowledge of law and the legal system. Our annual mock trial competitions for students in grades 3 through 12 are shining examples of how the legal and education communities come together to provide interactive, hands-on ways to learn about the justice system.

4,500+

students and teachers participated in at least one competition

750+

attorneys volunteer as a coach, judge, or county coordinator

300+

K-12 schools participated in at least one competition

LAW FAIR  
(Grades 3-6)

73

Entries

589

Students

LAW ADVENTURE  
(Grades 7-8)

89

Entries

534

Students

Vincent J. Apruzzese  
H.S. MOCK TRIAL

215

Teams

3,400

Students

COURTROOM  
ARTIST

23

Schools

109

Entries

COURTROOM  
NEWS REPORTER

8

Entries

New competition  
in 2024



Clifton High School  
2024 High School Mock Trial  
State Champions



Stillwater Township Elementary School  
Law Fair ~ Grade 4 Honorable Mention

“ My students were so engaged in the entire Law Fair process. **They embraced the challenges presented, expanded their knowledge of the justice system, and appreciated the experience of performing for their peers at the *You Be the Jury* event.**

This opportunity has created memories for my students that they will never forget. We ignited a genuine curiosity and interest in the justice system and careers in law. I know this competition has made a difference in the lives of my students. ”

Cali Roberts  
Curriculum Coordinator K-8  
Kittatinny Regional Consortium

# TRAINING FOR POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATES

We are committed to providing educators with a toolbox of **intersecting approaches, mindsets, and practices** to promote a **positive school climate** as well as **reduce violence and bias**.



“ NJSBF provides lessons and tools to use in my role as a School Counselor in an Elementary setting. **Our teachers enjoy the lessons in the guides and students are benefiting from the dialogue** in their classrooms and, as a result, feel their voice is heard. ”

Christina Marchese-Velazquez  
Springfield Schools

“ The high quality, affordable (free!) trainings provide an opportunity for me to meet with colleagues throughout my district and the state to discuss issues that impact our school settings. **NJSBF trainings are a wonderful resource and you will always get something meaningful** from any training you attend. ”

Chris Maier  
School Counselor/ ABS  
John Hill School



# SUPPORTING

Part of our mission is to foster pride in the legal profession **through scholarships for law school students and grants for law schools.**

## LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

**17**  
**LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS**  
awarded

“ Balancing law studies with my roles as a nonprofit leader, wife and mother requires careful planning and dedication. **This scholarship not only acknowledges my academic achievements but also supports individuals overcoming unique challenges** in higher education. I eagerly anticipate contributing to the legal profession, advocating for issues vital to youth and working families. ”

Tyneisha Gibbs  
Sonia Morgan Scholarship Recipient  
Rutgers Law School - Newark

**3**  
**MULTI-YEAR GRANTS**  
**for Law Clinics**  
awarded

“ The **New Jersey State Bar Foundation funding is critical in ensuring our ability to assist our clients.** Our clinical students experience incredible growth in a short amount of time. Within only a few months, they are serving as lead counsel before immigration judges and skilled government prosecutors where they argue complex legal theories at the intersection of immigration, criminal, and constitutional law. They show an enterprising, tenacious spirit and great maturity. ”

Amelia Wilson  
Assistant Clinical Professor  
Seton Hall Immigrants' Rights/International Human Rights Clinic



2024 LAW SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

*In 2024, the New Jersey State Bar Foundation awarded grants to fund 14 new and existing law school clinics at Seton Hall Law School and Rutgers Law Schools in both Camden and Newark.*

# SUPPORTING

Part of our mission is to **broaden public education about the law and legal system through cosponsorships** with other New Jersey nonprofit organizations.

## GRANT FUNDING FOR NEW JERSEY NONPROFITS

COSPONSORSHIP GRANTS	SUMMER ASSOCIATE GRANTS	LAW FELLOW GRANTS
37	9	3
for law-related education programs	for law students to serve the public in nonprofit communities	for a law graduate or attorney to practice public interest law

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen



Rutgers-New Brunswick Eagleton Institute of Politics



Disability Rights New Jersey



# SUPPORTING

“ The Foundation’s cosponsorship grant makes it possible for Pushcart Players stage the play “Lift Every Voice: A Letter to the Editor” for students as an educational experience honoring the courage and resilience of Americans during the Civil Rights Movement. Schools in our home state will be able to access this learning opportunity because of NJSBF’s enlightened support. ”

Paul Whelihan  
Producing Artistic Director



2024 SUMMER ASSOCIATES  
AND LAW FELLOWS

“ Helping unhoused youth was rewarding. The documents I worked on greatly **sharpened my legal research and writing skills and gave me a practical application for those skills beyond that of my law school classroom.** Meeting clients one-on-one was an incredibly moving experience. Being able to see the effects of my work in real time... (reminds) me of the incredible impact attorneys can have on their community. ”



Dennis Abate  
2024 Summer Associate  
Covenant House

# PUBLIC PROGRAMS

5,480

reached  
through the  
Speakers  
Bureau

2,300

reached  
through  
events and  
conferences

43

artists and  
poets from  
the legal  
community



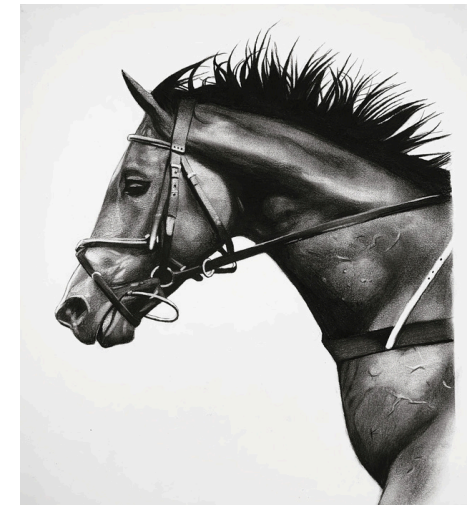
“ I have attended many of the Foundation’s public programs both in-person and online. **I have found the conferences and events to be enlightening and useful.** Speakers, who are experts in their legal field, do an excellent job presenting information and answering questions in ways that are helpful for all attendees. ”

Pete Clark  
Attendee  
Senior Law Day - Law and Information for Older Adults



“ **Engaging with young students interested in the law is invigorating.** It reminds me why I was so passionate about pursuing my law career. Speaking about what we do is one of the more joyful and rewarding aspects of being part of the Speakers Bureau. ”

John C. Grady, Esq.  
Cockerill, Craig & Moore, LLC



*“Horse No. 6”  
Courtesy of Daniel Krovatin  
1st Place Winner  
13th Annual NJSBF Juried Art Show*

 **400,124**  
publications distributed

 **7,283**  
reached through events,  
conferences and Speakers Bureau

 **4,500+**  
Students and teachers participated in  
Mock Trial Competitions for Grades 3-12

 **4,611**  
educators trained

 **\$87,500**  
law school scholarships awarded

 **\$8,200,000+**  
in grant funding awarded

**Programs, Publications and Grants** made possible by  
**IOLTA FUND OF THE BAR OF NEW JERSEY**

- Law-related newsletters and publications
- Mock trial competitions for elementary, middle, and high school students
- Anti-bias and violence prevention trainings for educators and teachers
- Free programs for the public (webinars, seminars, and presentations)
- Grants for New Jersey Nonprofits
  - Cosponsorships
  - Summer Associate Grants
  - Law Fellow Grants
- Grants for law clinics at New Jersey Law Schools
- Grants for Specialty and County Bar Associations in honor of Law Day
- Grants for Peer Mediation initiatives in K-12 schools



**Law School Scholarships** made possible by  
**INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS AND PROCEEDS**  
FROM THE ANNUAL MEDAL OF HONOR EVENT

Make a Difference  
by donating at [donate.njsbf.org](https://donate.njsbf.org)

## Contact Us:

New Jersey State Bar Foundation

New Jersey Law Center  
One Constitution Square  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901

contactus@njsbf.org

732-249-5000

njsbf.org

*Informed Citizens are Better Citizens*



Make a Difference  
by donating at  
[donate.njsbf.org](https://donate.njsbf.org).

## Follow Us:

 @njstatebarfdn

 @njstatebarfdn

 New Jersey  
State Bar Foundation



[njsbf.org](https://njsbf.org)