

The annual Awards of Achievement Program provides ABA YLD affiliated state and local bar young lawyer organizations with the opportunity to submit their best projects for evaluation by a jury of their peers.

2009-2010 Awards of Achievement				
Division	Affiliate	Project Title	Place	Description
<b>Comprehensive</b>				
1A	State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division - GA		1st	
1A	Texas Young Lawyers Association - TX		Special Recognition	
1A	Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference - VA		2nd	
1B	North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NC		1st	
1B	South Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - SC		Certificate of Performance	
1B	State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section - MI		2nd	
1B	State Bar of Wisconsin Young Lawyers Division - WI		Special Recognition	
1C	Virginia Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - VA		1st	
2A	Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - IL		Special Recognition	
2A	Dallas Association of Young Lawyers - TX		1st	
2B	Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - PA		Special Recognition	
2B	Austin Young Lawyers Association - TX		1st	
2B	Houston Young Lawyers Association - TX		2nd	
2C	Young Lawyers Section of the Palm Beach County Bar Association - FL		1st	
<b>Newsletter</b>				
\$0	Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - IL	Executive Council Link-Up	Special Recognition	
\$0	Kansas Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section - KS	The YLS Forum	1st	
0	Texas Young Lawyers Association - TX	TYLA eNews	2nd	
200	Tennessee Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - TN	Tennessee Young Lawyer	1st	
\$250	Washington State Bar Young Lawyers Division - WA	De Novo	2nd	
\$7,226.00	Dallas Association of Young Lawyers - TX	The Dicta	2nd	
\$7,500	Houston Young Lawyers Association - TX	Pocket Parts	Certificate of Performance	
\$8,380	North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NC	The Advocate	1st	
\$30,800	State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division - GA	The YLD Review	Special Recognition	
\$1,000.00	State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section - MI	Inter Alia	Special Recognition	
\$4,000.00	Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference - VA	Docket Call: The newsletter of the Young Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar	Certificate of Performance	

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<b>Minority</b>				
1A	State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division - GA	Pathways to Endless Opportunities Series	Special Recognition	The YLD Minorities in the Profession Committee (MIPC) held two forums to help answer the unique concerns of minority attorneys including the effect of cultural differences on opportunities for advancement and the presence and effect of subconscious discriminatory practices that affect opportunities for advancement. The end goal was to help their membership, hard hit by the recession, regain their confidence and control over their legal careers.
1A	Texas Young Lawyers Association - TX	El Paso Pre-Law Symposium	2nd	The El Paso Pre-Law Symposium is a project that looks to inspire and encourage minority students to attend law school. The symposium, which had over 180 students attend, provided lunch, a video on the importance of voting, as well as presentations by the presidents of the State Bar of Texas and the Texas Young Lawyers Section.
1A	Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference - VA	Oliver Hill / Samuel Tucker PreLaw Institute	1st	The Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker PreLaw Institute reaches out to minority high school students, particularly disadvantaged or academically at-risk students whose only exposure to the legal system is, generally, through television or the juvenile justice system. For one week, students live on a college campus and attend a number of mock classes and seminars on career opportunities in the law, test-taking strategies, and the college admission process.
1B	North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NC	Bar Exam Writing Clinics	1st	The NCBA's Minorities in the Profession Committee holds free bar exam writing clinics every year in January and June in preparation for the February and July bar exams. The clinics are designed to provide insight and strategies on passing the North Carolina Bar Exam, with particular emphasis on the essay portion. Minority young lawyers assisted with the January and June writing clinics by, among other things, setting the agenda, soliciting speakers and preparing and presenting study materials to the attendees.
1B	South Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - SC	Minority Pre-Law Conference	2nd	The SC Bar YLD's 15th Annual Minority Pre-law Conference focuses on educating undergrads about the law school admissions process, preparation for the LSAT, securing financial aid, awareness of scholarships, and career choices in the legal profession as well as alternative careers.
2A	Dallas Association of Young Lawyers - TX	Diversity and Inclusion Forum	Certificate of Performance	DAYL's Lawyers Promoting Diversity Committee organized the Diversity and Inclusion Forum to address the tough issues related to diversity and why diversity is important. The committee sought and secured well-regarded and diverse jurists and attorneys to speak to over 70 Dallas young lawyers.
2B	Houston Young Lawyers Association - TX	HYLA Urban Debate League	1st	The HYLA Urban Debate League was started to build, support, and sustain programs in Houston's public school system to make debate an educational resource available to all students. The UDL seeks to teach students the basics of effective communication, preparation, organization, and teamwork.

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<b>Service to the Bar</b>				
1A	State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division - GA	Public Interest Internship Program	1st, Most Outstanding Service to the Bar Winner	The Public Interest Internship Program's (PIIP) goal is to provide law school students and recent graduates with summer employment opportunities in public interest organizations throughout the state. The program was designed to respond to the growing numbers of new young lawyers who were unable to find employment and the increasing need for indigent legal services by providing an opportunity to gain practical legal skills while serving
1A	Texas Young Lawyers Association - TX	Environment and the Law Symposium	Special Recognition	The Environment and the Law Symposium was a 5-hour free CLE about environmental law. Topics included: Green Building Law, Environmental Issues in Bankruptcy, and Homeland Security's new regulation of certain chemical compounds in "high risk" facilities, such as the San Diego Zoo. Attendees were served breakfast, lunch, and were sent the materials used during the day by email.
1A	Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference - VA	Bench-Bar Dinner	2nd	The Annual Bench-Bar Dinner honors newly appointed and elevated minority and women judges in Virginia. The Dinner is a celebration of diversity on the bench and in the legal profession. Wider-reaching publicity resulted in over 100 attendees.
1B	North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NC	Young Lawyer International Summit	Special Recognition	The Young Lawyer International Summit gave Argentinian young lawyers the opportunity to see the new federal courthouse and help them understand United States law through seminars they attended. There was also a roundtable discussion between U.S. District Court Judges and the Argentinian delegation that contrasted and compared the two countries' legal systems.
1B	South Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - SC	2010 Annual Bar Convention	2nd	The YLD Annual Bar Convention Committee ("ABC") is responsible for (1) planning and implementing a CLE; (2) organizing an incentive event to entice young lawyers to attend the Bar Convention; and (3) planning a meeting for the YLD Executive Council. The goal is to recruit young lawyers not only to the Bar Convention, but to try to encourage active participation in the Young Lawyers Division.
1B	State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section - MI	Service to the Bar	Special Recognition	The State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section ("SBM YLS"), together with the Washtenaw County Bar Association New Lawyers Section ("WCBA NLS") hosted a seminar to teach new lawyers about the inner-workings of each of the court divisions and to help them develop techniques and best business practices to establish and maintain a solo or small practice.
1B	State Bar of Wisconsin Young Lawyers Division - WI	Young Lawyers Leadership Conference	1st	The WI YLD developed and organized its first Young Lawyers Leadership Conference (YLLC) to provide young lawyers with leadership training and to encourage greater participation in the YLD, the State and local bars, and in the community. In addition to CLE training, young lawyers also participated in a speed networking event as well as a reception afterwards.

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1C	Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - CT	YLS Bench-Bar Receptions	Certificate of Performance	The YLS Bench-Bar receptions provided opportunities for young lawyers to meet with judges in different parts of the state and learn about appropriate courtroom behavior, helpful tips on motion practice, the elements of an excellent legal brief, how to deliver an effective oral argument, the court's "pet peeves," and other common mistakes that should be avoided.
1C	New Jersey State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NJ	Career Options in the Legal Profession	Special Recognition	The Career Options in the Legal Professional panel was a program designed to help lawyers decide the type of career that would fit them best. The panel arose out of a need for YLD members to find a job in a tough economy. After the event, we had a mixer where representatives from different sections of the bar mingled with the speakers and participants and offered job advice.
1C	The Iowa State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - IA	Legislative Leadership Academy	1st	The Legislative Leadership Academy is a unique, bi-partisan program that offered attorneys advice and information about running for and maintaining a role in public office. The event centered on the practical issues lawyers face while seeking public office and the need for more lawyer-legislators. The program featured several experts and lawyer-legislators from across the state.
1C	Virginia Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - VA	VBA Diversity Job Fair	2nd	The Virginia Bar Association Diversity Job Fair provided an opportunity for Virginia employers to interview diverse law school candidates from around the country for summer jobs. There was also a free Diversity Webinar where Virginia attorneys provided students with practical tips for improving their resumes and cover letters, effective interviewing techniques and marketing strategies in the age of social networking.
2A	Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - IL	Trial Superstars	Certificate of Performance	The YLS Trial Superstars program was a day-long CLE seminar run by 20 high profile attorneys. There were five panels consisting of judges, practitioners and in-house counsel that discussed best practices, effective communication techniques, and tips and trial strategies. The over 100 attendees enjoyed a networking session with the panelists at the end of the day.
2A	Dallas Association of Young Lawyers - TX	Lunch and Learn	1st	Lunch and Learn, is a 12-month series of CLE programs designed to provide litigation training for all young lawyers and offered free of charge to DAYL members. Each program averaged 70 attendees and addressed such topics as initial pleadings, discovery, experts, summary judgment motions, and avoiding legal malpractice.
2B	Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - PA	Practicing Green Initiative	2nd	The Practicing Green Initiative was created to raise awareness on the impact that the practice of law can have on the environment and, of course, how attorneys can lessen that impact while still maintaining responsibilities to clients. The program include a free CLE on sustainable real estate and green buildings, awards for firms that implemented the best environmental practices, and promoted the planting of over 150 trees in 3 different Pittsburgh parks.

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2B	Austin Young Lawyers Association - TX	Bar & Grill	Certificate of Performance	Bar & Grill is a humorous theatrical production filled with music, satire and parody of the legal profession. The show was performed to two sold-out crowds on November 6th and 7th, 2009, at the Long Center for the Performing Arts. The profits from the performances raised over \$10,000 for the Austin Young Lawyers Association Foundation, a non-profit organization which helps fund various young lawyer service projects.
2B	Houston Young Lawyers Association - TX	HYLEA Swearing-In Ceremony	1st	HYLEA organized and planned a Swearing-In Ceremony at South Texas College of Law for newly-licensed attorneys on November 17, 2009. The event was created for those who could not attend the Austin Swearing-In Ceremony. HYLEA recognized the importance of creating a comparable event, so the newly-licensed attorney who was unable to travel for whatever reason, could share their achievements with their family in the same manner.
2C	Baton Rouge Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - LA	Cocktails with the Court	Certificate of Performance	The annual "Cocktails with the Court" reception gives an opportunity for Baton Rouge young lawyers to honor area judges. Young lawyers are offered a chance to meet with the local judiciary in a relaxed atmosphere before they face them in the courtroom. This sponsored event is free to young lawyers, who come and participate without worrying about the price of this upscale reception.
<b>Service to the Public</b>				
1A	Illinois State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - IL	Fundraising for the Illinois Bar Foundation / Young Lawyers Division Children's Assistance Fund	Special Recognition	The Illinois State Bar Association / Young Lawyers Division raise funds for the Illinois Bar Foundation Children's Assistance Fund ("CAF"). The CAF provides grants to organizations relating to children and the law and is designed to encourage and promote legal assistance to children. These services include pro bono legal work, providing accessibility to the court system relating to children, and reducing the incidents of juvenile offenses.
1A	State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division - GA	Statewide Service Project	Certificate of Performance	The Statewide Service Project program charged each of the 43 members of the YLD Executive Council with developing and implementing a service project that benefited children and families in their local communities. In addition each of the 26 committees were charged with implementing projects in support of the children and families theme. Representatives and committees enthusiastically responded by individually and collectively seeking out or creating opportunities to assist others in need.
1A	Texas Young Lawyers Association - TX	R U Safe? Protecting Yourself in Cyberspace	1st, Most Outstanding Service to the Public	R U Safe? is a DVD containing four separate videos designed to educate children and their parents about online dangers and give them the tools needed to be safe while online. It is intended to serve students at every age level (elementary, middle school, and high school) and also contains a section for parents. Using experts from law enforcement and child advocacy groups, the video covers such wide-ranging topics as cyber bullying, social networking, chat rooms, "sexting", and online predators.

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1A	Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference - VA	Legal Handbook for Cancer Survivors	2nd	The Legal Handbook for Cancer Survivors contains an introduction with ten helpful tips, then has four chapters that discuss: (i) paying for medical care (including health insurance issues), (ii) financial matters, (iii) employment issues, and (iv) how to plan for the future. The Handbook also contains an appendix of sample letters and documents, as well as a resource list.
1B	North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NC	Project Grace	1st	The North Carolina Bar Association YLD's Law & Aging Committee established "Project Grace" in order to provide Health Care Power of Attorney and living wills free of charge to those of limited means. In total, Project Grace through the efforts of 27 attorney volunteers and approximately 30 non-attorney volunteers served 130 people and 260 documents were drafted.
1B	Oklahoma Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - OK	Community Day of Service 2010	Certificate of Performance	The Community Day of Service program had over 70 attorney volunteers providing volunteer hours at 13 libraries in different communities. Projects ranged from re-shelving books to planting flowers and doing landscape work to dressing up like the Statue of Liberty and presenting programming for children. Additionally, the YLD donated four ABA publications/books to each of the 13 libraries for circulation.
1B	South Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - SC	Special Olympics South Carolina	Special Recognition	The South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division/Special Olympics South Carolina partnership is an effort to provide financial and volunteer support to Special Olympics, primarily in connection with the organization's three, annual statewide Games. Members of the Young Lawyers Division volunteer for and recruit others to volunteer for service in connection with the Games.
1B	State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section - MI	Michigan Youth Leadership Summit	2nd	This event was created to inspire high school students to get involved in their communities and highlight the ways they can show support during difficult economic and political times. The programming was a call to action for young people to affect the future of this city by the actions that they take today.
1C	Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - CT	CBA-YLS Making a Difference Soup Kitchen Project	2nd	The YLS Making a Difference Soup Kitchen project, was designed to make a regular impact in society. One weekend every month, the YLS worked in food kitchens throughout the state to ensure that disadvantaged people are able to enjoy a meal. As a result of this project, approximately 7,000 people were fed state-wide.
1C	Kansas Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section - KS	They Had a Dream Too	Certificate of Performance	The KBA YLS went to Topeka, Kansas and the original school house where Brown v. Board of Education was centered. More than 50 high school students heard from Cheryl Brown Henderson (named plaintiff in the Brown v. Board case); Professor Bill Rich of Washburn University and Lawrence Williamson (a local minority young lawyer). They were then shown the THADT film.
1C	Kentucky Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - KY	Voices Against Violence	Certificate of Performance	The Voices Against Violence service project is a call to action to young lawyers to raise awareness about and prevent domestic violence and to provide pro bono services to address the legal needs of domestic violence victims and survivors. The YLS hosted a well-attended reception which raised \$1,145 for the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program.

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1C	New Jersey State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - NJ	New Jersey Wills for Heroes Project	Certificate of Performance	The Wills for Heroes Project is a program that provides wills and estate planning to first responders at no charge. The YLD drafted over 300 estate planning documents, including wills, financial powers of attorneys, health care powers of attorneys, and advanced directives through the efforts of thirty attorneys per each event. Participating first responders received fully executed estate planning documents.
1C	Tennessee Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - TN	Tennessee Flood Disaster Legal Services	1st	The TBA YLD has worked closely with Tennessee Area Legal Services to coordinate flood relief efforts, and has, at the direction of FEMA, helped with the establishment of disaster legal services hotlines in the counties that have been declared eligible for federal assistance. The TBA YLD kicked into high gear just days after devastating floods hit Middle and West Tennessee -- activating a toll free hotline for disaster victims to request free legal assistance, coordinating the response among nine legal organizations in the state, and educating lawyers on the legal issues disaster victims often face.
1C	Virginia Bar Association Young Lawyers Division - VA	Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Legal Aid Clinic	Special Recognition	The Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Legal Aid Clinic provides pro bono legal services to clients involved in civil disputes. The primary types of cases accepted are: unpaid wages claims, landlord-tenant disputes and amendments to (or corrections of) birth certificates.
1D	Alaska Bar Association Young Lawyers - AK	Breaking the Cycle: Raising Community Voices Against Domestic Violence	1st	The project teams, consisting of young lawyer volunteers - designed an awareness kit that included a copy of the ABA's YLD DVD on domestic violence, information on Alaska's legal resources, a handbook on the legal rights of women in Alaska, and other materials to enable Alaskans to host screening parties in their homes to educate and increase the pool of pro bono volunteers. This project spurred Alaska's governor to unveil his own 10 year plan to eradicate domestic violence in Alaska.
2A	Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - IL	Serving Our Seniors	Special Recognition	Serving Our Seniors is a pro bono project designed to provide low-income seniors with certain essential elements of a basic estate plan. The YLS project team helped to create a comprehensive multi-media package featuring guest stars such as A&E's Bill Kurtis that will enable volunteer attorneys around the country to prepare a Power of Attorney for Healthcare, a Power of Attorney for Property, a Living Will and a simple will for a vulnerable, and vitally important segment of our society.
2A	Dallas Association of Young Lawyers - TX	Protejase! Luche Contra el Fraude (Protect Yourself! Fight Against Fraud)	1st	The DAYL created "Protejase! Luche Contra el Fraude" (which means "Protect Yourself! Fight Against Fraud"), a Spanish public service campaign that details the warning signs of credit repair scams, notario "notary" fraud, and fraud generally. The DAYL sought to combat frauds perpetuated by scam artists attempting to take advantage of language barriers and diverse cultural norms in these tough economic times.

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2B	Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - PA	Operation M.V.P. (Military & Veterans Project)	Certificate of Performance	Operation M.V.P. (Military & Veterans Project) was a three-pronged effort to recognize and serve active military personnel and veterans. The "Books for Troops" program sent over 3,500 books, money was raised to send 45 care packages to troops with a personalized note in each, and lastly a freely-available website was created that enables local veterans to more easily find the resources that are available to them.
2B	Austin Young Lawyers Association - TX	Re-Entry Guide	2nd	The project is based on the drafting, publishing and dissemination of a re-entry resource guide for people who have had contact with the criminal justice system. This population ranges from someone coming out of prison on parole, someone on probation, or someone simply trying to readjust after being incarcerated. The goal is to maximize the chance that the people affected can transition back into our communities with as much knowledge and information about how to overcome many of the stumbling blocks they face.
2B	Houston Young Lawyers Association - TX	What's So Special About Special Education?	1st	The "What's So Special About Special Education?" Seminar is designed to provide parents, advocates, attorneys and teachers with information regarding numerous aspects of special education and topics related to special needs children. Four attorneys presented eight 75-minute sessions many topics related to children with special needs and the law.
2B	Multnomah Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - OR	Community Law Week	Special Recognition	During Community Law Week; judges, attorneys and other legal professionals volunteered their time to provide legal education, access and assistance to the public. They provided citizens with valuable legal information, including materials from the Oregon State Bar and Legal Aid Services of Oregon. They also organized clothing drives for local charities.
2C	Baton Rouge Bar Association Young Lawyers Section - LA	Dress to Impress	Certificate of Performance	The Dress to Impress program is a clothing drive that collects clean clothes that are then disseminated among 6 social service agencies. Over 1000 pieces of clothing, including men's and women's suits, sport coats, and dress shirts were donated. The social service agencies then distribute the clothing to men and women who need a fresh start in life.