

A Message from the Section Chair



I'm privileged to be the Chair of the Young Lawyer's Section for 2016-2017 and look forward to carrying on the traditions and quality leadership that has been demonstrated by our past chairs. I can't believe we are already about halfway through my term as chair.

Even though summer is traditionally a slower time for bar associations, YLS accomplished a lot this summer. We started with our annual Supreme Court Admission Program in June where 50 admittees and their guests were once again honored when Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg met the group in acknowledgment of her New York roots. We most recently held our Fall Meeting in Albany. John Christopher deserves a big hand for chairing such an ambitious program that included a tour of the Court of Appeals, a networking dinner and an impressive CLE program. Great district events were also run in Albany and Long Island.

Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting program on January 25-27, 2017. On Wednesday, January 25, we have our half-day program chaired by Norina Melita and co-sponsored by the Committee on Leadership Development. This looks to be a great program covering everything a young lawyer should know about the CPLR, Ethics and using bar association work to build your resume and enhance your career. Following the half-day program will be the presentation of the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award and Law Student Awards.

Christina Canto and Clotelle Drakeford are chairing our two-day Bridging the Gap program on January 26 and 27. They have put together extraordinary line up of speakers who will provide attendees with all the CLE credits needed for the year in two days. For the first time

we will include a networking event for all young lawyers on Thursday evening.

Our Section liaisons are hard at work making sure that young lawyers are represented in the programming the Sections put on and our district reps have been hard at work putting together networking opportunities in their judicial districts. Look for upcoming events—especially holiday parties.

Our biggest success so far this year has been filling out committee rosters with active and engaged members who have gotten to work quickly. Joining a committee can be a great way to get involved with the Young Lawyers Section in a specific limited scope projects or events that you are passionate about.

The Pro Bono and Community Service Committee, under the direction of Kara Buonanno, is planning to run community service projects in various areas of the state and looking into ways young lawyers can get involved in pro bono work. Eric Garcia has stepped up to chair our Committee on Diversity, which is fast at work planning events and programs. Jennifer Aronson and Tara Zurheide are co-chairing our Communications Committee that is always looking for new authors for our three publications and our social media. Jessica Gelsomino and Jessy Albaz are chairing our Law Student Development Committee and have been very busy visiting law schools to fill the committee roster. Anne Dello-Iacono and Kristin Gallagher are chairing our Membership Committee.

I look forward to celebrating all the work that our committees, section liaisons, and district representatives have done in the spring. Please let me know if you would like to get more involved with the Section.

Erin Kathleen Flynn

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