

TYL A

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 2011



YOUNG
LAWYERS

COMMUNITY

EQUAL ACCESS
TO JUSTICE

CHILDREN

**MAKING AN IMPACT
FOR ALL TEXANS**

The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) consists of roughly 24,000 Texas lawyers who are 36 years old or younger or in their first five years of licensure. As the “public service arm” of the State Bar of Texas, TYLA aims to facilitate the administration of justice, foster respect for the law, and advance the role of the legal profession in serving the public. Its programs are designed to assist Texas attorneys in their practice of law and to provide public legal education services to Texans.



www.tyla.org

Making An Impact

This year, the Texas Young Lawyers Association worked hard to provide practical resources to help those we serve better deal with economic challenges. We did this by focusing on young lawyers and law students, the community, children, and access to justice.



Jennifer Evans Morris



David Anderson

For our young lawyers and law students, we created *Office in a Flash* — everything you need to know to open up your own law practice, all on a flash drive. *Office in a Flash* contains information about business plans, firm structure, office logistics, technology, and how to obtain and manage revenue. Also included is a free one-hour CLE on law office management and four 10-minute segments from successful lawyers who have already made this journey. We also provided new job market programming for law students with *How to Get a Job After Law School: The Unclassified Story*.

TYLA focused on improving access to justice this year by creating *Partnering for Pro Bono*, a sustainable web-based matching program that pairs private practice attorneys with in-house counsel so that they may work together on pro bono cases. To date, more than 200 lawyers from more than 150 corporations and law firms have signed up. TYLA also worked with the State Bar of Texas by producing two pamphlets for *Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans — Resources for Veterans Seeking Help* and *Resources for Lawyers Assisting Veterans*. We are proud to have been a part of this important service to our veterans. With these two programs, there is no doubt that together we can provide more legal services to those who need them most in Texas.

TYLA continued its legacy of protecting children with *The Little Voice — Recognizing Child Abuse and Your Duty to Report It*. Created by TYLA and funded in large part through a generous grant from the Texas Bar Foundation, *The Little Voice* is a multimedia project involving public service announcements, a 35-minute video, and written materials that educate all of us about our duty to report suspected child abuse. The PSAs were created for television (Spanish and English) and radio and are playing all over the state, thanks to Clear Channel and Belo Corporation. The video, created for educators, child care workers, medical providers, and anyone else who cares for children, describes how to recognize abuse, why it is important to report a suspicion of abuse, and how to report it, all in the context of the stories from three survivors.

These projects represent just a small amount of what TYLA accomplished this year. Please take a look at the following pages to see all of the amazing contributions from our dedicated board and committee members!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president and chair. It has been a privilege and an honor. We look forward to seeing all that TYLA accomplishes in the future!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Evans Morris".

Jennifer Evans Morris
President 2010–2011
Texas Young Lawyers Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Anderson".

David Anderson
Chair 2010–2011
Texas Young Lawyers Association

— BOARD OF DIRECTORS —

The TYLA Board is made up of an Executive Committee, Directors, and Liaisons. The Executive Committee consists of the President, President-elect, Chair, Chair-elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President. The President-elect is elected by TYLA membership while the other officers are elected by the Board of Directors; all serve one-year terms. Each member of the Executive Committee acts as an advisor to at least one TYLA committee.

The 33 Directors represent 21 districts from around the state and serve as liaisons to the local affiliates in their districts. Directors serve as chairs or co-chairs of the various TYLA committees. Directors are nominated and elected by the TYLA members in their districts and serve two-year terms.

Liaisons include a Texas Supreme Court Justice, American Bar Association Young Lawyer Division representatives, a law student, a law school dean, and a member of the Access to Justice Commission.

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Cabañas Law Firm, PLLC



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City of Midland



David Anderson
Chair
The Boston Consulting Group



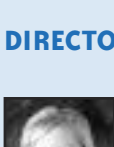
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Immediate Past President
The Harbour Law Firm, P.C.



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District 16
Sprouse Shrader Smith P.C.



David C. Courreges
Vice President
De Leon & Washburn, P.C.



DIRECTORS

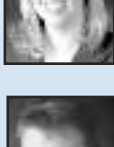
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Chike Okpara
District 8, Place 2
 Clark, Thomas & Winters, PC



Leif Olson
District 6, Place 2
 Welsh & Chapoton L.L.P.



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 Law Office of
 Donato D. Ramos, P.L.L.C.



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Minority At-Large Director,
Small City
 The Rangel Law Firm, P.C.



Danny Razo
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 Law Office of Danny Razo



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 Hermes Sargent Bates LLP



Jobe Rodgers
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 Lubbock County Criminal
 District Attorney



Sarah Rogers
District 5, Place 3
 Thompson, Coe, Cousins
 & Irons, LLP



Shivali Sharma
District 1
 Texas 6th Court of Appeals



Kimberly Smith
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Minority At-Large Director
Large City
 Arrington, Tu & Burnett LLP



Rebecca Vela
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 Kittleman, Thomas
 & Gonzales, LLP



Baylor Wortham
District 7
 U.S. Attorney's Office

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Texas Supreme Court Liaison



Clint Harbour
Access To Justice Liaison
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ABA YLD District 25
Representative
 Baker Hughes, Inc.



Chip Brooker
ABA YLD District 26
Representative
 Haynes and Boone, LLP



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Law School Liaison
 SMU Dedman School of Law



Desiree Slaybaugh
Law Student Liaison

MAKING AN IMPACT

TYLA SUPPORTING YOUNG LAWYERS

Office in a Flash

TYLA created *Office in a Flash* to provide young lawyers with information on various topics relevant to establishing a law practice. It includes information about business plans, firm structure, office logistics, technology, and how to obtain and manage revenue. Also included is a free one-hour CLE on law office management and four 10-minute segments from successful lawyers who have already made this journey.

- 500 flash drives distributed nationwide.
- Included on the 2011 State Bar Annual Meeting flash drive containing the course materials.
- Presented at the July 2010 Bar Leaders Conference in Houston to more than 50 attendees, as well as at an Austin Young Lawyers Association CLE and at two Dallas CLEs, which had more than 125 attendees.
- Free and available at www.tyla.org.
- More than 1,500 hits on the website.



TYLA Supporting Young Lawyers

Tools for Winning New Clients

Tools for Winning New Clients is a new resource that can be found on the TYLA website. This tool gives young lawyers assistance in marketing their skills and developing clients by connecting them with potential clients through various speaking opportunities. It also includes prepared presentations on various legal topics that young lawyers can use when speaking to civic and business groups.



Affiliates Website Generator

TYLA designed and launched the Affiliate Website Generator to provide free local affiliate website hosting through the TYLA website. This service also provides tech support for these affiliates when building their own websites. This past year, TYLA has hosted numerous webinars, conference calls, and other training tools to assist local affiliates in creating and maintaining their own websites. More than 10 local affiliates have created websites from the generator.



Bar Leaders Conference

The 2010 Bar Leaders Conference in Houston brought together lawyers in various leadership positions with local bar organizations and young lawyer affiliates from across the state to exchange ideas on projects, promote networking, and foster leadership in the legal profession.

- In 2010, more than 75 young lawyers from 27 local young lawyer affiliates attended the program.

Local Affiliate Grants

TYLA supports its affiliated young lawyer bar associations by providing funding to support their local programs and projects.

- In 2010–11, TYLA awarded more than \$20,000 in funding and materials to 17 local affiliates to fund creative and worthwhile projects in their respective communities.

TYLA Supporting Young Lawyers

TYLA Roadshows

- Designed to assist small- to medium-sized bar associations in providing quality leadership and CLE programs to their members at no cost.
- Hosted a road show for the Val Verde County Bar Association
- Hosted a road show for military lawyers at Fort Hood and the surrounding area.
- Accepted an invitation extended by the Denton County Young Lawyers Association to attend its first annual Flower Mound Ethics CLE presentation. Although not a traditional road show, TYLA provided an Ethics Jeopardy CLE for 40 attendees, in addition to discussing the public service outreach mission and various projects undertaken by TYLA on a statewide basis.



At the Fort Hood Road Show in February 2011



At the Del Rio Road Show

TYLA Supporting Young Lawyers

Local Affiliate 2011 Awards of Achievement Winners

The Awards of Achievement Program provides TYLA affiliates the opportunity to submit their best project for evaluation and recognition. The awards are designed to encourage project development by recognizing the time, effort, and skills expended by these affiliates in implementing public service and professional service projects in their communities. This year, TYLA recognized the following young lawyer organizations for finding time to make a difference.

LARGE CITY

Comprehensive

- 1st — Dallas Association of Young Lawyers
- 2nd — Houston Young Lawyers Association
- 3rd — Austin Young Lawyers Association

Service to the Bar

- 1st — Dallas Association of Young Lawyers – Closing Arguments CLE
- 2nd — Austin Young Lawyers Association – Judicial Beer Tasting
- 3rd — San Antonio Young Lawyers Association – Young Lawyer Mock Trial

Service to the Public

- 1st — Houston Young Lawyers Association – Teen Law Agenda
- 2nd — Dallas Association of Young Lawyers – Community Courts DVD
- 3rd — Austin Young Lawyers Association – Spanish Re-entry Project

Minority Project

- 1st — Houston Young Lawyers Association – HYL Urban Debate League

Newsletter

- 1st — Dallas Association of Young Lawyers – The Dicta
- 2nd — Houston Young Lawyers Association – Pocket Parts

SMALL CITY

Comprehensive

- 1st — Texarkana Young Lawyers Association
- 2nd — Collin County Young Lawyers Association
- 3rd — Cameron County Young Lawyers Association

Service to the Bar

- 1st — Cameron County Young Lawyers Association – Trial Skills CLE
- 2nd — Collin County Young Lawyers Association – Judicial Internship
- 3rd — Amarillo Area Young Lawyers Association – Vegas CLE

Service to the Public

- 1st — Cameron County Young Lawyers Association – Dress for Success
- 2nd — Texarkana Young Lawyers Association – Mentoring Children of Prisoners
- 3rd — Amarillo Area Young Lawyers Association – Law Day 5K

Newsletter

- 1st — Cameron County Young Lawyers Association – Sidebar



DAYL honored at the 2010 Bar Leaders Conference



Houston Young Lawyers and Cori Harbour



Cameron County leaders and Cori Harbour

TYLA Supporting Young Lawyers

Leadership SBOT

- Created to expand the State Bar into areas historically marked by low participation.
- This year's class included 20 lawyers from diverse backgrounds.
- Tasked with learning the many functions of the State Bar, the participants commit to take what they learn back to their colleagues and communities. Four committees of participants each ran a program benefiting the Bar.
- The 2010–11 Class:
 - Organized a program to educate the public, lawyers, and county bar associations about “Modest Means Panels,” which assist those who do not qualify under federal poverty guidelines for legal aid but still cannot afford basic legal services.
 - Worked to create informational web pages to educate Texas lawyers seeking in-house counsel positions.
 - Laid the groundwork for a mentoring program that would support women and minorities working in private practice law firms.
 - Worked to implement a plan to bring a law-focused curriculum, *Play By the Rules*, to Texas elementary school children.



Leadership SBOT Class of 2010–11

Ten Minute Mentor (www.tenminutementor.com)

- Website dedicated to short, instructional videos designed to assist young lawyers in all aspects of the law from transactions to litigation to law practice management.
- Added 20 new segments throughout the year.
- More than 30,000 hits and more than 2,500 visitors per month.
- Ten Minute Mentor Goes to Law School (www.ttmlawschool.com) videos are an extension of Ten Minute Mentor and assist aspiring and current law students with segments covering topics that include admission requirements of Texas law schools, student loan advice, how to succeed in law school, practice areas, and job searching tips.
- Videos can also be accessed through **AfterTheBarExam.com**, a State Bar program that targets those who have taken the Texas Bar exam and are awaiting the results.



**TEN MINUTE
MENTOR**

TYLA Supporting Young Lawyers

Success Strategies and Key Lessons for Young Lawyers Course

The *Success Strategies and Key Lessons for Young Lawyers CLE* was held in Dallas. The CLE focused on substantive and practical issues relevant to newly licensed attorneys. Topics included:

- Free legal resources and legal writing in a digital age
- Starting your own practice
- Records retention and e-discovery
- How to succeed in your first trial or transaction
- Avoiding disciplinary action
- Advice on finding work/life balance
- Social media
- Family law for the non-family law practitioner
- How to deal with the DA's office
- Effective client communications
- Negotiation techniques



Choosing and Courting a Jury Course

The *Choosing and Courting a Jury CLE* was held in Houston. The CLE featured presentations on the law and technique of voir dire, the use of focus groups in jury selection, integrating technology into the voir dire process, judicial perspectives on voir dire, and the use and misuse of jury questionnaires in state and federal courts.



Federal Court Practice Course

The *Federal Court Practice CLE* was held in Dallas. The CLE provides instruction on practicing law in the federal courts and satisfies the educational requirements for admission to the Southern District of Texas and for certification to e-file. In addition to a judges' panel, the CLE covered the following topics:

- Service of process, the answer, and extraordinary remedies
- Transitioning from trial to appeal — post-trial motions
- Clerk's office resources (Electronic Case Filing System)
- The do's and don'ts of taking federal criminal appointments

eNews

- TYLA's monthly electronic newsletter is distributed to more than 25,000 lawyers each month.
- Provides substantive legal articles and tips for young lawyers.
- Highlights TYLA projects, as well as local affiliate projects and leaders.



MAKING AN IMPACT

TYLA HELPING THE COMMUNITY

The Little Voice

Four children die every day from child abuse. This horrible statistic is impossible to ignore and represents a danger that all of our children face. This year, TYLA reminded and educated everyone not only of the signs of abuse, but also of the responsibility we all have to report any suspected abuse. *The Little Voice* is a multifaceted approach to that effort. Thanks in large part to a generous grant from the Texas Bar Foundation, TYLA produced a video, posters, pamphlets, magnets, pushcards, and public service announcements for television and radio in both English and Spanish outlining the legal and ethical duty we all have to protect children who are unable to protect themselves.



Winner of the
2011 LexisNexis
Community and
Educational
Outreach Award!

These multimedia productions have been sent to schools, courts, shelters, and media stations throughout Texas. TYLA participated in the Prevent Child Abuse Texas Walk in San Antonio on November 6, 2010, raising thousands of dollars for that organization. Members of TYLA have presented these materials at State Bar meetings and child abuse conferences in Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas.

The Little Voice is now an integral part of Prevent Child Abuse Texas' materials and programs. More than 1,500 videos and 2,000 posters have been distributed with requests for more coming regularly. The radio PSA played on Clear Channel stations in Texas more than 1,200 times between February and May of 2011. The television PSA is playing in every major market in Texas thanks to Belo Corporation.



Kristy Piazza, Rebecca Vela, and Jennifer Evans Morris
at PSA shoot



At the Dallas premier of *The Little Voice*



The Little Voice

Recognizing Child Abuse and Your Duty to Report It

*The little voice tells you, something isn't right
 The little voice wakes you and keeps you up at night.
 The little voice makes you look at the bruises on my arm
 The little voice makes you wonder, who would do me harm?
 The little voice grows louder as each day passes by
 The little voice makes you notice each tear that I don't cry
 The little voice speaks out loud because it knew it was right
 The little voice belonged to you and it saved my life.*

— Anonymous



www.tyla.org/thelittlevoice

“We cannot break the cycle of violence until we end the silence.”
 — Victor Rivas Rivers



The Little Voice

Recognizing Child Abuse and Your Duty to Report It

Four children die every day from child abuse. A child you know may be the victim of neglect or emotional, physical or sexual abuse. Listen to the little voice.

SIGNS OF ABUSE INCLUDE:

- Child seems detached or avoids a caregiver.
- Child is withdrawn, fearful and/or shows extremes in behavior.
- Frequent and/or unexplained injuries, bruises, welts or cuts. Injuries may also appear to have a pattern such as a hand or stick mark.
- Child is often dirty, smells bad or is in clothing inappropriate for the temperature.
- Frequent illnesses or injuries that are left untreated.
- Sudden and unexplained change in school performance, participation and attendance.
- Child threatens or attempts to run away or commit suicide.
- Unusual knowledge or interest in sexual acts.
- Child is obviously malnourished and/or steals or begs for food.
- Behavior that is inappropriately adult or inappropriately infantile.

If you suspect child abuse, it is your duty under the law to report it. You could save a child's life.

TEXAS CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE:
1-800-252-5400

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE:
1-800-4-A-CHILD



Senator Carlos Uresti and Jennifer Evans Morris at the Go Blue Rally at the Capitol on April 6, 2011, to support child abuse prevention efforts

TYLA Helping the Community

R U Safe?

The award-winning *R U Safe? Protecting Yourself in Cyberspace* continues to be one of TYLA's most popular resources. With the advent of social networking sites — and the prevalence of cell phones — today's children and teens are more open to sharing personal information with online friends. As a result, children and teens are more susceptible to being exploited by Internet predators, being bullied by their peers, and landing themselves and their parents in legal trouble. Education regarding online safety is instrumental in the fight against online predators.

R U Safe? is a four-part DVD designed to educate children and their parents about online dangers and give them the tools needed to be safe while online. The DVD is intended to serve students at every age level (elementary, middle school, and high school), and also contains a section for parents. It covers such wide-ranging topics as cyber bullying, social networking sites, chat rooms, "sexting," and online predators. Children are taught how to report suspicious activity and are educated about the legal ramifications of certain online behavior.

R U Safe? has been embraced by communities across the state. More than 5,000 DVDs were distributed this year. The Houston Bar Association and Houston Young Lawyers Association have distributed more than 1,200 copies to Houston schools. The Dallas District Attorney's Office has distributed more than 1,000 copies. In addition, the Texas PTA has adopted *R U Safe?* statewide. The website remains popular — more than 3,000 hits in six months.



Winner of the 2010 LexisNexis Community and Educational Outreach Award!
Winner of the 2010 ABA YLD Best Public Service Project of the Year and the American Bar Endowment Outstanding Public Service Project Award!



Geoff Gannaway presents R U Safe?



Cori Harbour and Kelly-Ann Clarke at ABE Awards ceremony



Alyssa Long and Cori Harbour

TYLA Helping the Community

Legal Guide for Cancer Patients

- A Spanish version was printed this year.
- Distributed copies to more than 200 attendees at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. TYLA members presented information on family law, probate, disability, and insurance and liability issues.



Employment Law Basics for New Employers

- Provides an overview of the overlapping state and federal requirements so new or first-time Texas employers can avoid employment disputes with their employees.

Loan Modification Scam Pamphlet

- Created in collaboration with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law to address mortgage fraud.
- Available in English and Spanish.
- Addresses the following topics:
 - * Describes common types of loan modification scams
 - * Identifies red flags indicating a potential scam
 - * Includes a guide to legitimate sources of free assistance available to homeowners facing foreclosure
 - * Provides self-help methods that homeowners can employ if they have been scammed
 - * Lists contact information of agencies prosecuting scammers
 - * Encourages homeowners to report loan modification



Occupational Licenses in Texas

- Designed to provide a basic introduction to the governmental structure for regulating occupational licenses, the process for obtaining and maintaining occupational licenses, and the potential pitfalls that may cause a person or business to be denied, or lose, a license.



Oil & Gas Basics for Homeowners

- Designed for homeowners who have been approached by someone wanting to lease their mineral estate and to provide basic knowledge of some of the most common terms used in many residential oil and gas leases so homeowners are more educated when making decisions regarding their mineral estates.



MAKING AN IMPACT

TYLA ASSISTING TEXAS STUDENTS

Turning Points

- TYLA engaged in a collaborative effort with the Annette Strauss Institute and the University of Texas to educate high school students through film about the legal framework surrounding the country's most interesting topics of debate.
- The first piece asks, "When is it acceptable for the government to intrude into a person's private affairs?" through dramatization of search-and-seizure issues. The film, curriculum, and study guide teaches constitutional issues to high school students in a compelling way while encouraging open dialogue of these issues.
- The project meets TEKS requirements.



They Had a Dream Too: Young Leaders of the Civil Rights Movement

- An Emmy Award-winning project that educates students about the role that young people played in the civil rights movement and encourages students that they too can make a difference.
- Rollouts were done in Dallas, Texarkana, and Fort Worth to more than 1,500 students.



Vote America! Honor the Fight, Exercise Your Right

- Educates students about heroic efforts of the past relating to voting rights — including the enactments of the Fifteenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-Sixth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution — and the struggles associated with the 1965 Voting Rights Act.
- Encourages understanding of each citizen's role in defending democracy today.
- Rollouts were done in Austin, Texarkana, San Antonio, Frisco, and El Paso to more than 100 students.



TYLA Assisting Texas Students

El Paso Pre-Law Diversity Summit

- The second annual El Paso Pre-Law Diversity Symposium took place October 22, 2010, at the University of Texas at El Paso. The keynote speaker was Presiding Judge Philip Martinez of the U.S. Western District Court. More than 150 area high school students were in attendance. TYLA Immediate Past President Cori A. Harbour and TYLA Chair-elect Alfonso Cabañas were in attendance. Several local minority attorneys attended during a lunch presentation and gave their perspective on being lawyers.



Central Texas Diversity Forum

- The TYLA Diversity Committee partnered with Baylor Law School to host the second annual Central Texas Diversity Forum February 17, 2011, at the law school campus. Students from high schools in the Central Texas area attended the forum, which reaches out to students who are at risk of not attending college and post-graduate education. The forum brought these students face to face with attorneys in diverse practices. The students were welcomed by Baylor Law School Dean Brad Toben and Assistant Dean of Professional Development and Student Relations Heather Creed. TYLA President-elect Natalie Cobb Koehler delivered the keynote address. The forum was designed to be interactive and featured three mock law school lectures taught by Baylor Law Professors Patricia Wilson, Laura Hernandez, and Connie Powell; a mock trial presented by Baylor law students, which featured a fair housing issue; a debate on affirmative action; and a panel discussion with a diverse selection of attorneys that addressed issues such as mentoring, college courses, and developing a career as a lawyer.



MAKING AN IMPACT

TYLA HELPING LAW STUDENTS

How To Get a Job After Law School: The Unclassified Story

The Law Student Outreach Committee developed an on-campus seminar, *How To Get a Job After Law School: The Unclassified Story*, to share thoughts and ideas with law students on how to get hired out of law school in 2011. The seminar created a forum where students could engage with practicing attorneys to learn how to creatively search for a job, networking ideas that work, and tips on interviewing and résumé building. TYLA originally budgeted to present the seminar at only three Texas law schools.

Once the seminar was implemented at one school, other law schools immediately contacted TYLA and asked that the seminar be presented at their respective schools, resulting in six law schools hosting the program:

- Texas Tech University School of Law, February 15
- Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, February 24
- Texas Wesleyan School of Law, March 2
- St. Mary's University School of Law, March 23
- South Texas College of Law, March 29
- Baylor University School of Law, April 8



Brooke Ulrickson Allen and Adrienne Clements attend the Texas Wesleyan seminar

TYLA representatives and TYLA law student liaisons also attended seven out of the nine Texas law schools' orientations in Fall 2010.

TYLA Helping Law Students

National Trial Competition

- TYLA partnered with the American College of Trial Lawyers to host the 36th Annual National Trial Competition this year in Houston.
- The National Trial Competition was established in 1975 to encourage and strengthen students' advocacy skills through quality completion and valuable interaction with members of the bench and bar.
- Over 300 teams from more than 150 law schools participated in Regional Rounds across the country.
- Quarterfinalists — Samford University Cumberland School of Law, Stanford Law School, University of Kentucky College of Law, and Wake Forest University
- Semifinalists — Charlotte School of Law and Salmon P. Chase College of Law, Northern Kentucky University
- Finalists — Chicago-Kent College of Law and Northwestern University School of Law
- National Trial Competition Champions — Northwestern University School of Law. Northwestern's team of Karim Basaria, Andrew Crowder, and Clare Diegel was coached by Richard Levin and Adam Riback.
- George A. Spiegelberg Award for Best Oral Advocate — Ryan Nolte, Chicago-Kent College of Law



Jennifer Evans Morris with the 2011 National Trial Competition Champions — Northwestern University School of Law team and coaches



The National Trial Competition Committee



Finalists from Chicago-Kent College of Law and Northwestern University School of Law with members of the American College of Trial Lawyers and TYLA President Jennifer Evans Morris

TYLA Helping Law Students

TYLA Minority Scholarship Program

- Promotes diversity in the legal profession by assisting members of minority populations within the State to enter the legal profession and participate in the programs and activities of TYLA and the State Bar of Texas.
- The TYLA Diversity Committee awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to one minority student at each Texas law school that submitted an application.
- The 2010–2011 scholarship recipients are:



Aubrey Lynn Morgan
Baylor Law School



Victoria Nsikak
SMU Dedman School of Law



Cheremma Lee
Texas Wesleyan School of Law



Sam Thomas
Thurgood Marshall School of Law



Carlos Castañeda
University of Texas School of Law



Lillian Baker
University of Houston Law Center



Marcia Luisa Garza
Texas Tech University School of Law

Diversity Dinner

The TYLA Diversity Dinner brings together attorneys from a broad array of practice areas, including government lawyers and corporate counsel, as well as local bar and student associations, to help raise awareness and explore diversity in the legal community.

At the 2011 Diversity Dinner on May 5 in Houston, keynote speaker Doug Jones, a former U.S. Attorney, discussed his role in convicting those responsible for the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and the impact of the struggle for civil rights on the lives of all Americans. Texas Fifth District Court of Appeals Chief Justice Carolyn Wright joined the discussion.



Jennifer Evans Morris, Texas Fifth District Court of Appeals Chief Justice Carolyn Wright, Doug Jones, and Lacy Durham



TYLA Helping Law Students

State Moot Court Competition

- TYLA hosted its annual State Moot Court competition in June 2010 during the State Bar Annual Meeting in Fort Worth.
- Participating schools:
 - Baylor University Law School
 - University of Houston Law Center
 - St. Mary's University School of Law
 - South Texas College of Law
 - Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law
 - Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law
 - Texas Tech University School of Law
 - Texas Wesleyan University School of Law
- Semifinalists—Baylor University School, University of Houston Law Center, Texas Tech University School of Law, and South Texas College of Law
- Finalists—Baylor University School of Law and South Texas College of Law, who argued before the Texas Supreme Court
- Champions—South Texas College of Law team members Zachary Bowman, Jennifer Schuch, and Andrew Nelson and coach Rob Galloway
- Best Brief—University of Houston Law Center team members Randall Macchi, Erin Stanley, and Emily Ziemba
- Best Oral Advocate—Randall Macchi, University of Houston Law Center



Best Brief Winners University of Houston Law Center team with Cori Harbour



Champion South Texas College of Law team with the Texas Supreme Court and Cori Harbour



The State Moot Court Committee

MAKING AN IMPACT

TYLA ENSURING ACCESS TO JUSTICE



PARTNERING *for* PRO BONO

- The award-winning *Partnering for Pro Bono* is a sustainable web-based matching program that pairs private practice attorneys with in-house counsel so that they may work together on pro bono cases.
- Currently there is one lawyer for every 322 Texans, but only one legal aid lawyer for every 10,838 poor Texans.
- TYLA worked with the State Bar Legal Services Support Division, the Texas Legal Services Center, and the Texas Access to Justice Commission on this project.
- Cases are available from 18 different Texas cities through the Texas Lawyers Help website (www.texaslawyershelp.org). These cases include civil rights, divorces, guardianships, bankruptcies, environmental litigation, probate, and real estate matters.
- TYLA board members have presented and marketed the program throughout the state. As a result, *Partnering for Pro Bono* has gained participation from more than 200 Texas attorneys and commitments from more than 150 law firm and companies in the program's first year alone.
- Matches have been made in San Antonio, Dallas, Houston, Austin, and Fort Worth.
- *Partnering for Pro Bono* was made possible thanks to support and a grant from the State Bar Corporate Counsel Section.



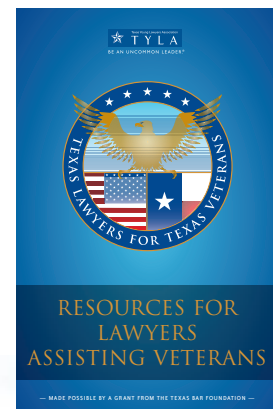
TYLA Director Brooke Ulrickson Allen helping a lawyer sign up for Partnering for Pro Bono

**Winner of the 2011
Texas Access to Justice
Commission Pro Bono
Service Award,
Large Section or Bar
Organization Category**

TYLA Ensuring Access to Justice

Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans

- Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans is a State Bar of Texas program to develop and assist legal clinics throughout the state for military veterans who otherwise cannot afford or do not have access to the legal services they need.
- To assist the State Bar, the Texas Young Lawyers Association prepared two pamphlets: *Resources for Veterans Seeking Help* and *Resources for Lawyers Assisting Veterans*.
- *Resources for Veterans Seeking Help* is a starting point for veterans seeking assistance and contains information regarding legal aid, VA benefits, disabilities, education benefits, employment, financial assistance, health care, and mental health issues.
- *Resources for Lawyers Assisting Veterans* provides information for Texas lawyers who represent veterans about legal issues facing veterans and the resources available to assist in their representation.
- As of May 2011, nearly 5,000 of the *Resources for Veterans Seeking Help* pamphlet and nearly 3,000 of the *Resources for Lawyers Assisting Veterans* have been distributed.
- TYLA board members have participated in numerous veterans clinics around the state.



State Bar President Terry Tottenham, veteran Chris Hodges (far right), and TYLA Executive Committee

TYLA Ensuring Access to Justice

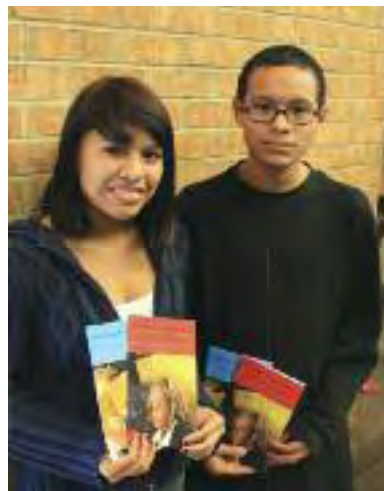
TYLA and its affiliates promote equal access to justice to all Texans through many additional outlets, including:

- TYLA passed a Prime Partner Resolution
- TYLA participated in access to justice (ATJ) community fairs in El Paso that served more than 500 citizens
- ATJ Speakers Bureau presentations at young lawyer association meetings
- Reported on access to justice initiatives in *eNews*
- Continued to offer the “Justice for All” license plate sales

TEXAS ACCESS to JUSTICE FOUNDATION



TYLA also took part in an access to justice benefit coordinated by the Uniting Students of Dallas, a student organization at Yavneh Academy, a Jewish college preparatory high school. The January 10 event raised more than \$16,500 to support civil legal services program benefiting veterans who otherwise cannot afford a lawyer. The keynote was provided by former ambassador to Saudi Arabia Robert Jordan. State Bar President Terry Tottenham and TYLA President Jennifer Evans Morris also made presentations.



Danny Razo (right) at ATJ Community Fair in El Paso

TYLA MAKING AN IMPACT

TYLA Honored by the ABA in 2010

- Special Recognition in the Comprehensive Category.
- First Place in the Service to the Public Category for *R U Safe? Protecting Yourself in Cyberspace*.
- TYLA received Special Recognition in the Service to the Bar Category for the Environment and the Law Symposium.
- TYLA's monthly *eNews* took second place in the Newsletter Category.
- TYLA's El Paso Pre-Law Symposium received second place in the Minority Project Category.
- The American Bar Endowment's Outstanding Public Service Project Award was awarded to *R U Safe?* from among all Single Project/Service to the Public programs for being an exceptional, unique, and exemplary project in 2010.

R U SAFE
Protecting Yourself in Cyberspace



Past ABA YLD Chair
Kelly-Ann Clarke and
Cori Harbour



Shivali Sharma presents on R U Safe?

TYLA Liberty Bell Award — Dr. Walter H. Nguyen, Executive Director, Mosaic Family Services, Dallas

Dr. Walter Nguyen epitomizes the Liberty Bell Award's mission of strengthening the effectiveness of the judicial system by instilling a better appreciation of the law through his work serving immigrant women and children who have survived domestic violence or human trafficking.

Outstanding Mentor — Christina Melton Crain, Christina Melton Crain, P.C., Dallas

Christina Melton Crain has provided steady mentoring and leadership to the community and bar for more than a decade. During her tenure as Dallas Bar Association president, she implemented the Amachi Program, inspired by her work on the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, and she has worked to launch DOORS, a nonprofit aimed at reducing recidivism.

Outstanding Young Lawyer — Omar J. Alaniz, Baker Botts LLP, Dallas

Omar J. Alaniz has shown uncommon leadership both in his profession and his community as a committed volunteer, whether talking to and developing programs for students, coaching a moot court team, or taking pro bono cases (more than 500 hours in 2010 alone).

TYLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2010-2011



What does the future hold for TYLA?

We will be kicking the 2011–2012 bar year off with a bang! Many of our projects will debut early in the year so that our members have plenty of time to implement them in their local affiliates. TYLA will continue its commitment to serving Texas lawyers, Texas citizens, low-income Texans and Texas teenagers. A few highlights for the year include:



- **Shelby's Story** will feature the story of Shelby Allen, a teenager who died from alcohol poisoning. TYLA will produce a multi-media production educating teenagers about the dangers of underage drinking, the laws associated with underage drinking and the laws that apply to parents who provide alcohol to teens. A mock trial and mock legislative debate program will also be created to help teens learn about these laws through active participation.
- **Guide to Texas Probates and Estate Planning** will help individuals and families plan for the future and will explain the legal aspects of Texas probate law and alternatives to probate. TYLA will be partnering with the State Bar of Texas Real Estate and Probate Section to implement this project.
- **Texas Young Lawyers Mental Health Institute** will feature podcasts on various topics in the area of mental health. These podcasts will be available on the TYLA website and will feature health care workers, counselors, psychologists, and attorneys addressing topics related to all aspects of mental health and will provide resources to the public and our members who need assistance.
- **Special Kids with Special Needs** will provide information on Special Needs Trusts, special education, health care, and other useful topics to assist parents with their legal needs.

TYLA will also continue promoting existing projects, providing legal resources for our members and beneficial programming for our communities. If you are interested in participating in or implementing any one of TYLA's outstanding projects, please go to www.tyla.org for information.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie C. Kuhler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President 2011–2012
Texas Young Lawyers Association



BE AN UNCOMMON LEADER.®

Texas Young Lawyers Association

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