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30 years

HONORING RESILIENCE AND HOPE

PAIR

Gala

2019

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019

SEAPORT WORLD TRADE CENTER

BOSTON, MA



PAIR

Gala

2019

The Program

Welcome * 7:00 PM

Martha Koster

Awards & Recognition * 7:15 PM

Honoring Team PAIR

Hannah Bornstein & Larry Tobin

2019 Boston Marathon Runners

PAIR Gala Awards

Keynote Speaker * 7:45 PM

Dr. Wesley Boyd

Harvard Medical School

- Dessert Interlude -

A Story of Hope * 8:15 PM

Qwin Nabagereka

Fund the Mission

Larry Tobin

Closing

Presenters and Speakers



Martha Koster, Esq., is an experienced litigation attorney and retired partner of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC. She represents PAIR clients in extremely complex cases and her clients include political activists, scholars, children, and LGBT activists who come from diverse places such as Egypt, Honduras, Iraq, Jamaica, Russia, and Uganda. Martha's deep commitment to pro bono service is summed up by one of her clients who said that because of Martha: "My life changed from hopeless to hope."



J. Wesley Boyd, MD, PhD (Keynote) is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and staff psychiatrist at Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) where he co-founded the Human Rights and Asylum Clinic and works with asylum seekers from around the world. Dr. Boyd is deeply dedicated to his patients, social justice, and access to care. Over his career, Dr. Boyd has provided psychological evaluations for over 100 asylum seekers, including many PAIR clients who went on to win asylum relief and safety in the U.S.



Susan J. Cohen, Esq., is the founder and Chair of the Immigration Section of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC and is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Since 1989, she has been a dedicated pro bono attorney and has served as President of PAIR's Board of Directors since 2006. Susan was named a 2013 "Top Women of Law" honoree by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly and was inducted into its "Circle of Excellence."



Fionna ("Qwin") Nabagereka is a well-known human rights activist and PAIR client. She fled Uganda because of her political activism and her courageous work in support of the LGBTQ+ community. Qwin is an alumna of Human Rights Campaign Global Innovators Summit and is on the Board of Equality Hub, an LGBTQ+ NGO. With the help of her PAIR pro bono team from Mintz Levin, Qwin won asylum before the Boston Immigration Court in 2018. She continues to advocate for human rights and volunteers for PAIR.



Larry Tobin is the Director of the Shapiro Foundation, a private foundation serving and resettling refugees across the globe. Larry was the former AVP for Major Gifts at combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP). He is an active volunteer with the Rashi School, Gateways Access to Jewish Education, and BU Academy. Larry is on the forefront of protecting the rights of refugees and asylum seekers. He was a devoted 2019 PAIR Team Marathon runner and made it his mission to raise awareness of the plight of asylum seekers in detention.

Award Winners

PRO BONO ASYLUM ATTORNEY AWARD

Thomas Hannigan, Jennifer Rikoski,
Isabelle Kinsolving Farrar, Daniel Swartz & Alex Intile

Ropes & Gray LLP



This year we present the Pro Bono Asylum Attorney Award to an extraordinary team from Ropes & Gray who had a remarkable victory on a social group asylum claim for a family fleeing grave violence and threats to their life. Thomas Hannigan, Jennifer Rikoski, Isabelle Kinsolving Farrar, Daniel Swartz, and Alex Intile worked together to successfully represent a young woman and her family from Honduras with their asylum case. These attorneys were a cross-practice team, with members from the Litigation and Tax & Benefits departments. They put in hundreds of hours to prepare the case given the complexity and high stakes involved. Together, the Ropes team provided outstanding pro bono services for this family before the Boston Immigration Court and Board of Immigration Appeals, navigating complicated procedures and winning the case on appeal in 2018. The clients summed up their critical pro bono role as: “You are angels who have saved us.” Truly, the team’s—and firm’s—dedication and compassion helped this family remain together and find a safe haven in the U.S.

PRO BONO DETENTION AWARD

Murphy & King, P.C.



This past year, Murphy & King, P.C. has led the way to protect the rights of immigrants unjustly detained by ICE. Aaron Rosenberg, Steven Veenema, and Andrea Maciver, of Murphy & King P.C., recently assisted a young man who fled El Salvador because he was brutally targeted by community members and the police solely due to his sexual orientation. He was detained upon entry into the U.S. and transferred to Boston where PAIR screened the matter. The team visited the client in detention to prepare his affidavit and worked hard to obtain letters of support and human rights documentation. Because of their tireless efforts and excellent representation, the client won bond before the Boston Immigration Court and was released from detention. The Murphy & King team is now preparing for the client’s upcoming asylum hearing.

PRO BONO LAW FIRM AWARD

Choate Hall & Stewart, LLP

CHOATE

Choate Hall & Stewart, established in 1899, is a Boston-based firm specializing in complex, high-stakes litigation and investigations. It is nationally recognized as a client-centered firm whose main practice areas include corporate law, antitrust, finance, and IP law. Choate has distinguished itself for its outstanding legal representation of PAIR clients since 2001. For over 18 years, the firm has dedicated its resources and attorney time to provide high-quality free legal representation to 26 PAIR asylum clients and their families who have fled unimaginable horror. Most recently, the firm won a difficult gender-based asylum case for a domestic violence survivor from Uganda. The firm has fought for the rights of indigent PAIR clients and exemplifies the pro bono spirit and a commitment to access to justice.

PRO BONO MENTOR AWARD

Jennifer Klein

Committee for Public Counsel Services

Emma Winger

American Immigration Council



Jennifer Klein is a staff attorney in the Immigration Impact Unit of the CPCS, the Massachusetts public defender's office, where she provides advice and training to public defenders on the immigration consequences of criminal conduct. Emma Winger is a staff attorney with the American Immigration Council, where she works to protect the rights of noncitizens through litigation, amicus briefs, and practice advisories for immigration attorneys. Both Jen and Emma serve as PAIR mentors for our Detention Program and generously share their time and talents to guide PAIR staff and pro bono attorneys in the complex area where criminal and immigration law intersect. They have spent countless hours on the phone and in court helping PAIR clients navigate the criminal justice system and better understand the immigration consequences of criminal offenses, even the most minor ones. Thanks to their dynamic mentorship and their efforts to uphold the legal rights of immigrants, many PAIR clients went on to win asylum.

Award Winners



PRO BONO INTERPRETER AWARD

Carol Leon
Boston Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement

Carol Leon is the Outreach and Community Engagement Coordinator at the Boston Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement where she works with city departments, community-based groups, legal service providers, and foreign consulates to serve the immigrant community. Carol also serves as a generous PAIR volunteer interpreter, providing Spanish language interpretation for many PAIR clients who are unjustly detained by ICE. She recently supported the asylum cases of a former police officer from El Salvador who devoted his life to fighting crime and of a detained man who fled extreme violence in Nicaragua because of his political activities. Carol's dedication to PAIR clients provides them with a voice in an otherwise bureaucratic and dehumanizing system. As a volunteer interpreter, Carol is instrumental to the successes of many PAIR clients, serving as the critical link between pro bono attorneys and their asylum clients.

BUSINESS LEADER IN HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

AbbVie, Inc

abbvie

AbbVie, founded in 2013, is an American research-based pharmaceutical manufacturer working to find treatments for neurodegeneration and cancer. Since that time, the company has led the way in promoting human rights in the corporate sector. In the past year, teams of volunteers from AbbVie's Worcester office have helped staff PAIR's monthly pro bono Asylum Clinic, hosted by Ropes & Gray, serving over 40 vulnerable asylum-seekers in need. AbbVie's deep sense of corporate responsibility is demonstrated not only by its service with PAIR, but also its charitable work with Direct Relief and MAP International, among other pro bono partners. PAIR is fortunate to work with committed legal staff from AbbVie who provide support to asylum-seekers in need. The company's philanthropy is a benchmark for others in corporate social responsibility, legal services, and community-building.



OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Alan Pampanin
[Pampanin Law Offices](#)

For over 30 years, Alan Pampanin has practiced in general immigration law and is a well-known expert in the field, serving as a PAIR pro bono attorney since 2002. Alan was the Chair of the New England Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and the editor of the two-volume Immigration Basics Practice Manual published by Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education. Alan is a dedicated PAIR volunteer and has committed himself to supporting PAIR's community "Know Your Rights" outreach initiative since its launch in December 2016. He has conducted over 25 KYRs workshops across Massachusetts, more than any other volunteer. Alan has gone above and beyond to protect the legal rights of immigrants so that they can find justice in the U.S. and rebuild their lives.



SARAH B. IGNATIUS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LAW

Howard Silverman
[Ross Silverman Snyder Tietjen](#)

Howard A. Silverman is a retired partner of the firm Ross Silverman Snyder Tietjen. He practiced exclusively in the field of immigration and nationality law since 1984, focusing primarily on asylum and deportation cases. Howie was the Chair of the New England Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, and as co-liaison to the local Enforcement and Removal Operations Office (ERO). Howie has been a PAIR pro bono mentor for 30 years and supports all aspects of PAIR's work, from participating in legal trainings on challenging areas such as removal defense to providing access to counsel in cases before the Immigration Court. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to justice and has touched the lives of PAIR clients and their families. His compassion, fighting spirit, and tireless efforts to demand justice for immigrants is an inspiration to all.

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WHITE & CASE

Thank you
to all our sponsors and
foundation supporters for
helping us provide justice,
hope & safety to PAIR clients!

Special Recognition to

Team PAIR

Hannah Bornstein & Larry Tobin



Hannah Bornstein



Larry Tobin (left)

Thanks to the generosity of John Hancock, PAIR received 2 charity bibs for the 2019 Boston Marathon. Our runners this year were Hannah Bornstein, of Nixon Peabody LLP, and Larry Tobin, of The Shapiro Foundation. Thank you Larry and Hannah for the incredible Marathon run, your commitment to PAIR clients, and for raising funds for PAIR programs!

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