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Carol, a donor and volunteer faculty member.
As a second-year attorney in a public interest disability rights nonprofit organization, I maintain a high case load of deserving low-income clients whom I represent at no cost. I requested financial assistance from NITA so that I can better represent these individuals against highly trained, better funded opponents.

Dustin Rynders, Advocacy Inc.

I have an Equal Justice Works fellowship funded by AmeriCorps to provide direct assistance to low-income clients and to train and supervise law students in a clinical setting. This semester alone, more than 100 students are providing free-barista client services under my supervision. Both the students and my clients benefit from my participation in the NITA institute as I will be better able to guide the students in their client relationships, and teach them valuable skills they will take into the legal community when they join the profession. Writing Attorney, Three Rivers Legal Services.

Whitney Untiedt, Three Rivers Legal Services.

Donations to the NITA Foundation support not only the attorneys who receive scholarship assistance but also all of the clients they serve. Now, we can advocate effectively and confidently for everybody who comes through our doors.

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Two days after my return from (NITA’s) program... I could see the difference in my own performance after attending... I was so confident. I used the direct and cross examination skills I learned and gave the closing argument of my life. The true benefit, though, is that emotionally fragile infants in an unsafe placement today because I went to (a NITA program) last week... Jennifer Hersh, Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio.

In their own words, our recipients express how your gift makes a difference in the lives of many:

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The mission of NITA is to advance advocacy and promote justice by training and mentoring lawyers to be competent and ethical advocates. When you contribute to the NITA Foundation, your gift works to promote justice through our various training and educational programs, both in this country and abroad. The NITA Foundation, a tax-exempt, charitable organization, exists to support the operations and programs of NITA, also a tax-exempt, charitable organization.

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As I reflect back over 2008, I am reminded of the impact that support for NITA can make in our communities, both here and abroad. Through the generosity of law firms, individuals and foundations, the NITA Foundation and NITA presented more than 38 public service programs, including international rule of law programs in developing nations, child advocacy programs throughout the United States, and a myriad of programs designed for legal services attorneys and those who represent death row inmates. In addition, more than $340,000 in scholarship aid was awarded to train attorneys working on behalf of the indigent and disenfranchised, to ensure equal access to justice for all.

It is said that one act of generosity builds upon another; an example of this effect is our efforts in Kenya which have created a ripple effect that is becoming self-sustaining. We started our work in Kenya some years ago to help attorneys and advocates find justice in the courtroom for victims of domestic violence and child abuse. A handful of NITA faculty members and attorneys from Kenya came together in a grassroots effort to substantially change how crimes against women and children are prosecuted. Now, with support from NITA and other partnering organizations, Kenyan attorneys are training their colleagues and court administrators using the NITA method to advance the cause of justice.
In 2008, NITA assisted the ABA Section of Litigation’s Darfur Task Force by training Sudanese attorneys working to protect human rights in their own country and at their own peril. Indeed, one of the participants was recently arrested and tortured by the Sudanese government for the audacity to promote the rule of law.

Through our outreach efforts, NITA programs and publications are now being translated into Japanese, Spanish, and other languages to meet the growing global demand in promoting the rule of law in established countries as well as fledging democracies emerging from civil war and unrest.

While much was accomplished in 2008, more still needs to be done. Thank you to all of our donors who invested in the NITA Foundation. You truly make a difference in the legal community and all those it serves.

Sincerely,

Laurence M. Rose
President
In 1971, a handful of law professors, judges and attorneys came together to form a nonprofit organization unlike any other organization engaged in legal training and education. The National Institute for Trial Advocacy or NITA, as it later became known, was headquartered in Boulder, Colorado and was different for a number of reasons: it was a nonprofit organization; it represented a diverse group of leaders in the legal community; it created a “learning by doing” teaching method; and, most importantly, it was firmly grounded in several core values. Those values are mentoring, community, excellence, ethics, giving back across the globe, and justice.

In 2003, the Board of Trustees of NITA formed the NITA Foundation to expand its work. Then, as now, NITA works to ensure that these core values are reflected in all of its activities and programs.
NITA’s programs are unique because of the personal connection of faculty to students and the opportunity for one-on-one interaction and education. Our “learning by doing” methodology fosters numerous life-long mentoring opportunities among our faculty and students. Believing that our community, including the legal community, ought to be inclusive, diverse, and representative of all cultures, NITA strives now, as then, to impact this core value in all that we do. The NITA Foundation further builds on this value as all of its programs are designed to ensure inclusiveness and diversity.

All of our training programs and publications must be representative of our unyielding quest for excellence. Because of our desire to deliver excellence, NITA did not publish its first case file until 1977. Rather than rush to publish, the thought was then, as is now, that we would rather produce the highest quality work than just another case file or book for our audience. The result is excellent books for advocates.

As committed as we are to excellence, we are equally committed to the ethical practice of law. To do any less would undermine the principles of justice and fairness.

Giving back to our global community is another core value of NITA. We do this through $3.8 million from in-kind services donated by 895 faculty volunteers per year. Each year, NITA’s Publications Depart-
ment sends thousands of our books and materials to be used all over the world by our nonprofit partners such as Lawyers Without Borders and the American Bar Association’s Rule of Law Initiatives and ABA-CEELI project to promote justice in emerging democracies with evolving judicial systems. The NITA Foundation builds upon this value through its outreach programs and international partnerships in such countries as Kenya, Japan, Mexico, and South Africa.

Finally, NITA and the NITA Foundation are ardently committed to the idea of a judicial system founded on the concept of fairness and equal justice for all. All of our programs, publications, and activities reflect our commitment to ensuring an even playing field for all those who come before the courts.

Some 37 years later, NITA has grown considerably with more than 200 programs and 6,000 participants each year, reflecting our tireless commitment to justice and excellence. These students join the ranks of thousands of NITA alumni by continuing the NITA tradition of giving back to their communities—local and global.
Every year, the NITA Foundation awards scholarships to worthy applicants who have demonstrated their commitment to public service by representing the underserved and indigent in our community. The Foundation works to ensure that our programs are accessible to all with a special emphasis on those working at nonprofit organizations and legal aid offices. Often attorneys engaged in the public interest are working with the most vulnerable of populations – the elderly, disabled, children, and disenfranchised – and with extremely limited resources.

In 2008, the Foundation formed a partnership with Equal Justice Works (EJW), a nonprofit organization committed to creating a just society to mobilize the next generation of lawyers. To support in this effort, the Foundation provided 20 fellows working at various legal aid offices and nonprofit organizations with financial assistance to attend our Building Trial Skills, Deposition Skills, and Teacher Training Programs.

“I represent the indigent criminal defendants in Manhattan, one of the richest cities. Under the shimmering architecture of a global financial capital, my clients struggle day to day. From methadone clinics, homeless shelters and subway platforms, I manage a caseload of 80 to 100 clients with charges from infractions to felonies.” Martin Morris, Legal Aid Society.
Because we are committed to ensuring justice for all, the Foundation awarded 233 scholarships totaling more than $340,000 in 2008. Since our inception in 2003, the Foundation is proud to have provided more than $1.8 million in financial support to scholarship recipients. When you make a gift to the Foundation’s scholarship program, your act of generosity is magnified by the work of each recipient in his or her community.

**Jim Jeans Memorial Fund**

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, a gift of $50,000 began an endowment fund in memory of Jim Jeans. Mr. Jeans was one of NITA’s pioneers, a lawyer well-known for his brilliant storytelling and teaching style. NITA’s community of donors raised over $24,000 to bring the total endowment to $74,134. This particular honor is bestowed upon a lawyer championing the interests of his or her clients in the name of “justice for all.” This fund provides one scholarship each year for a public service attorney to attend the National Session, NITA’s premier training program.

**Alston Jennings Memorial Fund**

Named for Alston Jennings, an invaluable member of the NITA faculty and former member of NITA’s Board of Trustees, this scholarship opportunity celebrates his memory and commitment to the community by providing funds to a worthy applicant from the Little Rock area of Arkansas. Mr. Jennings fought tirelessly to improve the skills of attorneys, especially those working on behalf of the underserved and disenfranchised. Through this scholarship opportunity, the legacy of Mr. Jennings continues to make an impact in the legal community, and in turn, all the lives touched by his generosity and passion for his vocation.

Pictured above is Tomás Rodriguez, the 2008 Jim Jeans Scholarship recipient, and Charles Atwell, faculty member of the National Session.
The NITA Foundation supports a variety of public service programs that are offered free or for a reduced fee to lawyers working in the following areas: child advocacy, death penalty defense, tribal advocacy, legal services, domestic violence, and international rule of law programs. In 2008, NITA's Publications Department provided more than $20,000 worth of books and case files to be used by advocates in public service programs.

Through your generosity in 2008, NITA was able to offer four programs in the area of child advocacy, one program addressing the representation of clients facing the death penalty, two programs specifically designed for legal services attorneys, six outreach programs, and several international programs.

- Child Advocacy Trial Skills: Fort Lauderdale, Florida and Houston, Texas
- Rocky Mountain Child Advocacy Training Institute: Louisville, Colorado
- Training the Lawyer to Represent the Whole Child: Hempstead, New York
- The Habeas Institute-Federal Post-Conviction Skills Seminar: San Francisco, California
- Legal Services Trial Skills: Louisville, Colorado
- Equal Justice Works Program: Arlington, Virginia
Given NITA’s reputation as the foremost organization engaged in the training and mentoring of lawyers in the art of effective and ethical advocacy, our staff, board, and faculty have been called upon by lawyers across the globe for assistance. NITA and the NITA Foundation have assisted advocates from Mexico, Kenya, South Africa, Japan, China, and Sudan to explore the art of oral advocacy, along with its ethical underpinnings, to create a more just and democratic legal system in their home countries.

In 2008, we began working with the ABA Section of Litigation’s Darfur Task Force and other nongovernmental organizations to promote human rights efforts of attorneys in Sudan. The attorneys have given detailed testimony to the ABA and the International Criminal Court (ICC) in the Hague regarding the numerous human rights violations perpetrated by the Sudanese government. NITA continues to partner with these organizations in an effort to bring an end to violence and human rights abuses in Sudan.

In partnership with Lawyers Without Borders, U.S. Department of State, Federation of Women Lawyers, and Center for Rights, Education, and Awareness, NITA and the NITA Foundation expanded upon our work to train Kenyan attorneys and law students who assist victims of domestic violence, female genital mutilation, sexual assault and human trafficking. By bringing NITA teaching methods, case files, and materials to Nairobi classrooms and courthouses, we are improving the conditions for women and girls by promoting the rule of law. One of the Kenyan judges active in the NITA partnership, Justice Joyce Aluoch, has been appointed to the ICC.
NITA continues to train Mexican lawyers through an alliance with Southwestern Law School, United States Agency for International Development, Texas Tech University, Higher Education for Development, and Proderecho, a nongovernmental organization, to promote judicial reform in Mexico. Mexico’s current inquisitorial system, in which judges decide cases based on reviewing documentary evidence, precludes the opportunity for oral testimony or cross examination, and often creates an unjust result. Therefore, to facilitate this reform process, NITA has provided hands-on training and education to judges, law schools, and advocates dedicated to supplanting the inquisitorial system in favor of a more open, adversarial system with oral proceedings. We are happy to report that NITA has trained hundreds of advocates in 2008 through this partnership.

Since our inception in 1971, NITA has supported the work of attorneys and activists across the world to promote the pursuit of justice and to provide human rights for all. We realize that such change only can occur with much preparation, training, and resources. A gift to the NITA Foundation ensures our ability to be a world citizen, championing change and reform in the name of justice.

“We just got back from San Francisco for the NITA Teacher Training course – it was great and we just want to say thank you! The training team was wonderful and we really feel privileged to have had this chance. Thanks too for your personal financial contribution which enabled us to participate in this very useful programme(sic). The only way we can reciprocate the privilege is by ensuring that others get to benefit from what we gained from it.” Anne Amadi of the Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya.
EUROPE
Advanced Advocacy Training: Dublin, Ireland
Advanced Advocacy Training: Belfast, Northern Ireland
Advanced Advocacy Training: Edinborough, Scotland

AFRICA
Joint Appellate Advocacy for the United Nations: Arusha, Tanzania
Teacher Training and Domestic Violence Trial Skills Training: Nairobi, Kenya
Teacher Training: Pretoria, South Africa
Advocacy Training: Durban, South Africa

THE AMERICAS
NITA Trial Skills Training for Oral Advocacy: Oaxaca, Mexico
NITA Trial Skills Training for Oral Advocacy: Chihauhua, Mexico
NITA Trial Skills Training for Oral Advocacy: Zacatecas, Mexico
Teacher Training: Morelos, Mexico
Teacher Training: Mexico City, Mexico
Teacher Training for Spanish-Speaking Advocates: Louisville, Colorado

ASIA
Presentation to Visiting Japanese Scholars: Louisville, Colorado
Because we recognize the urgent need to combat violence against women, we offer vital training to lawyers who assist victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. Our course is uniquely designed to assist these advocates, many of whom are working under the most difficult of circumstances in shelters and safehouses, to effectively represent these victims in the legal system. In 2008, we offered two Trial Advocacy Programs and trained 57 advocates assisting victims of crime. Our courses are funded by a grant from the Office on Violence Against Women, Office of Justice Programs of the U.S. Department of Justice.

“I specialize in domestic violence cases and often oppose well-seasoned attorneys that are getting top dollar from the defendant. I believe that my victim clients should be able to have the same quality representation… Additionally, I would like to break the blue line for victims who have suffered at the hands of defendants who are members of law enforcement.” Karen F. Richards, Legal Aid of North Carolina.
The Foundation wishes to express our deepest gratitude to the NITA community – individuals, foundations, corporations, law firms, and in-kind contributors – who make our programs possible. To those donors who wish to remain anonymous, please accept our heartfelt thanks as well. A special thank you to NITA’s volunteer faculty, who taught and mentored countless attendees in public and public service programs.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our donor lists. However, if you note that your name is misspelled or omitted, please accept our sincerest apologies and inform us by calling (303) 953-6853. To learn more about joining our family of donors and sponsors, please call the Foundation office or visit us online at www.nitafoundation.org

“My goal is to be the best child advocate I can be. In that pursuit, programs such as NITA’s Building Trial Skills help me learn and practice in a safe environment with seasoned professionals. I believe that my participation has given me both immediate and long term benefits which I will bring to my clients every day. Please extend my thanks to the many individuals and organizations that made this scholarship available to individuals, like me, who might not be able to partake otherwise.” Cara Laren, Philadelphia Public Defender Association.
$10,000 and above
Robert G. Krupka and Pamela Banner Krupka

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United States Agency for International Development
Vinson & Elkins, LLP
William Goldman Foundation
Formerly called the NITA Alumni Association, the NAS has been expanded to include judges, lawyers, law professors, and all friends of NITA. Members of the NAS make up some of the best legal minds in the world, and further our work in the legal community by being integral to the mission of fostering effective and ethical advocacy. NITA Advocates support the work of the Foundation with charitable giving above the basic dues membership fees, and all members receive benefits such as discounts on publications and programs. NAS members also sponsor courtrooms, offices, and conference rooms at the NITA Education Center in Louisville, Colorado. This exclusive naming opportunity provides visibility for donors while promoting the mission of the Foundation. For more information, please visit www.nita.org/alumni or email development@nita.org.
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A copy of the NITA Foundation’s complete Audited Statements and Supplemental Schedules, along with the Independent Auditor’s Report for 2008, is available by calling (303) 953-6853 or by e-mail at development@nita.org. You may also request a copy of our IRS Form 990.

**Income For the Year Ending December 2008**

- **Contributions**: 64%
- **Net Assets Released from Restriction**: 11%
- **Investment & Other Income**: 25%

*This snapshot is derived from audited financial statements as of December 31, 2008*
Expenses For the Year Ending December 2008

Programs: Scholarships, International, and Public Service 85%
Management & General 5%
Fundraising 10%

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Becky Steiger, Santa Barbara County Legal Aid Foundation.

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*Becky Steiger, Santa Barbara County Legal Aid Foundation.

*Jennifer Hersh, Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio.
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Carol, a donor and volunteer faculty member.