

2009-2010 FCBA Foundation Annual Report

The Federal Communications Bar Association Foundation, celebrating the 19th Anniversary of its founding, had a successful year providing charitable support for education and children's issues in furtherance of the goals set out in its Mission Statement to:

1) Support worthwhile communications-related and educational projects, as well as other community service projects, particularly those directed towards children and students, through financial contributions and through volunteer services provided by Foundation members and others.

2) Foster greater public awareness and understanding of the development of communications technology, resources and law.

The Foundation's accomplishments this year included raising about \$175,000 for the Internship and Scholarship Programs; including \$12,000 raised during the annual Charity Auction co-sponsored with the FCBA's **Young Lawyers Committee**, donating \$75,000 to **Bright Beginnings** raised during the annual Charity Auction, and numerous volunteer activities. These activities, and the Foundation's overall success, is a direct result of the generous support of individual FCBA members, as well as their firms and companies. This Annual Report summarizes the Foundation's activities during the recently completed 2009-2010 year.

TRUSTEES

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees, most of whom are elected by the FCBA membership, but which also may include persons appointed in accordance with the Foundation's By-Laws. This year's Trustees were **Kyle Dixon, Erin Dozier, Julie Kearney, Natalie Roisman, Megan Anne Stull,**

Anita Wallgren, Jennifer Warren, and Rick Whitt. The Foundation's officers, as elected by the Board of Trustees, were: **Stacy Fuller**, Chair; **Mike Altschul**, Treasurer; **Jamie Hedlund**, Assistant Treasurer; **Celia Nogales**, Co-Secretary; and **Henry Rivera**, Co-Secretary.

Three non-Board members worked extensively with the Board as co-chairs of the Volunteer Services Committee, **Joanna Georgatsos, Howard Weiss, and Tom Van Wazer.** The FCBA's Executive Director **Stan Zenor**, Director of Member Services **Kerry Loughney**, and **Wendy Parish** provided invaluable support to the Foundation.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Foundation's scholarship program, the **Chairman Robert E. Lee Scholarship Fund**, is its most significant undertaking, both in terms of the funds awarded and in the amount of time required to administer the program. The scholarships and the laptops awarded to the scholarship recipients have the Foundation committing approximately \$140,000 to this year's scholarship program, helping these very deserving students.

Information and biographies of the scholarship recipients appear on page 14 of this issue of the FCBA News.

The scholarships are awarded based on a number of different criteria, including the student's predicted ability to succeed in college, past academic performance, participation in school activities, school attendance, service to the community, financial need, and other relevant factors that may apply to each individual applicant. The scholarship applicants are reviewed on the basis of a written application (including biographical information, academic performance and an essay) and a personal interview with members of the Foundation's Board of Trustees and other FCBA volunteers.

Jamie Hedlund, Jennifer Warren, and Rick Whitt served as the Foundation's Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs, overseeing the entire program. **Erin Dozier** also provided invaluable support to the program. The Foundation received applications from high school students of diverse backgrounds from Bell Multicultural, Cardozo, McKinley Tech, Theodore Roosevelt, and Thurgood Marshall High Schools in the District of Columbia. Twelve of these high school students were then selected for interviews, and 11 emerged as the strongest applicants. Nine of these students were awarded scholarships; two, as they received full scholarships from their colleges, are being assigned mentors in recognition of their qualifications. The scholarships (funded over four years) will assist these nine students as they move forward in their educational careers. In addition, all 11 of the winners will be awarded a laptop computer to assist with their studies and will be assigned mentors to help them advance academically and professionally.

The Foundation thanks **Lisa Fowlkes, Sarah Jameson, Erin Kim, Nancy Murphy, and Anisa Latif** for serving as the Scholarship Committee's liaisons to each of the participating D.C. public high schools in 2009-2010. We also thank the following volunteers for reviewing applications, interviewing students and/or serving as mentors for scholarship recipients: Joining FCBA Foundation Trustees were **Darren Abernethy, Dennis Amari, Shellie Blakeney, Ann Bobeck, Maria Cattafesta, Debra Clemens, John Conwell, Adam Copeland, Diane Cornell, Anthony Davidowitz, Nneka Ezenwa, Justin Faulb, Diane Griffin-Holland, Gina Harrison, Mia Hayes, Sarah Jameson, Ken Keane, Lauren Kravetz, Adam Krinsky, Luisa Lancetti, Christina Langlois, Anisa Latif, Matthew McCormick, Patrick McFadden, Maury Mechanick, David O'Connor, Nancy Ory, Nirali Patel, Heidi Pease, Lee Petro, Glenn Richards,**

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

ANNUAL REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Jake Riehm, Kevin Ryan, Mike Senkowski, McLean Sieverding, Sally Smith, Heidi Stack, Cheryl Tritt, Melissa Troiano, Nancy Victory, Mark Walker, Ryan Wallach, Renee Wentzel, and Richard Young.

Thanks to Wiley Rein and NAB for making their offices available for the applicant interviews, and Comcast for its production facilities for the scholarship video.

The Foundation also continued its mentoring program of soliciting FCBA members interested in serving as a mentor to a scholarship recipient. **Jennifer Holtz** coordinated this program again this year. The mentors are available to help support the students in their transition to college. This is an important component of the scholarship program, as most of the scholarship recipients lack family members or other people to whom they can turn who have gone through the college experience to provide advice and assistance. At year-end, the Foundation's Board approved an event where the scholarship recipients, their mentors, and several Foundation Board members attended the June 29 Washington Mystics basketball game. Thanks to the **National Association of Broadcasters**, who donated tickets to their Executive Suite at the Verizon Center for the Foundation to host this event.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Foundation's internship program awards stipends from the **Chairman Robert E. Lee Scholarship Fund** to law students serving in unpaid communications-related legal summer internships. The Foundation made awards to seven students, totaling \$35,600. The base amount of each stipend is \$5,000, which is intended to help defray the student's expenses during the internship. One student is

selected to receive an additional \$600 **Max Paglin Award**, in honor of the former FCBA member, FCC General Counsel and Executive Director, and founder of the Golden Jubilee Commission on Telecommunications. This year's recipients are:

Joseph Ahlers, of the University of Wisconsin, who will be working at the FCC in the Media Bureau, Industry Analysis Division; **Mitchell Calhoun**, of George Mason University School of Law, who will be working at the FCC in the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division; **Henry Lawson Greenidge**, of the University of Baltimore School of Law, who will be working at the FCC in the Office of the Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker; **Anne Halsey**, of Washington and Lee University School of Law, who will be working for Public Knowledge; **Yasemin Kasim**, of Georgetown University Law Center, who will be working at the FCC in the Enforcement Bureau, Hearing and Investigations Division; **Ari Moskowitz**, of the George Washington University Law School, who will be working at NTIA in the Office of Policy Analysis and Development; and **Fabiola Isabel Rivas**, of American University Washington College of Law, who will be working at the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Julie Kearney and **Megan Anne Stull** chaired the internship program. This included coordinating the distribution of notices of the Foundation's Internship Program to law schools throughout the country (a copy of the application also is posted on the Foundation's website), and then coordinating the review of the 37 applications submitted. A group of Foundation Trustees reviewed the applications, evaluating the applicants' financial need, academic achievements, community service, and the relationship of their proposed internship to communications law.

Information and biographies of the internship stipend recipients appear on page 18 of this issue of the FCBA News.

CHARITY AUCTION

The 2009 Charity Auction was held on November 12, 2009. Co-sponsored by the Foundation and the **FCBA Young Lawyers Committee**, this year's event raised \$75,000 to benefit Bright Beginnings and \$12,000 to benefit the FCBA Foundation Scholarship Program. Founded in 1991, Bright Beginnings (<http://www.brightbeginningsinc.org>) is a DC-based non-profit organization that provides free, full-day, year-round developmental care to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers whose families live in shelters and transitional housing. Bright Beginnings will use proceeds from the Charity Auction towards opening a second center east of the Anacostia River so it may serve more homeless children and families.

The Charity Auction planning committee members were **Mark Brennan, Micah Caldwell, Kyle Dixon, Christopher Fedeli, Paige Fronabarger, Tarah Grant, Karen Henein, Catherine M. Hilke (Chair), Julie Kearney, Kerry Loughney, Jane Mago, Amy Mushahwar, Nancy Ory, Colin Sandy, Megan Anne Stull, and Ron Whitworth.**

The sponsors of the 2009 Charity Auction were: **AT&T Services, Inc., Consumer Electronics Association, Covington & Burling LLP, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, DIRECTV, Google Inc., Hogan & Hartson LLP, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Morrison & Foerster LLP, National Association of Broadcasters, Wiley Rein LLP, and Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP.**

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Foundation continued its long-standing, monthly volunteer activities at Martha's Table and McKenna's Wagon. On the last Sunday morning of each

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

month, volunteers helped prepare meals for the homeless at Martha's Table, and on the fourth Sunday of every month volunteers delivered meals to the homeless in the District through McKenna's Wagon (a mobile soup kitchen operated by Martha's Table). **Howard Weiss** was responsible for coordinating the Sunday morning meal preparation, while **Joanna Georgatsos** and **Tom Van Wazer** coordinated the McKenna's Wagon volunteers.

FOUNDATION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

At the FCBA's annual meeting and luncheon on June 30, the Foundation recognized **Jim Coltharp** as its Volunteer of the Year. Jim Coltharp and Comcast Corporation have donated their time and resources to us year after year in producing the video highlighting our scholarship and internship stipend award winners. Through this video, we are able to demonstrate the impact the Foundation has on the lives of those who are participating in our programs, a story we wouldn't be able to tell so vividly without their help.

FUNDRAISING

The Foundation could not maintain or increase the level of services it provides without the funds needed to do so. The Board of Trustees remained committed to funding scholarships and internships using funds raised during the current year rather than drawing on the Foundation's reserves. At the same time, the Board hoped to further build the Foundation's reserves towards eventually reaching a level at which income from the reserves is sufficient to help fund the Foundation's on-going work. Fundraising is, therefore, a critical element to the Foundation's ability to fulfill its mission. **Erin Dozier** and **Natalie Roisman** co-chaired the Foundation's Fundraising Committee, taking the lead in what was a very successful year for donations, particularly for the **Robert E. Lee Scholarship Fund**.

Special thanks go to the following

companies and law firms for endowing specific named scholarships for high school students: **2009 FCBA Charity Auction Committee** (\$12,000); **AT&T Services, Inc.** (\$25,000); **Comcast Corporation** (\$12,250); **DIRECTV** (\$16,250); **Friends of Karen A. Kincaid** (\$12,000); **Google Inc.** (\$12,500); **Microsoft Corporation** (\$8,000); **News Corporation** (\$20,000); and **Time Warner Cable** (\$10,000). The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the support of the following companies, law firms and individuals, who made significant contributions to the program this year: **Michael Altschul**; **Daniel Alvarez**; **Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard, LLP**; **Sally Buckman**; **Jennie Chandra**; **Clear Channel**; **Diane Cornell**; **Seth and Diane Davidson**; **DISH Network**; **Erin Dozier**; **Fish & Richardson P.C.**; **Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C.**; **Stacy Fuller**; **Gannett Foundation**; **Joseph Godles**; **Anna Gomez**; **Joyce Gwadz**; **J.G. Harrington**; **Mia Guizzetti Hayes**; **Greg Hoobler**; **Kelley Drye & Warren LLP**; **Lampert, O'Connor & Johnston, P.C.**; **Lawler, Metzger, Keeney & Logan, LLC**; **Lerman Senter PLLC**; **Nirali Patel**; **Laura Phillips**; **Qwest**; **Audrey Rasmussen**; **Kevin Reed**; **Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP**; **Megan Anne Stull**; **M. Anne Swanson**; **Leslie Taylor**; **Time Warner Inc.**; **Jennifer Ullman**; **Viacom**; **Ryan Wallach**; **WCAI**; **Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP**; **John Wilner**; **Wiltshire & Grannis LLP**; **David Wittenstein**; and **Richard Zargoza**. The Foundation also thanks **Microsoft** for providing free software for the laptop computers that the Foundation is awarding to its scholarship recipients. Thanks also to **Comcast Corporation** for underwriting the production costs of the video of this year's scholarship recipients that was shown at the June 30 FCBA luncheon.

The FCBA's 23rd Annual Chairman's Dinner, honoring FCC Chairman **Julius Genachowski**, was held December 10, 2009 at the Washington Hilton Hotel. The support of law firms and companies that purchased sponsor tables raised more than **\$36,500** for the Foundation's

Scholarship Fund.

The 14th Annual FCBA Foundation Honorable Robert E. Lee Memorial Golf Tournament was held on Monday, June 7, at the Woodmore Country Club in Mitchellville, MD. It is named in memory of former FCC Chairman Robert E. Lee, who passed away in April 1993 after serving on the FCC for almost 30 years. Thanks to **Robert Branson**, **Alan Campbell**, **Zenas Choi**, **Jonathan Cohen**, **Peter Corea**, **Lee Petro**, **Joy Ragsdale**, **Glenn Reynolds (Chair)**, and **Larry Walke** who served on this year's planning committee and once again will make the tournament a success.

CONCLUSION

The Foundation's Board of Trustees worked hard this year to build upon the success of past years. The continued generosity and dedication of FCBA members contributed to making this another successful year for the Foundation, helping to make a difference in the lives of students and children who are the direct beneficiaries of the Foundation's programs. As the year ended, four Board members ended their terms (**Michael Altschul**, **Erin Dozier**, **Stacy Fuller**, and **Celia Nogales**), while four new members prepared to start theirs (**Ann West Bobeck**, **Karen Brinkmann**, **David Don**, **Donna Epps**). The remaining and new members of the Board of Trustees have a solid Foundation upon which to build and continue to fulfill the mission upon which it embarked 19 years ago, making a difference in the community in which many of us work and live.

Stacy Fuller

Chair, 2009-2010
FCBA Foundation