

# Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award Celebration

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL

## Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award

*is proudly presented to*

SCHOOL OF LAW

## Rachel Garland & Rasheedah Phillips

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Presented By:  
The Women's Law Caucus  
The Association for Public Interest Law  
The Camden County Bar Association  
Rutgers Law School Alumni Association

# Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award Celebration

*STUDENT HONOREES*

**Nina Rodriguez**  
**Christian M. Velez-Vargas**  
**Destiney Wilson**  
**Tess Berkowitz**  
**Jazlyne Cabán**  
**Kate Doyle**  
**Dawn Ericksen**  
**Tue Ho**  
**Stephanie Mignogna**  
**Lisa Laffend**  
**Madison Provorny**

October 28, 2021

# Program

## **Welcome**

**Jill Friedman**

Associate Dean, Pro Bono and Public Interest Program

**Michael J. Dennin**

Camden County Bar Association and Foundation

**Gigio Ninan, Chancellor**

Rutgers Law School Alumni Assoc., Camden Campus

**Kimberly Mutcherson**

Co-Dean and Professor of Law

## **Trivia**

### **Student Honoree Recognition & APIL/WLC Introductions**

**Rebecca Lewis**

APIL President & WLC President

**Sam Shopp**

APIL Mary Philbrook Chair

## **Trivia**

### **Eviction Prevention Project**

**Dawn Ericksen**

3L & Philbrook Student Honoree

### **Housing Justice Program**

**Jill Friedman**

Associate Dean

### **Introduction of Honorees**

**Rue Landau**

Director of Law & Policy, Philadelphia Bar Association

## **Honorees**

**Rasheedah Phillips, Esq.**

Managing Attorney, Law and Policy, Housing Unit, Community Legal Services

**Rachel Garland, Esq.**

Managing Attorney, Housing Unit, Community Legal Services

### **Scavenger Hunt & Dance Party**

**Until Next Year**

**Ann Freedman**

Professor & Mary Philbrook Celebration Founder



Rasheedah Phillips

Rachel Garland





## Rasheedah Phillips

Rasheedah Phillips currently serves as the Managing Attorney of Housing Policy at Community Legal Services of Philadelphia. Phillips began a career at CLS in 2008 in the Community Economic Development Unit, providing legal advice, representation, and engaging in community lawyering on behalf of small childcare for profit and non-profit organizations. Phillips has trained on racial justice and housing law issues and skills throughout the country, previously serving as the Senior Advocate Resources & Training Attorney at Shriver Center on Poverty Law. Phillips is the recipient of the 2017 National Housing Law Project Housing Justice Award, the 2017 City & State Pennsylvania 40 Under 40 Rising Star Award, the 2018 Temple University Black Law Student Association Alumni Award, the 2018 CLS Equal Justice Award, and the 2019 Barristers Association of Philadelphia Outstanding Young Attorney Award. Phillips is also a 2021 PolicyLink Ambassador for Health Equity, 2016 Shriver Center's Racial Justice Institute Fellow, 2018 Atlantic Fellow for Racial Equity, 2020 Givelber Distinguished Public Interest Lecturer, and recently awarded a research fellowship with Vera List Center for Art and Politics at the New School. Phillips is a 2008 graduate of Temple University Beasley School of Law, and 2005 graduate of Temple University.



## Rachel Garland

Rachel Garland began her career at Community Legal Services as an Equal Justice Works fellow in 2008. She is currently serving as the Managing Attorney of the Housing Unit. Ms. Garland represents subsidized housing tenants facing a wide variety of housing issues including eviction, repairs, termination of subsidy, criminal barriers to housing, rent calculations and disability accommodations. Ms. Garland has worked extensively on the intersection of housing and domestic and sexual violence and provides representation, community education and legal advocacy in this area. Ms. Garland earned her J.D. from the Temple University Beasley School of Law in 2007. She graduated from Oberlin College in 2001, with BA in politics.



## Association for Public Interest Law

President

### **Rebecca Lewis**



Rebecca Lewis is President of both the Association for Public Interest Law and the Women's Law Caucus, she is also a Social Justice Scholar. Completing her undergraduate education concurrently with her first year of law school as a member of the "3+3" program, Rebecca set out her path to pursue public interest. In her three years as an undergraduate student, Rebecca completed over 1,000 hours of community service through the Civic Scholars Program. Working for organizations such as the Alice Paul Institute, The Pennsylvania Innocence Project, and The New Jersey Office of the Public Defender, Rebecca hopes to pursue a future in Criminal Justice.

Vice President

### **David Gharkhany**



David Gharkhany, 2L from Denver, CO. Aside from holding the title of Vice President for the Rutgers Association for Public Interest Law Organization, David is the treasurer for the ALIANZA latin students organization. He also serves as a staff editor for the Rutgers Business Law Review and is a 2L representative for the Student Bar Association. Before coming to law school, David worked in behavioral health where he conducted substance abuse and mental health counseling for four years. David is an avid Denver and Philadelphia sports fan and he hopes to become a civil litigator upon graduation.

Mary Philbrook Chair

### **Sam Shopp**



Sam Shopp is a 2L from South Jersey who is a dedicated advocate for children and working families. In addition to being the Mary Philbrook Chair for APIL, he serves as Vice President for the National Lawyers Guild and Treasurer for both the Disabled Law Students Association and the Immigration Law Society. Sam is currently a Law & Policy Intern for the Juvenile Law Center in Philadelphia, and in the past he has interned for groups such as the Children's Defense Fund and the Office of U.S. Senator Cory Booker. Outside of school, Sam is a musician, runner, and a woeful Philadelphia sports fan.

### Treasurer

## Gabriela Sosa Sanchez

Gabriela Sosa-Sanchez is a second-year law student at Rutgers University-Camden. She is the treasurer of the Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) and is interested in working with survivors of domestic violence and other vulnerable populations. They received her bachelor's degree from Rutgers University – New Brunswick in 2019 and loves volunteering for her local EMS Squad. Gabriela also participates in Rutgers' Student Bar Association and works on the Journal of Law and Religion as a staff editor.



### Secretary

## Trevor Cooper

Trevor Cooper, 2L, is the Secretary for APIL. Hailing from North Wildwood, NJ, Trevor also serves on the executive boards for the Environmental Law Society and the American Constitution Society. He is also a staff editor for the Rutgers University Law Review. His interests include environmental law and climate change, voting rights issues, religious philosophy, and playing the same five songs on guitar.



### Auction Chair

## Erinmarie Byrnes

Erinmarie Byrnes is a 2L serving as the Auction Chair for APIL and the HERstorian for WLC. Erinmarie's commitment to public interest law comes from her experience teaching 2nd and 6th grade English Language Learners in Nashville as a TFA corps member. Erinmarie is a Social Justice Scholar, and hopes to use her law degree to address systemic inequity. In addition to APIL and WLC, Erinmarie serves as the Vice President of the Cannabis Law Association. She is also staff editor for Rutgers Law Review and a TA for Civil Procedure. In her free time, she enjoys knitting and going for walks.



### 3L Advisor

## Stephanie Mignogna

Stephanie is a 3L Social Justice Scholar, who previously served as the APIL Vice President and now serves as a 3L Advisor for the organization. She has also been involved in the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Student Bar Association, and Camden County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Committee. In her free time, she loves to hang out with her American Eskimo dog, Juneau, and watch Flyers hockey.



# 2021 Mary Philbrook Banquet

1L Representative

## Meghan DeVol



Meghan's passion for justice was ignited by her experience as a student in Columbus City Schools. The intersection of law, history, and social justice, and the desire to serve others is what led Meghan to law school. Meghan is most interested in racial justice and its deep connections to all other social issues, especially mass incarceration, and voter suppression. She hopes to continue to learn and work to empower marginalized communities towards justice in her time as a Social Justice Scholar and as an attorney.



1L Representative

## Iain Saltzberg Pollard

Iain Saltzberg Pollard is a 1L Representative for APIL from New Hampshire. Before coming to Rutgers he lived and worked in Boston for 3 years. He is attending law school in order to work in the public interest law and hopes to become involved in housing justice law. In addition to APIL, Iain is also involved with the Rutgers Street Law Program and is passionate about the issue of getting marginalized groups access to adequate legal support and representation.



1L Representative

## Haylee Brister

Haylee, 1L from Boise, Idaho. She serves as a 1L representative for the Association for Public Interest Law. Before coming to Rutgers she received her bachelors from the University of Idaho. Haylee aspires to have a career in housing rights.



1L Representative

## Rachel Tavani

Rachel Tavani is a 1L Representative for APIL and works at the Rutgers Law School admissions office. She grew up in Voorhees, NJ, and graduated from Drew University with a BA in International Relations and French. After Drew, she joined Teach for America and moved to Memphis where she taught English and Gov. to high school students. While teaching, she earned a Masters in Educational Policy and Leadership from American University. Upon graduation, Rachel plans to pursue a career in public interest law and is excited to explore the diverse options until she finds her focus.



1L Representative

## Loris Dennis

Loris Dennis attended Denison University in Granville Ohio, studying Psychology. After undergrad she moved to Boston and joined Teach for America, teaching full time in low income communities while getting her Master's in Education. While working as a teacher, she noticed the racial and economic struggles students and families experienced and wanted support them. She knew law school was an important step to advocating and serving them. She is particularly interested in the education law and is open to other areas of law facing communities of color and disadvantaged communities.

2L Representative

## NKora Carr



Nkora Carr is a 2L from Long Island, NY. She is a Social Justice Scholar and an Associate Editor for the Race & Law Review Journal. She also serves as a 2L Representative for SBA, APIL, and ALIANZA and is a Bar Association Liason for ALIANZA. Nkora aspires to have a career in the juvenile justice system.



2L Representative

## Steve Gallagher

Steve is a 2L representative for APIL interested in public defense, juvenile justice, and ensuring that indigent clients receive equal access to legal services.



2L Representative

## Sarah Rogers

Sarah is a 2L representative for APIL. She is interested in public interest work, primarily family law and landlord tenant law.



2L Representative

## Brix Fowler

Brix Fowler is the 2L representative for APIL. He is a graduate of UCLA. Brix worked as a broadcast journalist before moving to the East Coast and starting law school. He is involved on campus as a Marshall Brennan Fellow, the regional representative for BLSA, an associate editor for Race and the Law Review, and as a Jessup Moot Court participant.

# APIL



# Women's Law Caucus

President

## Rebecca Lewis



Rebecca Lewis is President of both the Association for Public Interest Law and the Women's Law Caucus, she is also a Social Justice Scholar. Completing her undergraduate education concurrently with her first year of law school as a member of the "3+3" program, Rebecca set out her path to pursue public interest. In her three years as an undergraduate student, Rebecca completed over 1,000 hours of community service through the Civic Scholars Program. Working for organizations such as the Alice Paul Institute, The Pennsylvania Innocence Project, and The New Jersey Office of the Public Defender, Rebecca hopes to pursue a future in Criminal Justice.

Vice President

## Amanda Reed



Amanda Reed is a 2L from Lumberton, NJ. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland in History and Criminology & Criminal Justice Studies. At Rutgers Law, Amanda is President of the American Constitution Society, Vice President of the Women's Law Caucus, and Secretary for the Animal Legal Defense Fund. She is an Associate Editor for Rutgers' Race and the Law Review, and aspires for a career in politics and advocacy. When she isn't studying for classes or interning at New Jersey's Office of the Attorney General, she is probably cuddling her new puppy, Miso.

Treasurer

## Sierra Hessinger



Sierra Hessinger is a 2L from Chesterfield, NJ. She is the treasurer for Women's Law Caucus. This summer, she interned with the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender in the Office of Parental Representation. She is keeping an open mind for her future in law. In her free time, Sierra enjoys reading, hiking, and listening to music.

### Secretary

## Caitlin Pennell

Caitlin Pennell is a 2L and the Secretary of WLC. A proud Jersey Shore native, Caitlin is a first-generation college graduate from Kean University. Caitlin is involved on campus as the Vice President of the Student Bar Association, Vice President of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society, a Hunter Moot Court participant, and a Rutgers University Law Review Staff Editor. In her free time, Caitlin enjoys fishing, going to the beach, and reading about history.



### HERstorian

## Erinmarie Byrnes

Erinmarie Byrnes is a 2L serving as the Auction Chair for APIL and the HERstorian for WLC. Erinmarie's commitment to public interest law comes from her experience teaching 2nd and 6th grade English Language Learners in Nashville as a TFA corps member. Erinmarie is a Social Justice Scholar, and hopes to use her law degree to address systemic inequity. In addition to APIL and WLC, Erinmarie serves as the Vice President of the Cannabis Law Association. She is also staff editor for Rutgers Law Review and a TA for Civil Procedure. In her free time, she enjoys knitting and going for walks.



### Evening Representative

## Gianna Martorano

Gianna Martorano is a part time 2L at Rutgers Camden. Gianna was a Journalism major and Women's Studies minor at Penn State. Her career aspirations are to work in the nonprofit and public interest fields, specifically helping people in her hometown of Philadelphia, whether that be through defeating homelessness or helping victims of sexual and domestic violence.



### NJWLA Liason

## Chelsea Fadio

Chelsea Fadio is the NJWLA liaison for WLC. Throughout this summer, she assisted Professor Thea Johnson in her research for the Plea Bargain Task Force with the ABA. The task force's goal is to create a report including data and proposed reforms to the current system of plea bargaining in the United States. She plans on continuing with this work as the report enters the final stages. Chelsea is also involved in the Edna Mahan Pro Bono Project. This project is a joint task force involving students of Rutgers Law and Seton Hall Law. It aims to provide legal assistance to currently and formerly incarcerated women who experienced sexual harassment and abuse at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility in New Jersey. She hopes to continue working in the public sector and advocating for reform in the future.





Dani Mannino from Blackwood, New Jersey is a 1L rep for the Women's Law Caucus. Prior to attending law school, she was an undergraduate student of Rutgers University - Camden and spent a year working as a legal secretary in a NJ firm. She's happy to be back in Camden and is looking forward to building her legal career in whichever area ends up suiting her best!

1L Representative

### Dani Mannino



Dominique Perez is a 1L at Rutgers Law School in Camden, NJ. She graduated from the University of Delaware this past spring as a double major in Political Science and Sociology. Within her Political Science degree she has a concentration in American Politics and earned a minor in Legal Studies. At the University of Delaware Dominique was a peer advisor, editor in chief for a school newspaper, writing tutor, writing fellow and pursued two internships. The first internship was with a Rutgers Law School graduate, Douglas Cody Esq. and another as a general intern with the Biden Institute. During the winter of 2020 and 2021 she conducted research on Critical Race Theory and presented at the 2021 Pi Sigma Alpha Student Research Conference. She is currently a 1L representative for the Women's Law Caucus and you can also find her in the law school's admissions office as works there part-time. Dominique is hoping to pursue a career in public interest and has a passion for reproductive justice, civil rights, and immigration.

1L Representative

### Dominique Perez



Natalie LaRosa is a 1L from Mount Laurel, New Jersey. She is a 1L rep for Women's Law Caucus. Natalie went to University of Maryland and graduated in 2021 with a B.S. in business and supply chain management. Natalie loves working out and teaches group fitness classes at City Fitness weekly. In her free time, Natalie can be found reading, walking her dog, or watching the Bachelor.

1L Representative

### Natalie LaRosa

# W L C

**Both APIL and WLC have worked extremely hard this year to ensure that our Philbrook Celebrations were a success! The students of these organizations organized five different panels focusing on the work that our honorees do every day. In addition, they put on the first ever May Philbrook Art Installation and Open Mic as well as a luncheon celebrating our honorees, and contributed greatly to tonight's event!**

# Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award Celebration

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

## 2021 Philbrook Honoree

### Selection Committee

Ann Freedman, Professor & Mary  
Philbrook Celebration Founder  
Jill Friedman, Dean, Pro Bono and Public  
Interest Program  
Ragner Jaeger, RLAW 2014  
Pam Mertsock-Wolfe, Director, Pro Bono  
and Public Interest Program  
Rebecca Lewis President, APIL &  
Women's Law Caucus, 2023  
Sam Shopp, APIL Philbrook Chair, 2023  
Rhasheda Douglas, Assistant Dean,  
Director of the Minority Student Program

## 2021 Philbrook Student Honoree

### Selection Committee

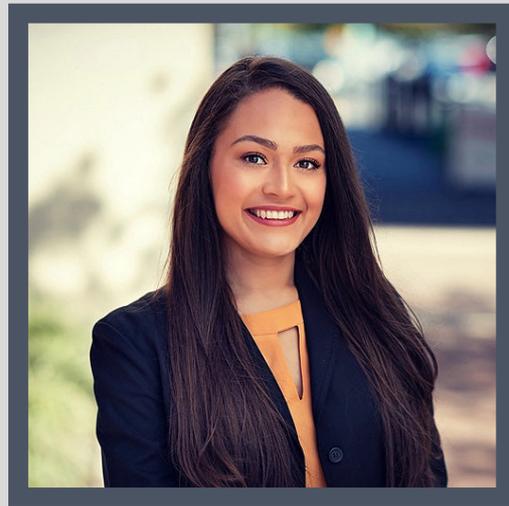
Rebecca Lewis President, APIL & Women's  
Law Caucus, 2023  
Ann Freedman, Professor & Mary Philbrook  
Celebration Founder  
Jill Friedman, Dean, Pro Bono and Public  
Interest Program  
Pam Mertsock-Wolfe, Director, Pro Bono and  
Public Interest Program  
Sam Shopp, APIL Philbrook Chair, 2023  
Amy Timko, Admissions Officer, RLAW 2015  
Frantz Duncan, RLAW 2016  
Nkora Carr, 2023  
Armando Alfonso, 2022

## 2021 Philbrook Planning Committee

Ann Freedman, Professor & Mary Philbrook Celebration Founder  
Jill Friedman, Dean, Pro Bono and Public Interest Program  
Pam Mertsock-Wolfe, Director, Pro Bono and Public Interest Program  
Rebecca Lewis President, APIL & Women's Law Caucus, 2023  
Sam Shopp, APIL Philbrook Chair, 2023

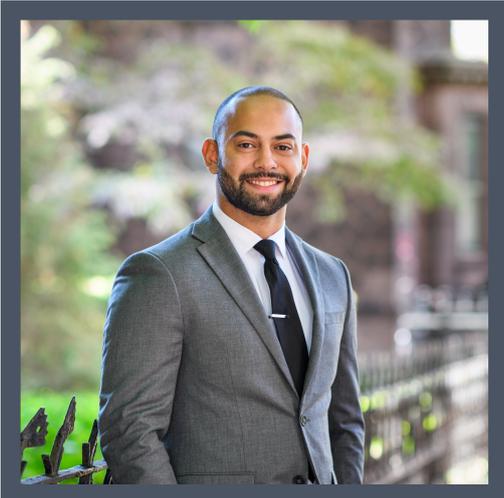
# Nina Rodriguez

*Class of 2021*



Nina Rodriguez is a first generation college and law school graduate. After graduating from Rider University, Nina came to Rutgers Law with plans to become a litigator. While at Rutgers Law, Nina embraced her natural instincts, taking on leadership positions and pro bono work, and engaging in public interest opportunities. Nina served as Vice President of Alianza, Treasurer of the Immigration Law Society, and Secretary of the Women's Law Caucus. While Latina attorneys make up 2% of the legal profession, she was also the first Latina Editor in Chief of Rutgers Law Review on the Camden Campus. Nina helped organize numerous events, including the Immigration Law Society trip to Washington D.C., where students traveled in support of DACA Dreamers on the day oral argument was held for Dept. of Homeland Security v. Regents of University of California before the Supreme Court.

Engaging in over 50 hours of pro bono service during her time at Rutgers, Nina participated in the bankruptcy project, mediation project, Citizenship Rutgers, and the Know Your Rights Campaign. Nina engaged with Camden students as a Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Fellow, teaching Camden high school students Constitutional Law during her 2L spring semester. In addition, Nina constantly takes other law students under her wing as mentees. Understanding that there is more than enough room for all women to engage in this field, Nina lends her talents to helping other young women in their journey to becoming attorneys in any way she can. In addition to these projects, Nina became most passionate about the Domestic Violence Project, spending countless afternoons volunteering as a domestic violence advocate. It was this work that led her to accept a Judicial Law Clerk position for the Honorable Kay-Walcott-Henderson. By drafting orders for child support, alimony, emancipation, and custody, Nina is able to use her determination, motivation, and drive to serve the public. Nina has accepted a second clerkship for next year, in the NJ Supreme Court with Justice Anne Patterson.



## **Christian M. Velez- Vargas**

*Class of 2021*

Christian completed over 150 hours of pro bono services, which earned him the Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service. As an Afro-Latino, first-generation American and first-generation college student, Christian is committed to removing obstacles for minorities. He has provided services to the community through Rutgers Law School and local bar associations such as HBA-NJ, HBAPA, Camden County Bar Association, and the GSBA. Many of his volunteer services involved translating for Hispanic clients. Christian assisted Louisiana attorneys with drafting Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) applications for undocumented minors to attain lawful permanent resident status in the United States. He participated in Rutgers' "Power of Attorney" events where he translated power of attorney forms for undocumented parents and helped them designate a guardian for their children in case the parents were deported. Most notably, Christian and two fellow Rutgers students created a program that led to the Bar Exam Reform project. Christian and his team exposed the discriminatory origins of the bar exam and how it creates barriers for Black, Hispanics, and Native Americans to enter the legal profession. Their advocacy resulted in Rutgers' administration implementing a bar prep fund for those who could not afford the exam. Rutgers' administration also presented the team's proposals to the N.J. Supreme Court and encouraged the Justices to be at the forefront of bar reform. Other programs that Christian actively engaged in are Wills for Heroes, Court Mediation, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Project, and Alternative Spring Break.

During his law school career, Christian served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Rutgers Journal of Law & Religion, Vice-President of the Black Law Students Association, Vice-President and Founding Member of the Employment & Labor Law Association, 2L Class Representative for the National Security Law Association, and 2L Class Representative for the Student Bar Association.

He is currently clerking for the Honorable Colleen Flynn, Presiding Judge for the Criminal Division in Middlesex County; and he has secured a clerkship with the Honorable Judge Hany A. Mawla for 2022–2023. Christian aspires to use the power of his Juris Doctorate to help indigent individuals by becoming involved in government work and the criminal justice system.

# Destiney Wilson

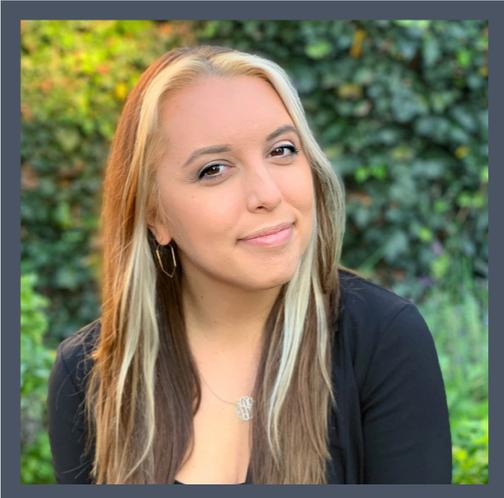
*Class of 2021*



Destiney Wilson is a South New Jersey native who attended Montclair State University where she majored in Child Advocacy & Policy. After college she worked for two years at the Federal Aviation Administration as a contract specialist. She came to Rutgers Law School to pursue her goal of using her law degree to help children.

During her first-year summer, Destiney worked for the Office of the Law Guardian, the office in New Jersey dedicated to providing representation to children in Family Court matters. She then went on to work for the Juvenile Law Center, one of the premier organizations nationwide advocating on youth justice issues. She subsequently participated in Professor Simkins's Children's Justice Clinic and did excellent work there on behalf of her clients. Additionally, during law school Destiney earned pro bono hours by creating wills and health care directives for individuals in the community and volunteering for the Rutgers Expungement Clinic. Destiney was also Treasurer of the Black Law Student Association, a Social Justice Scholar and part of the Minority Student Program, Women's Law Caucus, Association of Black Women Attorneys, and the Camden County Bar Association.

Destiney is now clerking in Camden at the Camden County Hall of Justice for the Honorable Thomas Shusted Jr. After her clerkship she intends to work as a law guardian or a federal public defender.



## Tess Berkowitz

*Class of 2022*

Tess Berkowitz is the type of person who leaps into action when she finds an opportunity to help. Originally aspiring to be a social worker, Tess's desire to help others has given meaning and purpose to her legal work. Tess's work hits a range of issues, but her passion for public interest is clear in all of her projects.

Having accumulated over 150 pro bono hours, Tess is a regular student volunteer with the Rutgers Pro Bono Estate Planning (PEP) Program, a student instructor to local Camden teens through Street Law, a court-trained volunteer mediator, and a domestic violence advocate in the Camden County Courts through the Rutgers Domestic Violence Pro Bono Project. She worked on representing homeowners facing foreclosure in the Rutgers Mortgage Foreclosure Clinic. Tess has interned with AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania and with the Burlington County Office of Public Defender, where she assisted on numerous motions submitted to the court on behalf of indigent defendants. Currently, she is involved in the Edna Mahan Pro Bono Project, helping formerly and currently incarcerated women who experienced sexual harassment and assault at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility in New Jersey. She is also a clinical student in the Rutgers Domestic Violence Clinic where she has appeared in the Family Division on behalf of plaintiffs in restraining order proceedings.

In addition to her impact on the community through her pro bono service, Tess also has a clear presence as a student leader within Rutgers Law School. She serves as President of the Veteran's Law Society and Secretary of the Family Law Society and is the Spring 2022 Student Coordinator for Wills for Heroes. Additionally, in the summer of 2020, Tess co-led the production of a weekly Black Lives Matter Newsletter, organizing the participation and contributions of other student organizations. Beyond her involvement in student organizations within our law school, Tess serves as a Staff Editor with the Journal of Law and Public Policy.

Tess's greatest career aspiration is to promote and provide trauma informed legal services. She believes that the quality of necessary and vital legal advocacy should never depend on one's socioeconomic standing. As such, Tess hopes to use her skills to advocate for low-income clients and continue her work in the public interest space after law school.

# Jazlyne Cabán

*Class of 2022*

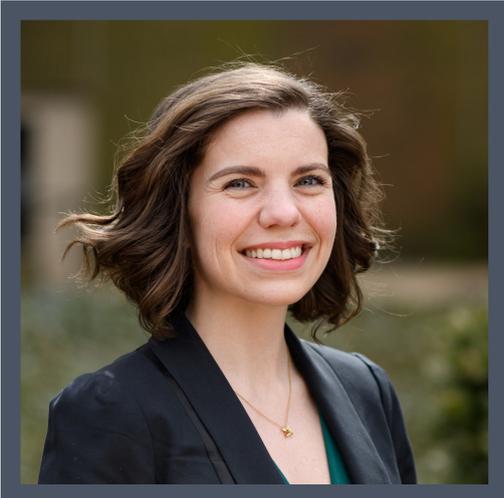


Jazlyne Cabán is a graduating 3L dedicated to minimizing the impact the criminal justice system has on children and their families in her future career. Prior to law school, Jazlyne Cabán attended Monmouth University, where she volunteered in Guatemala to build a small low-income town's first computer lab. So committed to continuing to give back to the town, Jazlyne continues to sponsor one of the children she met there, paying for the young girl's education and transportation to and from school. In college, Jazlyne also served on the executive board of her sorority, Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. Through her sorority, Jazlyne hosted events promoting policy change and advocating for children impacted by incarceration.

At Rutgers Law School, Jazlyne is a member of ALIANZA. During her second year, Jazlyne worked in the Children's Justice Clinic, where she strongly advocated for her clients and worked diligently to get the best outcome for those she represented. Additionally, Jazlyne is a Marshall Brennan Fellow, volunteering to teach Camden high school students their basic constitutional rights. Furthermore, Jazlyne also worked with the National Lawyers Guild in Delaware, creating accessible "cheat sheets" of local ordinances explained in layperson's terms for people to use at demonstrations.

Currently, Jazlyne works at the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office where, she completes Sexual Assault Restraining Orders, argues detention hearings, and appears on the record for First Appearances and Rights Advisements. Jazlyne has also been admitted to the Edna Mahan Project, where she works with colleagues to help women who have been victims of sexual violence in a class action lawsuit.

After graduation, Jazlyne will be clerking for a judge in Gloucester County, assisting with domestic violence and juvenile cases. Jazlyne is excited for this opportunity and hopes to learn even more to help her in her future public interest career.



## Kate Doyle

*Class of 2022*

Before coming to Rutgers, Kate was the Human Resource Director for the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood. In this role, she was exposed to the magnitude at which state-imposed policing affected women's reproductive liberties, which prompted her to attend Rutgers Law School. In her first month, Kate founded the Camden chapter of If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice. Through If/When/How, Kate has implemented lobbying events; successful fundraisers; annual coat drives for Philadelphia's unhoused sex workers and drug users; and a panel event featuring abortion providers and the lawyers who defend them. Most notably, Kate organized a trip for 16 If/When/How members to travel to the Supreme Court of the United States to demonstrate for the June Medical Services hearing. In September 2021, Kate had the honor of being one of only two chapter leaders nationwide asked to speak about campus organizing at If/When/How's annual leadership conference. Kate testified before the New Jersey Senate Health and Human Services Committee to support a prohibition on unauthorized pelvic exams for medical training purposes. Kate's pro bono contributions include teaching for Street Law; being a legal observer for National Lawyers Guild; volunteering for the Mediation Project; working the Voters Rights hotline; and assisting callers for the Domestic Violence Project.

Kate has also helped APIL solicit donations for summer funding to support students with public interest summer internships. And she donated a quilt that she hand-made to raise money during APIL's 2021 auction. She has held a summer internship with the Women's Law Project, where she worked on pregnancy discrimination, Title IX, and judicial bypass issues. Kate also was a Maida summer fellow at Community Legal Services and a student intern for the Veterans Advocacy Clinic.

She is currently externing for Hon. Richard Hoffman, New Jersey Appellate Division's Part C Presiding Judge. Kate is pursuing a career in public interest.

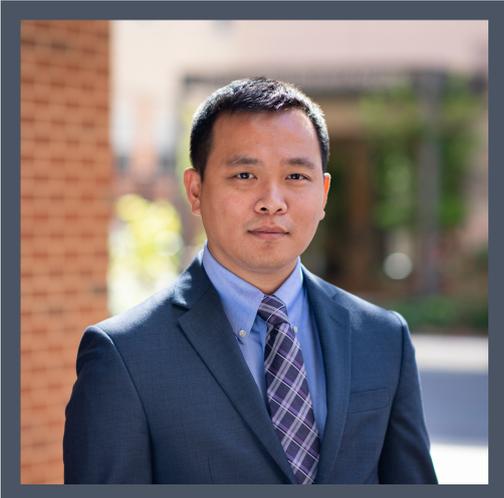
# Dawn Ericksen

*Class of 2022*



Dawn Ericksen discovered her interest in the law during her undergraduate work at Rutgers Camden, while a business major taking human resources courses. Dawn's passion for public interest work stems from her past struggles with long term drug addiction and the challenges of building a life after achieving sobriety. Her pro bono work includes the Planning Estates Project and Street Law, but most notable is her work over the last 15 months with a group of attorneys dedicated to assisting renters during the COVID-19 crisis. Her contributions to the housing crisis began in 2020 with Volunteer Lawyers for Justice: Tenant/Homeowner Rights Project which led to her current fellowship with the newly launched Rutgers Eviction Prevention Clinic.

Dawn's advocacy has touched every corner of the law school: the American Constitution Society, National Lawyers Guild, Animal Legal Defense Fund, Association for Public Interest Law, If/When/How, and the Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion. Dawn's efforts were recognized with a 2021 Chancellor's Award for Student Civic Engagement. Organizations in and outside of the law school have benefited from Dawn's leadership and will miss her when she is gone. She lives in Palmyra with her husband, cat, and bird.



## Tue Ho

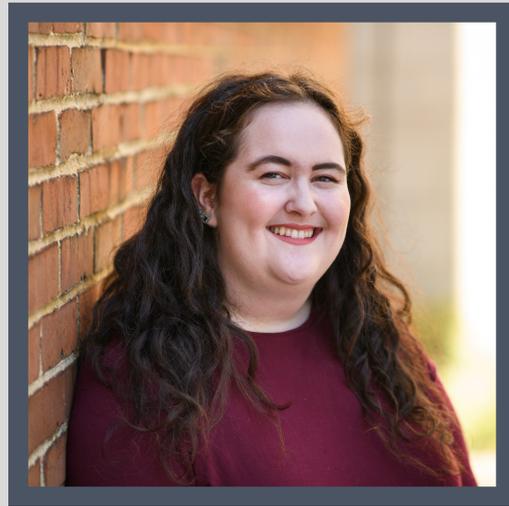
*Class of 2022*

In his two years at Rutgers Law School, Tue Ho has emerged as a leader in public interest, with over 200 pro bono hours. Tue began his career as a teacher, and he has carried that passion into law school. He served two years as co-student leader of Rutgers' Street Law program and became a Marshall-Brennan Fellow during his 2L year, now serving as a Michael Young Fellow (teaching assistant) for this year's class of Marshall Brennan fellows. His legal work includes internships with the ACLU-PA, the Amistad Law Project, and the Fair Housing Rights Center in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Tue has also been a consistent voice for diversity, inclusion, and cultural competency as Vice President of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA). Outside of school, Tue volunteers with the Masculinity Action Project within Lutheran Settlement House, for which he was the recipient of the 2021 Excellence in Men's Leadership Award from the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence. This week he received the Judge William M. Marutani Fellowship from the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania. Tue is a proud South Philadelphian, where he lives with his wife and cat.

# Stephanie Mignogna

*Class of 2022*



Stephanie entered her 1L year with the desire to help others. Prior to law school, she engaged in social justice opportunities such as Hawks for Just Employment and Embrace Dignity during her undergraduate career at St. Joseph's University. In these spaces, Stephanie worked to find creative solutions to big problems. This is no different from how she carried herself as a Rutgers Law student these past three years. Excited to embrace Rutgers Law and all of the pro bono projects and advocacy organizations, Stephanie participated in over 100 hours of pro bono work. This work includes Pro Bono Estate Planning (PEP) Program, Wills for Heroes, the CARES Act Phone Bank and Conferences, Tenant / Homeowner Relief and Information Sessions, Legal Services of New Jersey Pro Bono Projects, the Voters' Rights Project, and the Know Your Rights Summit. In addition, as a segment of the Know Your Rights Summit, Stephanie created a voter registration event leading up to the 2020 election. She also brought the Animal Legal Defense Fund to Rutgers Camden, not only to bring an organization to Rutgers Law that focuses on advocacy for animals rights, but also to ensure that there is a space for passionate advocacy for every type of person at Rutgers.

Creative solutions to big problems has been the main theme of Staphanie's Rutgers Law experience. When the world shut down due to COVID-19, Stephanie worked on tenant and homeowner relief. In addition, Stephanie took it upon herself, in her capacity as a 2L SBA Representative, to find ways to support students who have felt the effects of the pandemic. Taking lead on student feedback surveys and hosting town halls, Stephanie ensured that every voice was heard and every student would be taken care of.

While serving the community so passionately, Stephanie is also Editor in Chief of the Journal of Law & Religion and a member of the Social Justice Scholars. A Student Bar Association University Senator, she currently interns in the Mortgage Foreclosure Clinic. She has also served as President of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and Vice President of the Association for Public Interest Law, and is on the Young Lawyers Committee of the Camden County Bar Association. After graduating, Stephanie will take on a position clerking in the Appellate Division for Judge Thomas W. Sumners.



## **Lisa Laffend**

*Class of 2022*

With an astounding 700 hours of pro bono work under her belt, Lisa Laffend is the gold standard for public interest lawyers and law students. When applying for law school, the only thing Lisa knew for certain was that she wanted to pursue her Juris Doctorate in order to assist those who have historically had the hardest time accessing our legal system, such as the indigent population. However, a stay in a psychiatric ward right before she began her law school career gave her journey a far more directed trajectory. The friends she made while hospitalized faced a wide range of legal issues, the variety of which Lisa has tried to mimic in her volunteering.

On top of participating in the numerous pro bono programs offered by Rutgers Law School, Lisa has sought out opportunities off campus and has been instrumental in starting her own projects such as the Gender Affirming Name Change Petition Project and the Public Insurance Appeal Program. The latter is a partnership between Disability Rights New Jersey and the Disabled Law Students Association, an organization Lisa helped found to better advocate for herself and her disabled classmates and bring attention to and educate future lawyers about an oft-overlooked, marginalized community. Lisa served as APIL president and has interned at New Jersey's Community Health Law Project and the Senior Law Project in Philadelphia. Lisa has left an indelible mark on this school through her volunteer efforts, and she has no intent on slowing down.

# Madison Provorny.

*Class of 2022*



Madison decided to pursue a career in public interest law during her time working for a Jewish non-profit. She knew that a career in public interest would allow her to have a direct impact on people's lives. During her law school career, Madison has been a strong leader in the field of public interest. In her 1L year, she was involved with the Mediation Project and the Pennsylvania Innocence Project.

Madison is the founder of the Jewish Law Students Association. Even in the midst of the pandemic and virtual learning, Madison's level of engagement did not falter. During the pandemic, she was the president of OUTLaws, a staff editor on the Journal of Law and Public Policy, and a volunteer for the Domestic Violence Project. Madison organized an outreach session for the Camden Know Your Rights Summit to educate the community about LGBTQ+ rights in health care. Madison interned at the Mazzone Center, where she supported the LGBTQ+ community by assisting transgender clients to legally change their names, working on discrimination cases, and aiding queer families with adoptions.

Madison is passionate about this work because it allows her to support a community so often discriminated against and neglected. She is currently creating a name change project at Rutgers Law School, which would be the first program in South Jersey that assists transgender individuals with legally changing their names. Madison is committed to continuing work like this once she completes law school.

The Mary Philbrook Committee thanks the following individuals and organizations for their participation in our two weeks of Philbrook programing! As panelists, they offered insight and brought meaningful conversation on housing justice, homelessness, careers in housing, domestic violence, and the history of women in our field.

Alyssa Hunt – Alice Paul Institute

Braheme Days – SJLS – Atlantic City Office

Kathy Ochroch – Blank Rome

Michael Perez – Community Health Law Project

Michael Froehlich – Community Legal Services

Rachel Gallegos – Community Legal Services

Katrina Tattoli – Community Legal Services

Cathy Miller – HIAS PA

Joanna Gardner – HIAS PA

Alie Muolo – Homeless Advocacy Project

Joel Soebel – Homeless Advocacy Project

Rondell Magic Jordan – Justice at Work

Denise Higgins – NJ Coalition to End DV

Miosha Lawrence – Parkside Business & Community in Partnership

Dean Victoria Chase – Rutgers Law, Director of Domestic Violence Clinic

Anne Mallgrave – Rutgers Law Professor

Dawn Ericksen – Rutgers Law Student

Brooke Buchan – Rutgers Law Student

Patrice Mareschal – Rutgers Professor

Zachary Wood, PhD – Seattle University

Rob Robinson – Take Back the Land

# Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award Celebration

The Mary Philbrook Committee thanks the following individuals and organizations for their assistance and partnership in making Philbrook Week and tonight's celebration successful!

Elizabeth Moore

Kelly Carlucci Oster

Margaret McCarthy

Donna Rabena

Senior Associate Dean Louis Thompson

Deborah L. Friedman, Executive Director, Community Legal Services

Ethan Fogel, Esq

Rutgers Law Alumni Association

