SHARE
in NITA’S Legacy of Giving
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MISSION STATEMENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NITA is a dedicated team of practicing lawyers, professors, and judges who believe that skilled and ethical advocacy is a critical component of legal professionalism and all systems of dispute resolution that seek justice. NITA’s mission is to improve access, fairness, and credibility of adversarial justice systems through the training of effective, ethical, and efficient 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.

NITA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John Baker, President
Joseph R. Bankoff
Michael H. Ginsberg
Louise A. LaMothe
Leo M. Romero
Susan R. Steingass
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NITA FOUNDATION STAFF

Whitney Cortner, Development Director
After thirty years of teaching for NITA, in March of 2010 I was honored to be asked to serve as the President of the NITA Foundation as well as for NITA. Raising funds for NITA’s public service projects under the NITA mission came along with my new job. Donor support is vital for us to continue bolstering public service attorneys dedicated to advancing the cause of justice on behalf of the indigent, disenfranchised, disabled, and children.

Steadfast NITA loyalty has been appreciated in our continued efforts to support public service programs and need-based scholarships. Thanks to donor support from faculty members, authors, program participants, private firms and organizations as well as those who are advocates of justice, we continue to make an impact in the community both at home and abroad. While we are proud to have accomplished a great deal in 2010, there is still more work to be done.

For 39 years, NITA’s revered learning-by-doing teaching method has positively fostered stronger advocacy skills for all lawyers, public and private. Sharing in this commitment of working together for the greater good are over 800 volunteer NITA faculty who annually stand proudly behind more than 200 NITA programs, attended by 6,000 eager participants. Additionally, in 2010, the NITA Foundation awarded 104 scholarships made possible by over $150,000 in total scholarship funds for that year along with over $175,000 offered in special program discounts. Plus, donated faculty time for public programs totaled $3,260,200 in 2010.

In addition, NITA is at the forefront of an international reform movement promoting the rule of law and access to justice for persons denied this decent privilege. In fact, in 2010 the NITA Foundation and the NITA Board of Trustees established a new fund to specifically support rule of law programs, called the NITA International Rule of Law and Access to Justice Programs Fund. Over the years, NITA has trained attorneys in the United States to be effective and ethical advocates for their clients through public programs, custom programs, and public service programs. However, for almost 25 of those 39 years, NITA has also provided much of the same NITA learning-by-doing training for attorneys, barristers, solicitors, solicitor advocates, magistrates, and judges throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. This new giving opportunity provides assistance to advocates requesting financial international program support.

Capturing the essence of how donor dollars truly impact not only programs but also scholarship

Since 2003, the NITA Foundation has disbursed more than $2.1 million in scholarship assistance and public service program support.
recipients, in the summer of 2010, the NITA Foundation created a new donor video entitled, Share in the NITA Legacy of Giving. The 6 minute video was produced completely in-house and featured six legal services attorneys and six faculty members who attended the program, Public Service Attorney Trial Skills – Rocky Mountain region which was held July 26-30, 2010 in Colorado. The program consisted of 68 attendees and 33 NITA faculty and was led by Mark Caldwell, NITA Senior Director of Education & Specialty Programs. I invite you to watch the video on YouTube at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUl8Pl3C3gE.

Another highlight for the Foundation in 2010 was the creation of a new perpetual scholarship fund. Named in honor of Jim and Beverly Carrigan, this annual scholarship opportunity funds the tuition of a NITA participant to attend the National Session Trial Skills Program. Funds will be awarded to a recipient who meets the NITA Foundation’s economic means qualifications in the Denver or Boulder area, giving strong preference to a lawyer in public service such as a deputy district attorney or public defender. I applaud all the donors who stepped up to make this scholarship possible to share with future generations of NITA.

The NITA Foundation also joined forces with Community First Foundation and FirstBank so that on December 8, 2010 we could participate in Colorado Gives Day. The initiative was designed to increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving. Donations were accepted through http://www.giving-first.org/NITAFoundation with a goal of raising $1 million in one day for over 500 Colorado nonprofits! The 2010 results for Colorado Gives Day raised over $8 million. We look forward to participating even more robustly in 2011.

Since 2003, the NITA Foundation has disbursed more than $2.1 million in scholarship assistance and public service program support. In fact 100% of every dollar raised is restricted and all dollars go to fund scholarships and public service programs without any deduction for fundraising or administrative costs.

On behalf of the NITA Foundation and Board of Trustees, thank you for helping to honor NITA’s history and empowering its future. We owe our success to donors who believe in advancing advocacy and promoting justice.

Sincerely,

John T. Baker
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.

Belief – makes change happen
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. The thought was then, as it is now, that we would produce only the highest quality work rather 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 $3.3 million worth of in-kind services donated in 2010 by 820 faculty volunteers. Each year, NITA’s Publications Department 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. In early 2010, NITA Publications had approximately 500 copies of the (old) edition of Modern Trial Advocacy 3rd Ed (FBA0886) of which 200 copies were donated to Denver Public Schools for their mock trial programs. The other 300 copies were used as give-aways at NITA public service programs during 2010.

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 39 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.
Training – Empowers Advocates of Justice

OUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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.

The Foundation has 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, NITA offered a tuition free program in DC in October, 2010 for 39 fellows.

Because we are committed to ensuring justice for all, the Foundation awarded 103 scholarships in 2010 totaling $150,000. Since our inception in 2003, the Foundation is proud to have provided over $2.1 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.

“Public service as a prosecutor, a public defender, a legal aid lawyer, or a lawyer for a non-profit public interest agency, represents the highest calling in our profession. Lawyers in these roles truly provide a public service and often do it at a personal sacrifice. I’ve been in the courtroom where the attorney on the other side was either not prepared, not skilled and or not invested in his/her client’s cause. While my client might have reaped the short term benefit, I’m convinced that our system of justice works best when everyone who finds themselves before the bar of the court has a capable, professional advocate at their side”, said C. William (Bill) Ossmann, Chief Litigation Attorney, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) in Topeka, Kansas.
Jim Jeans Memorial Fund

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, a gift of $50,000 began a 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 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.

Jim and Beverly Carrigan Scholarship Fund

This annual scholarship opportunity funds the tuition of a NITA participant to attend the National Session Trial Skills Program. Funds will be awarded to a recipient who meets the NITA Foundation’s economic means qualifications in the Denver or Boulder area, giving strong preference to a lawyer in public service such as a deputy district attorney or public defender.
Strength – and Ability Speaks Volumes

Our Public Service Programs

The NITA Foundation supports a variety of public service and specialty 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.

Through donor generosity, NITA was able to offer the following public service programs:

- Rocky Mountain Child Advocacy Training Institute: Louisville, Colorado
- Training the Lawyer to Represent the Whole Child: Hempstead, New York
- Legal Services Trial Skills: Louisville, Colorado
- Equal Justice Works Program: Arlington, Virginia
- National Disability Rights Network - Expert Witness and Closing Arguments Program: Los Angeles, California
- Milwaukee Legal Aid Society
- Trial Skills for Juvenile & Family Courts – Houston, Texas
- Habeas Federal Post Conviction Skills – San Francisco, California
- Philadelphia District Attorney Office Teacher Training
- Children’s Legal Services – Miami, Florida
- Plus, additional public service and international programs

“When times are tough, it is important to come together and help each other. The increased life stressors that come with economic challenges mean your gifts to the NITA Foundation are even more important and can have life changing and cascading effects” - Julia Corty, Compliance Manager for the Tohono O’odham Gaming Office in southern Arizona and a NITA faculty member.
Additional programs that were hosted thanks to the support of 2010 contributions helped to serve advocates for the elderly, Native Americans, and juvenile defendants, as well as lawyers for Legal Services Corporation grantees.

“I think in these economic times there is a much greater need for legal services to those unable to afford them and the NITA Foundation, through scholarships and program support such as, the Legal Service Attorney Trial Skills Program, provides the means necessary to those representing the less fortunate in our courtrooms around the world to attend a NITA program. I believe it is important for those of us who are able to help to provide both our time and our money to assure that these services continue to be made available and that those providing these services are equipped with the skills necessary to do this valuable service,” said Charles Garcia, Attorney at Law in Denver, Colorado.
Inspiration – Bridges Hope for Justice

INTERNATIONAL

NITA’s reputation for excellence in advocacy training has spread throughout the world. The focus of the NITA International programming promotes the core principles of the Rule of Law embodied by an adversarial trial system of oral advocacy in courtrooms and tribunals.

In 2010 NITA and the NITA Foundation supported the “learning by doing” training of legal advocates from Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Mexico, Kenya, Botswana, Liberia, the Republic of South Africa, the Sudan, Kosovo, Japan, and other nations. Through our relationships with the U.S. Department of Justice, ABAROLI, USAID, Lawyers Without Borders, and other legal organizations, NITA continues to donate program design and materials for the programs. For these International Rule of Law programs NITA, also, supports the provision of trained NITA teaching faculty for the programs held in the United States and abroad. NITA faculty members continue to volunteer their time to teach in virtually all of these programs and some donate their own travel expenses.

The Black Lawyers Association-Legal Education Centre (BLA-LEC) sponsored a national trial advocacy program in Pretoria, South Africa in September 2010. The participants were from the private sector and government and came from South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. Nearly all of them had some level of experience in the court room. At the same time that this programme was being offered another programme was being delivered to the South African Revenue Services (SARS) attorneys. Both groups completed a week long training programme which concluded with a mock trial before judges of the Gauteng Province High Court. Five South African Advocates and Judges served as local faculty. Geraldine Sumter participated in the general programme. Another set of faculty, all from South Africa, conducted the SARS programme. The programme went well and participants gave high evaluations to the programme.

Before the programme started, Geraldine Sumter met with members of the BLA-LEC to organize and plan for a meeting of law school deans and distinguished members of the bar to address the need for trial advocacy classes in the law schools. A meeting was held on September 24, 2010 which included mem-
bers of the judiciary, faculty members from two of the Schools of Law, members from the Department of Justice and the BLA. All present agreed that there was great benefit to be had from including trial advocacy in the schools of law. It was decided that the issue would be presented at the conference of the Deans of the Schools of Law October 2010. Two Schools of Law were going to try to do pilot programmes at their schools beginning in January 2011. We shared model syllabi with them from Jonathan Brown, Barbara Berger and Leo Romero which they found helpful. We learned that the deans have declined at this time, due to announced funding cuts to implement the trial advocacy programmes. They have not said that they will not revisit the issue.

In addition, NITA is at the forefront of an international reform movement promoting the rule of law and access to justice for persons denied this decent privilege. In 2010 the NITA Foundation and the NITA Board of Trustees established a new fund to specifically support rule of law programs, called the NITA International Rule of Law and Access to Justice Programs Fund. Over the years, NITA has trained attorneys in the United States to be effective and ethical advocates for their clients through public programs, custom programs, and public service programs. However, for almost 25 of those 39 years, NITA has also provided much of the same NITA learning-by-doing training for attorneys, barristers, solicitors, solicitor advocates, magistrates, and judges throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. This new giving opportunity provides assistance to advocates requesting financial international program support.

Since NITA’s inception in 1971, we have 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.

Listed below are the 2010 international NITA programs and presentations that demonstrate our global commitment to ethical and just rule of law.

**Europe**
- Trial Advocacy Skills: Belfast, Northern Ireland and Dublin, Ireland
- Advanced Advocacy and Trial Skills Program: Edinburgh, Scotland

**Africa**
- Trial Advocacy Skills: Johannesburg, South Africa*

**Asia**
- Online Teaching Presentation by Japanese professors: Louisville, Colorado
- Presentation on Jury Trials: Tokyo, Japan
- Direct and Cross Examination Programs: Teacher Training Programs: Japan
- CLE presentation: Japan
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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 program 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 2010, we offered one Trial Advocacy Program and trained 103 advocates assisting victims of domestic violence, in three programs to include: Basic Trial Skills in January 2010; Basic Trial Skills with an emphasis on Immigration Law in April 2010; and Basic Trial Skills in December 2010. These programs were funded by a grant from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

Our program 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.
Support – Gives a Voice to the Underserved

2010 INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

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) 953-6845. To learn more about joining our family of donors and sponsors, please call the Foundation office or visit us online at www.nitafoundation.org.

“I’ve just been thinking all week while attending the 2010 Public Service Attorney Trial Skills Program, how lucky I am to be here. This experience will be with me for the rest of my practice,”
The NITA Foundation worked through iGive.com in 2010 so that people could help raise money for the Foundation by registering with www.iGive.com/NITA and shopping online. Each time a purchase was made at one of the 900-plus merchants connected with iGive.com, a percentage of the amount purchased was donated to NITA. Money was also raised using www.iSearchiGive.com, a Yahoo!-powered search engine where each qualified search earns a penny (or more!) for the NITA Foundation.

GIVINGFIRST.ORG

For the first time, the NITA Foundation joined forces with Community First Foundation and FirstBank so that on December 8, 2010 we could participate in Colorado Gives Day. The initiative was designed to increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving. Donations were accepted through http://www.givingfirst.org/NITAFoundation with a goal of raising $1 million in one day for over 500 Colorado nonprofits. The 2010 results for Colorado Gives Day raised over $8 million.
“The legal system only works if it is fair to everyone and if everyone that is touched by the system has access to lawyers with the highest level of skills. That’s what NITA can provide by providing training for lawyers,” said The Honorable Robert McGahey, Denver, Colorado

FOUNDATION, CORPORATE, AND GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTORS

American Board of Trial Advocates – Indiana Chapter
August A. Rendigs, Jr. Foundation
Bachus & Schanker Cares Foundation
Community First Foundation
The Corboy Foundation
Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto
iGive.com
International Society of Barristers Foundation & Board
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Foundation
The Krupka Foundation
Lenczner Slaght

Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice
The Portia Group Ltd.
The Rose Foundation
Richard and Monica Schoenberger
Siegel, Reilly, & Conlon LLP
Sporer Mah & Company
Thiros & Stracci
Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
William Goldman Foundation
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale LLP
NI TA ADVOCATES SOCIETY

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 National 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.

We have an ethical and moral obligation to do the best work possible and provide the best service possible and you can only do that with support, education, and training,” said Stephanie Ledesma, Attorney, Round Rock, Texas.

Lifetime Members - President’s Club ($25,000+)
Anonymous
Baker & McKenzie LLP
Mark S. Caldwell
Cohen Kennedy Dowd & Quigley, P.C.
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Jenner and Block LLP
International Society of Barristers
Persuasion Strategies, Inc.
Laurence and Amy Rose
Vinson & Elkins, LLP
Paul and Marlene Zwier

Legacy Circle ($10,000+)
Joseph Bankoff
Patricia Bobb
Tony and Lynn Bocchino
Ronald Cohen
Michael Kelly
Susan R. Steingass

Fellow Members ($1,000+)
Douglas L. Irish
Kosovo Judicial Institute

Due to space limitations, we can only acknowledge NAS memberships of $1,000 and above in this annual report.
Since the NITA Foundations inception, $2,280,657 has been spent for scholarships for NITA programs, primarily funded through generous donations of $1,996,899.
In 2010, donations of $150,730 funded $153,879 in expenditures for scholarships to NITA programs. The NITA Foundation also funded $11,663 in costs for the NITA International Rule of Law and Access to Justice Programs.

A copy of the NITA Foundation’s complete Audited Statements and Supplemental Schedules, along with the Independent Auditor’s Report for 2010, is available by calling (303) 953-6845 or by e-mail at development@nita.org. You may also request a copy of our IRS Form 990.

In 2010, donations of $150,730 helped fund $153,879 in expenditures for Scholarships to NITA programs. In addition, the Foundation supported $11,663 in costs for the NITA International Rule of Law and Access to Justice Programs and funding of costs to host a Legal Services Program. “Salary & Other Expenses” primarily includes senior executive compensation. This snapshot is derived from audited financial statements as of December 31, 2010. As of July 1, 2010 only Foundation management compensation and other direct Foundation costs were paid from Foundation funds. The Foundation will continue its practice to allocate 100% of donations to direct Scholarship and Program costs.
How Your Gift Makes a Difference

“The program opportunity at NITA gave me a really clear picture because I got to watch myself on video and just how short of the bar I fall that I aspire to achieve as a trial practitioner. I can’t help but have a commitment now to change my own skills so that the picture of myself in my head conforms with reality,” said Ben Carter, attorney, Louisville, Kentucky, attended Public Service Attorney Trial Skills program in summer 2010.

“The scholarship means a lot to me because as someone who went solo immediately after law school, I needed help with my trial advocacy skills to properly represent my clients (and ease my nerves),” said Marie Fahnert, Attorney at Law, Fahnert LLC in Chicago, Illinois, attended the NITA Building Trial Skills program in 2010.

“I learned a great deal about how to project myself in court and how I appear in court and I am grateful for the experience,” said Merryn Gluys, Family Law Staff Attorney, Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, Indianapolis, Indiana, attended the Building Trial Skills-Mid Central NITA program in 2010.

“For the sources of funding for the Public Service Attorney Trial Skills program in July 2010, I don’t know that you can fully appreciate the value that you’re getting unless you have to opportunity to talk to some of these young attorneys as they see themselves standing with greater confidence and a sense of assuredness, even after the first day of training. Unless you can feel their enthusiasm and excitement, I don’t know that you can know just how much your contribution meant,” said Cheryl Wattley, Director of Clinical Education, University of Oklahoma College of Law.

“As a solo practitioner with a great deal of my law practice dedicated to assisting pro bono or low bono clients, I may not been able to attend the program without this scholarship,” said Janelle Ryan-Colbert, Esquire, Colbert Law Firm, Hyattsville, Maryland, attended the Effective Trial Advocacy Program in 2010.
Belief
Training
Strength
Inspiration
Support

Thank YOU for being a part of the NITA legacy of giving.