

**Vann, Kimberly**

**From:** i.otu@staff.azbar.org  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2010 3:11 PM  
**To:** Vann, Kimberly; Ward, Michael  
**Subject:** Partnership Awards Nomination Form

<b>This Message was sent from:</b>	<a href="http://www.abanet.org/barserv/partnership/2009/nomform.html">http://www.abanet.org/barserv/partnership/2009/nomform.html</a>
<b>This Message sent to:</b>	vannk2@staff.abanet.org;wardm@staff.abanet.org,
<b>MAILFORMAT</b>	html
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Partnership Awards Nomination Form
<b>REDIRECT_ABSOLUTE</b>	<a href="http://www.abanet.org/barserv/thank.html">http://www.abanet.org/barserv/thank.html</a>
<b>FROM_FORM</b>	/barserv/partnership/2009/nomform.html
<b>PROGRAMTITLE</b>	Arizona State Bar Diversity Pipeline Project
<b>BARASSOCIATION</b>	State Bar of Arizona
<b>ADDRESS</b>	4201 North 24th Street, Suite 200
<b>CITYSTATEZIP</b>	Phoenix, AZ 85016
<b>PHONE</b>	6023407389
<b>EMAIL</b>	i.otu@staff.azbar.org
<b>MEMBERS</b>	20,000
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	Program information sent separately via e-mail.
<b>BUDGET</b>	\$12,000
<b>PROGRAMFUNDS</b>	State Bar of Arizona Diversity Department
<b>OTHERRESOURCES</b>	Inkind contributions - free facilities for law camps
<b>OTHERPARTNERS</b>	Phoenix School of Law; Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education
<b>EFFORTS</b>	Media Coverage
<b>REPLICATEEFFORTS</b>	Yes. Sent separately via e-mail.
<b>SUGGESTIONS</b>	No need to reinvent the wheel. Learn from thers experiences. Build partnerships within and outside the legal community.
<b>CONTACTINFORMATION</b>	I. Godwin Otu, Diversity Director 602-340-7389
<b>CONTACTADDRESS</b>	4201 North 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85016 i.otu@staff.azbar.org
<b>SUBMIT_DATETIME</b>	03/30/2010 03:11 PM

**This information was submitted from: /barserv/partnership/2009/nomform.html on 03/30/2010 03:11 PM**

## **State Bar of Arizona Diversity Pipeline Initiative**

### **The Diversity Pipeline Initiative**

The Diversity Pipeline Initiative is one of the cornerstones of the State Bar of Arizona's diversity and inclusion efforts. The initiative partners with Arizona's law firms, schools, universities, and community organizations to encourage young people, especially people in underrepresented populations, to consider careers in the law.

### **Objective**

The objective is to connect lawyers and law students with our schools, communities, and civic organizations to inform our young people about the steps necessary to become an attorney or to have a legal career.

The State Bar of Arizona's diversity activities extend beyond focusing on minorities and women. The programs also focus on attorneys with disabilities, attorneys who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, and experienced attorneys who have many years of practice under their belt. The goal is to increase the number of minorities in the legal profession in Arizona.

### ***Diversity Pipeline Project***

In 2009 the State Bar's Diversity Department launched the Diversity Pipeline Project to complement existing pipeline programs.

The project exposes students, from diverse backgrounds, to the benefits of higher education to encourage them to attend law school, pass the bar, and become attorneys. Project volunteers mentor the youngsters and guide them through the pipeline from entry to advancement in the legal profession. The project is a collaboration between the State Bar, the bench, other bar associations, corporate counsel, law schools, universities, school districts, law firms and the public sector.

The unique thing about the State Bar's diversity pipeline project is that we go to the students so that they are not removed from their familiar school environment.

Go to link for media report and video:

<http://www.azcentral.com/12news/schoolsolutions/articles/2009/12/02/20091202law-CR.html>

### **How the Diversity Pipeline Project Works**

The State Bar in 2009 adopted Cloves C. Campbell Sr. Elementary School in South Phoenix as the starting point for its diversity pipeline project. The State Bar and the

school will have a long-term partnership. We will track the progress of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, especially those who may attend South Mountain High School because of its law magnet program.

Targeting the K-12 student population is necessary because available information indicates that the test-score gap between students of color and white students begins as early as the fourth grade and continues through the undergraduate and graduate levels.

African-Americans graduate from high school at significantly lower rates than whites and Asian-Americans. Students of color have disproportionately lower law school application, enrollment, and graduation rates.

Phoenix School of Law students and practicing attorneys have visited Cloves Campbell Elementary School several times during the 2009-10 school year to engage the students in various law-related interactive exercises. Eighth grade students went on a field trip to Phoenix Municipal Court where they met Chief Presiding Judge Roxanne K. Song Ong and Judge Carol Scott Berry (both judges are minorities). The students participated in a short mock trial – complete with a judge, jury, bailiff, prosecution and defense attorneys, and, of course, a defendant. They also met a paralegal, legal secretary and investigator at the State Bar's office to gain an insight into other jobs in the legal field.

The following story was published on the State Bar of Arizona web site:

#### **South Phoenix Students Meet Courtroom Judges**

By Rachael Myer  
State Bar of Arizona Communications Coordinator  
March 25, 2010

**PHOENIX** – For many of the 75 eighth graders touring Phoenix Municipal Court on Wednesday, their ideas about courtrooms and judges were based on the television fanfare seen on "Judge Judy."

"We are not rude to the public," said Phoenix Municipal Court Chief Presiding Judge Roxanne K. Song Ong. "We treat each other with respect and dignity at all times."

Judge Song Ong's approachable demeanor surprised 13-year-old Coreece Swain, an 8th grader at Cloves C. Campbell Sr. Elementary School in South Phoenix.

"She was really nice and supported us," Swain said.

The students visited the court as part of a State Bar of Arizona program to encourage the South Phoenix students to pursue a law degree. Practicing attorneys and law students with the State Bar's Diversity Pipeline Project have mentored the students this school year.

Wednesday's Phoenix Municipal Court tour was the project's first field trip.

Judge Song Ong and Judge Carol Scott Berry explained the steps in a trial, the importance of *Miranda v. Arizona*, and the process of becoming a judge. Some of the students acted as a prosecutor, a defense attorney, a judge and jury members during the morning's condensed mock trial of Goldie Locks.

Judge Song Ong told the 8th graders that she originally intended to be a 5th grade teacher until her father encouraged her to apply to law school.

"Every one of you sitting in here can also be an attorney, also can be a judge," Song Ong said to the 8th graders seated before her on the courtroom benches. "I was just like you."

Later in the day, the students met with a legal secretary, a paralegal and an investigator at the State Bar's main office to learn about other jobs in the legal field. State Bar CEO/Executive Director John Phelps was on hand to welcome the students.

The Diversity Pipeline Project connects the students' curriculum with real life, said Cloves Campbell Elementary social studies teacher Tim Benford.

He has taught 7th and 8th graders about the three branches of government, constitutional amendments, and *Miranda v. Arizona*.

At the beginning of the year only a few students talked about eventually becoming an attorney.

"They now have a better grasp of what that means," Benford said. "A lot of them have set that as a goal."

*For more information on the Diversity Pipeline Project, contact the State Bar of Arizona Diversity Department at 602-340-7393.*

### ***Summer Law Camp and High School Law Symposium***

In 2009 the State Bar collaborated with the Indian Legal Program at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University to host a summer law camp .Students participated in a mock trial and learned about the admissions process. In 2010, the State Bar collaborated with the Phoenix School of Law to host a well-attended High School Law Symposium. Lawyers and judges mentored the students. The State Bar plans to continue partnering with Arizona law schools to encourage more high school students to pursue a law degree.

### **More Information**

The State Bar's diversity programs are open to students from all backgrounds. Students from underrepresented populations are particularly encouraged to attend. The programs are free. More information about the Summer Law Camp and our Diversity Pipeline initiatives is available by calling 602-340-7393 or by visiting our web site at [www.azbar.org](http://www.azbar.org).