



THE THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL

# MARY PHILBROOK PUBLIC INTEREST AWARD

is proudly presented to

**Harold Katz**

Deputy Public Defender  
New Jersey Office of the Public Defender

**Joseph Moran**

Acting First Assistant Deputy Public Defender  
New Jersey Office of the Public Defender

Student Honorees

Christopher Bustamante Osorio

Amanda Deptula

Daniel Dowdy

Blair Gerold

Brooke Lewis

Eric Macias Intriago

Sandra Reed

Domenico Stockton-Rossini

Amelia Vangellow

Shahidah Williams

Presented by:

The Women's Law Caucus

The Association for Public Interest Law

The Rutgers Law-Camden Alumni Association

The Burlington County Bar Foundation

The Camden County Bar Association

# **PROGRAM**

## **WELCOME**

**Janice Heinold**

Chancellor, Rutgers Law School-Camden Alumni Association

**Douglas Heinold**

President, Burlington County Bar Association

**Ronald Leiberman**

President Elect, Camden County Bar Association

**Michael Cahill**

Co-Dean and Professor, Rutgers Law School

## **PRESENTATION OF STUDENT HONOREES**

**Sara Gray**

President, Association for Public Interest Law

## **CELEBRATION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE**

### **CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CLINIC**

**Ann E. Freedman**

Associate Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School

Philbrook Celebration Founder

## **INTRODUCTION OF MARY PHILBROOK AWARD HONOREES**

**Sandra Simkins**

Distinguished Clinical Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School

Director & Co-Founder of the Children's Justice Clinic

## **HONOREES' REMARKS**

**Harold Katz**

Deputy Public Defender  
New Jersey Office of the  
Public Defender

**Joseph Moran**

Acting First Assistant Deputy  
Public Defender  
New Jersey Office of the  
Public Defender

## **CLOSING**

**Ann E. Freedman**

Associate Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School

Philbrook Celebration Founder

## Rutgers Law School Children's Justice Clinic

Celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2017, the Children's Justice Clinic (CJC) in Camden is a litigation-based student law firm in which third-year students represent New Jersey children facing delinquency charges, primarily in Camden's juvenile court. Under close supervision, students develop a trial strategy, negotiate with the prosecutor, file motions, and argue in front of Family Court judges.

Established in 2007 by Distinguished Clinical Professor of Law Sandra Simkins and Clinical Professor and Director of Trial Advocacy J.C. Lore, the Clinic is now directed by Professor Simkins.



The CJC handles a wide range of cases, from minor theft or possession of marijuana to complex aggravated assaults. In addition to handling delinquency matters from the point of arrest, students provide post-disposition representation to youth who have been committed to residential programs or to New Jersey's Juvenile Justice Commission, ensuring that rehabilitation services are being received as ordered. In addition to

delinquency charges, CJC students handle ancillary matters, such as education and dependency issues.

Finally, CJC students also advocate for system reform. In 2008, the CJC, in partnership with the Office of the Public Defender and the Newark Child Advocacy Clinic, received a grant from the MacArthur Foundation and became part of the Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network. The grant was for post-disposition representation of New Jersey's youth. As an outgrowth of the grant, students have worked on conditions of confinement issues (such as eliminating punitive solitary confinement for youth in New Jersey juvenile facilities) and have engaged in successful appellate advocacy. The CJC is also part of a Juvenile Justice Reform working group in collaboration with the firm of Lowenstein Sandler and the Lowenstein Center for the Public Interest. Working with the ACLU-NJ, the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, Advocates for Children of New Jersey and the Criminal and Youth Justice Clinic in Newark, the CJC has improved

outcomes for hundreds of vulnerable children and trained hundreds of law students during its first 10 years of operation.

The Newark-based Criminal and Youth Justice Clinic, headed by Distinguished Clinical Professor of Law and Justice Virginia Long Scholar Laura Cohen, likewise provides direct representation to youth in New Jersey's juvenile justice system, young adults charged with minor criminal offenses, and adults who were convicted of serious crimes as adolescents and are seeking post-conviction relief. The clinic also champions systemic change through legislative and regulatory advocacy, appellate advocacy, and community education initiatives.

### **In Re Gault**

*In Re Gault*, 387 U.S. 1 (1967), held that juveniles accused of crimes in a delinquency proceeding must be afforded many of the same due process rights as adults, including the right to timely notification of the charges, the right to confront witnesses, the right against self-incrimination, and the right to counsel.

### **Harold Katz, Deputy Public Defender, New Jersey Office of the Public Defender**



Harold Katz graduated in 1974 from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio and in 1977, with high honors, from Rutgers Law School. In the context of the civil rights and anti-war movements, his first job, at ACLU-PA in Philadelphia (as part of Antioch College's co-op program) helped Mr. Katz begin to view attorneys as agents for the advancement of social values in a variety of contexts. An internship at the Camden Office of the Public Defender in 1976 provided the

opportunity for Mr. Katz to conduct his first bench trial for a juvenile client. Upon graduation, he joined the Public Defender's office as a staff attorney and began a career that has primarily focused on juvenile defense. Mr. Katz's passion for working with juveniles is

nourished by working in a system oriented, at least in part, toward rehabilitation for young people in trouble at a formative age.

Mr. Katz's work has varied considerably over the years, from providing direct representation to juvenile and adult clients in difficult situations, to working on juvenile justice policy issues, to running a busy public defender office that employs approximately 50 lawyers, social workers and support staff members. His efforts, along with a host of other juvenile advocates, helped end the routine shackling of juveniles during court proceedings in New Jersey. And through his work with the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative and New Jersey's Juvenile Justice Commission, Mr. Katz also helped bring about a dramatic decrease in the use of detention in Camden County and throughout the state.

Mr. Katz served as an adjunct faculty member at Rutgers Law School for over 30 years, teaching trial advocacy and criminal procedure. He has nurtured and mentored many public defenders throughout his career. In his spare time, Mr. Katz enjoys writing poetry, dancing most Friday nights, hiking, and making regular visits to France to visit close friends. He is also a very proud father of four, and a doting grandfather.

## **Joe Moran, Acting First Assistant Deputy Public Defender, New Jersey Office of the Public Defender**

The youngest of seven children born to parents who were the children of immigrants, Joseph Moran credits his family upbringing for inspiring him to become a lawyer. In his boisterous Collingswood home, he witnessed his family's almost constant passionate discussions about all of the major and minor issues of the day: the Vietnam War, the civil rights movement, the Watergate scandal, and the strengths and weaknesses of all the local sports teams. His parents and siblings insisted that he become informed about issues, defend his opinions, and care about those who were less fortunate. To Mr. Moran, becoming a



lawyer came from a desire to become an informed citizen, who could use his knowledge to help others.

Mr. Moran's passionate commitment to juvenile justice started by accident. After dedicating 15 years exclusively to representing adults as a public defender, he was asked to fill in for a juvenile trial attorney who was out on leave. It was during that time that Mr. Moran saw how vulnerable juveniles were, how much they needed quality representation, and what an impact a lawyer could have on the life of a child. From then on, he began to advocate for children in and out of the courtroom.

Mr. Moran has been involved in juvenile justice policy reform statewide and nationally. He is a nationally certified juvenile defender trainer and has participated at the National Juvenile Defender Center Summit. As the head of the Juvenile Unit in Camden County, Moran is at the forefront of policy reform in New Jersey, working on reducing detention and long-term commitment to secure facilities, and on the elimination of routine shackling. Mr. Moran has been consistently supportive of the Children's Justice Clinic since its inception. A frequent guest lecturer about the nuances of Camden County juvenile court practice, Mr. Moran routinely gives clinic students his cell phone number, not only to talk about case strategy, but also to help students with their own career development.

Mr. Moran graduated from St. Joseph's University in 1980 with a B.A. in English, and earned his J.D. from the Delaware Law School of Widener University in 1984. His wife, Sylvie, has been teaching children with disabilities for over 15 years. One of his sons is a Rutgers Law School alumnus who excelled in the Children's Justice Clinic and now works as a Law Guardian, and his other son teaches 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Moran enjoys swimming in the morning before work, and in his spare time likes to hear himself sing and tries to play the guitar.

## Student Honorees

### Christopher Bustamante Osorio (Class of 2018)



Christopher's extensive work on behalf of LGBTQ individuals and their civil rights includes an externship at the Mazzoni Center in Philadelphia, a health care, legal services and advocacy center for the LGBTQ community; he also spent a summer in Chile working with Fundacion Iguales to promote the passage of gender identity, anti-discrimination and adoption laws to benefit the LGBTQ

community there. In recognition of his efforts, Christopher earned the Scarinci Hollenbeck 2016 LGBTQ Scholarship. A strong advocate for women's rights, he has been very active in the Women's Law Caucus and the Philbrook Celebration Organizing Committee, and is currently participating in the law school's Domestic Violence Clinic. After the 2016 presidential election, Christopher helped convene a "safe spaces" event to promote civil dialogue among members of the Law School community. Chris' efforts display his unwavering commitment to social justice and equality.

### Amanda Deptula (Class of 2017)

While working long hours to finance her law school education, Amanda was also very active in public interest activities. She participated in the Community Re-entry Practicum, assisting people returning to society from incarceration; she also volunteered with the the Mediation Pro Bono Project and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Project, serving low income tax payers.

Since the summer after her second year, when Amanda received a Maida Public Interest Fellowship, Amanda has worked with the Pennsylvania Innocence Project to help exonerate innocent people who were wrongly convicted and to prevent innocent people from



being convicted. At PIP, Amanda assisted with extensive factual investigations and drafted memoranda to help the organization's leaders decide which cases to accept for full representation. Amanda is currently seeking fellowship funding to continue her work there.

### **Daniel Dowdy (Class of 2018)**



Daniel's greatest passion is protecting worker's rights and advancing fair treatment in employment settings. Last summer, he received a labor law and social justice fellowship from the Peggy Browning Foundation to work at a labor law firm in his home state of Wisconsin, and he is presently externing at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and completing an Eagleton Fellowship,

where he will be working in the New Jersey Senate Majority Office. Throughout law school, he has been heavily involved in public interest activities, including volunteering in Street Law, serving as a student leader of the Voters' Rights Project, as the Student Pro Bono Director of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, and as the President of the law school's National Lawyer's Guild chapter, where he also works on legal observation teams for protests. In his 1L summer, he interned at the Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project, focusing on 8th amendment jurisprudence and prisoner's rights.

### **Blair Gerold (Class of 2018)**

Blair is an outstanding and inspiring leader, who has already completed over 200 pro bono hours, while galvanizing student activism at the law school. As a 2L, she served as President of the Association for Public Interest Law and played a critical role in organizing both the 2015 and 2016 Philbrook Celebrations. This year, she became the



Editor in Chief of the Rutgers University Law Review. Throughout her law school career, Blair has played a vital role in planning the APIL auction, which raises funds for summer public interest stipends. Under Blair's leadership, APIL also coordinated volunteer work at Cathedral Kitchen, a Camden soup kitchen. She is a student leader in the Volunteer Income Tax Program, working countless hours to serve low income tax payers, and is active in the Voters' Rights Project, the Pro Bono Research Project and the Alternate Spring Break program. Through her externship at the Public Interest Law Center, Blair is working on issues of voting rights and housing and disability discrimination.

### **Brooke Lewis (Class of 2017)**



Brooke knew she wanted to be a public interest lawyer from her first year as a Rutgers-Camden undergraduate. Her extensive service while in college included working as an undergraduate intern with the Honorable Judith H. Wizmur Pro Bono Bankruptcy Project. In law school, Brooke quickly developed an affinity for public defense and criminal justice policy. She spent her first summer at the Capital Habeas Unit of the Federal Community Defender Office in Philadelphia, where she drafted a petition for a writ of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court in a case challenging one of Pennsylvania's statutory sentencing aggravators. Brooke participated in the Children's Justice Clinic and the Community Reentry Practicum, as well as serving as a legal intern at the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. The winner of the Blaine E. Capehart Award for Legal Writing Excellence and a Senior Notes and Comments Editor of the Rutgers University Law Review, Brooke worked with the Pennsylvania Innocence Project in the spring of 2016 and was a Teaching Fellow with the Minority Student Program in the fall of her 3L year. Brooke is now clerking for the Honorable George S. Leone on the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

### **Eric Macias Intriago (Class of 2018)**

Eric is the current Student Director of the Hon. Judith H. Wizmur Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project, and has volunteered with the Street Law and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Pro Bono Projects. He also volunteers his time to Cathedral Kitchen, the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society and the law school clinical program, where Eric has worked as a Spanish interpreter. Eric is



currently enrolled in the Immigrant Justice clinic, and helped revitalize the Immigration Law Society, of which he is President. He is also Vice-President of the International Law Society. For the past two summers, he has interned at civil legal services providers, first at Community Legal Services in Philadelphia, and then, last summer, at South Jersey Legal Services. Despite the broad scope of Eric's commitments, he always serves with passion in the pursuit of helping others, and specifically to give back to his hometown of Camden.

### **Sandra Reed (Class of 2018)**



Sandra has broken barriers throughout her life as the first in her family to attend college and law school. Sandra first became involved with pro bono work in the Street Law Pro Bono Project, where she taught practical law to young people in juvenile detention. She went on to become a Marshall Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project Fellow, teaching constitutional law to local high school students; she now

serves as a teaching assistant in Marshall-Brennan and is responsible for facilitating a high school moot court program. Sandra also has served as a Teaching Fellow for the Minority Student Program and interned for both the Philadelphia Commission on Human Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union in Philadelphia. Sandra steadfastly intends to pursue a career in the public interest.

## **Domenico Stockton-Rossini (Class of 2018)**

Dom has been a committed environmental activist since high school. While in law school, he has worked at the Environmental Enforcement Division of the N.J. Attorney General's Office, at the Region 3 Counsel's Office of the federal Environmental Protection Agency, and at the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, where he advocated for the PPA at the New



Jersey State House. In his 2L year, he served as President of the Environmental Law Society and this year is participating in the Environmental Law Mourt Competition. In addition to his environmental work, he has volunteered for the Mediation Pro Bono Project, the Voters' Rights Project, and Wills for Heroes, and is currently externing for the Honorable Richard S. Hoffman of the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division.

## **Amelia Vangellow (Class of 2018)**



Amelia Vangellow is passionate about the need for fair treatment of immigrants. She is currently an Immigration Justice Fellow and an extern at the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), where she works with undocumented victims of domestic violence. She previously worked at the Delaware Community Legal Aid Society, the Rutgers Immigration Justice Clinic, and Community Legal

Services in Philadelphia. Prior to starting law school, Amelia obtained her B.S. in social work with a minor in Spanish and served in AmeriCorps helping immigration secure employment rights. Continuing her work for the immigrant community, Amelia has presented a "Know your Rights" workshop in Spanish. Amelia co-chaired the APIL Auction and volunteered with the Learn, Empower, and Advocate for People with Disabilities (LEAD) Pro Bono project,

which helps families understand how to apply for publicly funded assistance for their children who have disabilities.

### **Shahidah Williams (Class of 2018)**

Prior to law school, Shahidah worked over 13 years in the financial services/banking industry, with special focus on the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) activities, especially financial education and small business development. As the Student Leader of the Financial Literacy Information Pro Bono Project (FLiP), Shahidah teaches financial education workshops for ReNew



Camden, a federal court-supervised, re-entry program for people newly-released from federal prison and works with Camden County Youth Development, Inc. (CCYD) to provide financial education to foster children in New Jersey. She also volunteers with the Hon. Judith H. Wizmur Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project, VITA, and the Legal Observer Project of the National Lawyers' Guild. Shahidah is the Mid-Atlantic Black Law Student Association (MABLSA) Greater Philadelphia Sub-Regional Director and the Vice President of the Rutgers-Camden National Lawyers' Guild (NLG) Chapter, and has served as the Cultural Chair of the Rutgers Black Law Students Association. Last year, Shahidah competed on the law school's Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Team. Her ultimate ambition is to run for public office, including the US Senate.

# **ADDICTION IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION**

**Tues.  
10/31  
12:30PM**

**Rm. 204**



Four legal professionals share their **personal experiences** of overcoming active addiction and transitioning into a life of recovery, highlighting **practical steps** students and lawyers can take to promote healthy behaviors and find support.

## ***Annual Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) Auction***

**THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018**

Please join us for this fun-filled event in support of law student summer public interest work!

To donate or to volunteer, please contact:  
Sara Gray [saborden@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:saborden@scarletmail.rutgers.edu)  
or  
Christina Schnyer  
[christina.schnyer@rutgers.edu](mailto:christina.schnyer@rutgers.edu)

*In special recognition of the members of the Philbrook Planning and Selection Committees:*

**2017 Philbrook Honoree Selection Committee**

Tsahai Byers, Class of 2018 &  
Women's Law Caucus HERstorian

Jill Friedman, Associate Dean,  
Pro Bono Program

Ann Freedman, Professor &  
Philbrook Celebration Founder

Steven Friedell, Professor

Lloyd Freeman, Class of 2007,  
Philbrook Student Honoree (2007)

Blair Gerold, Class of 2018,  
Philbrook Student Honoree (2017)

**2017 Philbrook Student Honoree Selection Committee**

Sahadia Auguste, Class of 2019

Kevin Levy, Class of 2019

Rhasheda Douglas, Director,  
Minority Student Program

Pam Mertsoc-Wolfe, Director,  
Pro Bono Program

Katie Eyer, Professor

Kimberly Mutcherson, Professor  
& Vice Dean

Ann Freedman, Professor &  
Philbrook Celebration Founder

Michael G. Perez, Class of 2013,  
Philbrook Student Honoree (2012)

Jill Friedman, Associate Dean,  
Pro Bono Program

**2017 Philbrook Celebration Planning Committee**

Ann Freedman, Professor &  
Philbrook Celebration Founder

Nijgia Snapp, Class of 2019 &  
WLC Treasurer

Jill Friedman, Associate Dean,  
Pro Bono Program

April Gambardella, Class of 2019  
& APIL Philbrook Co-Chair

Lauren Goodfellow, Class of 2018  
& Women's Law Caucus President

Ariella Levine, Class of 2019 &  
APIL Philbrook Co-Chair

Christopher Bustamante Osorio,  
Class of 2018, WLC Vice  
President, Philbrook Student  
Honoree (2017)

Sara Gray, Class of 2020 & APIL  
President

Ashley Maddison, Class of 2019,  
APIL Marketing Chair & WLC  
Secretary

Kristen Kispert, Class of 2019 &  
APIL Treasurer

Pam Mertsoc-Wolfe, Director,  
Pro Bono Program

The Mary Philbrook Committee thanks the following individuals for their assistance in making tonight's celebration a success!

Michael Cahill

Donna Rabena

Sean Fulton

Ed Rentezelas

Jim Hamilton

Sarah Ricks

Cecilia Hazel

Beatris Santos

Robert Listenbee

Kris Solt and Staff

Terry Moffett

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Elizabeth Moore

Kristin Walker and Staff

Lori Nichols

Young Lawyers' Division

Kelly Carlucci Oster

Rutgers Law-Camden

Scott Owens

Alumni Association

# McCARTER & ENGLISH

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



**Ann E. Freeman &  
Rand E. Rosenblatt**

**Philbrook Student  
Honorees 2011**

**Philbrook Student  
Honorees 2012**

**Philbrook Student  
Honorees 2013**

**Philbrook Student  
Honorees 2014**

**Philbrook Student  
Honorees 2015**

**Philbrook Student  
Honorees 2016**