

2023-2024 FCBA Foundation Annual Report

This Annual Report summarizes the activities of the Federal Communications Bar Association (FCBA) Foundation during the recently completed 2023-2024 fiscal year.

OVERVIEW

The FCBA Foundation, celebrating 33 years, is a charitable organization working in furtherance of the goals set out in its Mission Statement:

1. To support worthwhile communications-related and educational projects and other community service projects, particularly those directed towards children and students, through financial contributions and volunteer services provided by Foundation members and others.
2. To foster greater public awareness and understanding of the development of communications technology, resources, and law.

This year, the Foundation continued its longstanding support of the following programs:

- Granting four-year college scholarships to Washington, DC high school students.
- Granting one-year scholarships to current law school students who demonstrate an interest in communications law, technology, and public service;
- Granting summer work stipends to law school students serving as interns in communications-related public service jobs.

The Foundation's success is a direct result of the generous financial support of individual FCBA members and their employers, the Foundation Board of

Trustees' time and dedication, the FCBA staff's commitment and contributions, as well as the time, talents, and energy that FCBA members bring to the Foundation's activities.

GOVERNANCE

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees, comprised of individuals elected by the FCBA membership to three-year terms.

This year's Trustees were: **Avonne Bell (Co-Chair)**, **Karen Sprung (Co-Chair)**, **Rachel Wolkowitz (Treasurer)**, **Danielle Thumann (Deputy Treasurer)**, **Van Bloys (Secretary)**, **Angela Ball**, **Kayla Gardner**, **David Grossman**, **Angela Kung**, **Dr. Nicol Turner Lee**, and **Brenda Villanueva**. **Barry Ohlson** served as the FCBA Executive Committee's liaison to the Foundation Board of Trustees.

As of June 30, 2024, four Trustees completed their three-year terms on the Foundation Board: **Avonne Bell**, **Rizwan Chowdhry**, **Brenda Villanueva**, and **Rachel Wolkowitz**. Four new members have been elected to serve three-year terms as Trustees, effective July 1, 2024: **Jacqueline Clary**, **Angela M. DeMahy**, **Crystal Evans**, and **Kristine Hackman**.

Many of the Foundation's activities, including the scholarship and internships programs, community service activities, and critical fundraising events, were jointly led by Trustees and member volunteers. The Board of Trustees is grateful for the broad participation of FCBA members in Foundation programs, and especially for the leadership roles assumed by members beyond the elected board. That extra measure of time and dedication was essential to the success of our programs.

The FCBA's Executive Director **Kerry Loughney**, Senior Manager of Programs **Janeen Wynn**, Bookkeeper **Wendy Parish**, and Member Services Administrator **Elina Gross** also provided invaluable support to the Foundation.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Under the leadership of the Foundation's college scholarship committee, **Van Bloys**, **Rizwan Chowdhry**, **Dr. Nicol Turner Lee**, and **Karen Sprung**, the Foundation reviewed applications from high school students of diverse backgrounds with an interest in communications-related fields, including media, journalism, technology, engineering, or law. Our scholarship recipients this year came from 16 local public high schools: Ballou, Basis DC, Bell Multicultural, Benjamin Banneker, Capital City, Cardozo Education Campus, Cesar Chavez, Duke Ellington, E.L. Haynes, Eastern, H.D. Woodson, IDEA, Jackson-Reed, McKinley Technology, School Without Walls, and Washington Latin. All 26 of the recipients will be provided with new laptop computers.

The Foundation thanks **Comcast NBCUniversal** for sponsoring the production of the video, and a special thank you to **Crown Castle** for hosting and sponsoring the College Scholarship Program interviews this year!

Special thanks go to the following companies, law firms, and associations for endowing individual, named scholarships to high school students: **AT&T** (\$15,000); **Comcast NBCUniversal** (\$15,000); **Consumer Technology Association (CTA) ®** (\$10,000); **Cox Enterprises** (\$10,000); **CTIA** (\$10,000); **DLA Piper LLP** (\$10,000); **Fox Corporation** (\$20,000); **Google** (\$10,000); **Karen Kincaid Fund sponsored by Wiley Rein and Karen's Friends** (\$10,000); **Mark Van Bergh Fund sponsored by Mark's Family and Friends** (\$20,000); **National Association of Broadcasters** (\$10,000); **NCTA – The Internet & Television Association** (\$10,000); **netnumber** (\$10,000); **Qualcomm Incorporated** (\$10,000); **Sinclair Inc.** (\$10,000); **The Entertainment Software Association** (\$10,000); **T-Mobile US, Inc.** (\$15,000); **USTelecom – The Broadband Association** (\$10,000); **Verizon** (\$15,000); **Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP** (\$10,000); and **Young Lawyers and Charity Auction** (\$30,000).

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Funding for college scholarships that was not provided by the above donors was provided from the Foundation's general funds, which reflects generous individual contributions from FCBA members and their employers.

INTERNSHIP STIPEND PROGRAM

Under the leadership of the Foundation's internship committee, **Kayla Gardner, David Grossman, Brenda Villanueva,** and **Rachel Wolkowitz**, the Foundation reviewed applications from students at law schools across the country. The Foundation awarded stipends ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to 12 students who have accepted public service positions for the summer.

LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Foundation's law school scholarship committee, **Angela Ball, Avonne Bell, Angela Kung,** and **Danielle Thumann**, led the efforts to review applications from current students at law schools across the country who demonstrated merit and need, as well as an interest in communications law and technology and public service. We received applications from students at schools across the country and awarded a total of \$20,000 in scholarships to six law school students.

The Foundation also thanks the following volunteers for their time and talent, serving as liaisons to participating public high schools, reviewing college and law school scholarship applications, and interviewing high school students: **Melissa Alba, Dennis Amari, John Ayers, Leslie Barnes, John Bat, Kim Bayliss, Logan Bennett, Ann Bobeck, Karina Bohorquez, Xelef Botan, Jeff Carlisle, Megan Chavez, Stephen Conley, Tara Corvo, Michael Endrias, Connor Ferraro, Conor Flahive, Lisa Fowlkes, Chris Frascella, Jon Garvin, B'anca Glenn, Kara Graves, Anisa Green, Kevin Green, Peter Gregory, Erin Griffith, Kathleen Ham, Julian**

Harrison, John Hunter, Brian Indovina, Christopher Koves, Angie Kronenberg, Edlira Kuka, Serena Lau, Heidi Lankau, Jeffrey Lewis, Matt McCormick, Jaime McCoy, Patrick McFadden, Kasey McGee, Stephanie Minnock, Lynne Montgomery, Jake Nash, Conor O'Donovan, Nicholas Page, Anthony Patrone, Lee Petro, Laura Phillips, Joy Ragsdale, Tamber Ray, Marina Sansom, Michelle Schaefer, Morgan Schick, Madeline Sorg, Laura Stefani, Graham Stevenson, Nitin Tangellamudi, Johanna Thomas, Hannah Wigger, Erin Williams, and Stacey Zumo.

2023 FCBA FOUNDATION CHARITY AUCTION

The FCBA Foundation Charity Auction is the largest single event under the auspices of the Foundation, and the most administratively intense. The sheer number of volunteers committed annually to the charity auction is a testament to the volunteer spirit of the FCBA. Moreover, it is a reflection of the generosity of our members, who attend year after year to help support the Charity Auction's beneficiaries. This year's auction was held on October 26, 2023. Co-sponsored by the Foundation and the **FCBA Charity Auction Committee**, the auction raised over \$78,000 for the beneficiaries – **Generation Hope** and the **FCBA Foundation**.

Generation Hope plans to use this year's proceeds to continue providing direct support to teen parents in college through its holistic two-generational programming that ensures everyone has the opportunity to succeed and achieve economic mobility, no matter the circumstance. To date, Generation Hope has supported over 450 teen parents in college, provided more than \$1 million in tuition support, celebrated over 170 college degrees, and touched the lives of nearly 100,000 student parents through their partnerships with higher education institutions. In addition to the success of the auction, we would also like to extend our congratulations to Generation Hope's Founder and CEO, Nicole Lynn Lewis, who was just named a 2023 Washingtonian of the Year!

The FCBA Foundation used proceeds from the Charity Auction to support its annual college scholarship program. The FCBA Foundation applied \$30,000 of this year's Charity Auction funds to a college scholarship named for The Young Lawyers Committee and Charity Auction.

Thanks to the Charity Auction planning committee's members including **Logan Bennett, Tyra Carroll, Noah Cherry, Christine Crowe, B'anca Glenn, Anisa Green, Slate Herman, Warren Kessler, Madi Lottenbach, Jaime McCoy, Justin McCuen, Kimia Nikseresht, Kiara Ortiz, Anthony Patrone, Sherry Ross, Morgan Schick, Chresanthe Staurulakis, Svantje Swider,** and **Cassie Vangellow.**

The Foundation thanks the following generous sponsors of the 2023 Charity Auction: **platinum sponsors Covington & Burling LLP; Crown Castle; HWG LLP; Wiley; Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP gold sponsors: AT&T Services, Inc.; Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP; Cooley LLP; Davis Wright Tremaine LLP; Hogan Lovells; Mintz; Paul Hastings LLP; Somos, Inc.; T-Mobile; Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP and silver sponsors: Cox Enterprises; CTIA; Goldberg Godles Wiener & Wright; Intrado Life & Safety; NCTA–The Internet & Television Association; NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association; USTelecom–The Broadband Association; Verizon; and Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA).**

FUNDRAISING

The Foundation could not provide its services without the annual financial support of FCBA members and the organizations where they work. This year, the Foundation secured significant support for its programs and improved its financial footing in several respects.

Thanks to many individual contributions, the Foundation exceeded the budget goals set by the Board. As a result, the Foundation was able to give a total scholarship and internship awards of

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almost \$340,000. The donors for this fiscal year are listed at the end of this report.

CONCLUSION – A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

We just wrapped another successful year for the FCBA Foundation programs with a substantial amount of funding in the form of scholarships and stipends to be awarded to talented, promising students to help advance their college and law school journeys. We want to convey our sincere appreciation to the many people that continue to donate time and energy to make sure the Foundation is able to achieve its vital mission, this, and every year. First, the contributions of the FCBA membership and our donors, particularly our corporate donors, whose generosity of time and resources are critical to sustaining the Foundation and make it possible to provide the scholarship awards. Next, we are extremely grateful to the FCBA's remarkable team – Kerry Loughney, Janeen Wynn, Wendy Parish, and Elina Gross. The Foundation simply could not run without the staff's support and hard work. Their continued attention to detail and commitment to the mission is invaluable. They go above and beyond, and words cannot fully express our appreciation.

Of course, we must extend acknowledgement and gratitude to this year's Board of Trustees for their commitment and hard work to ensuring the programs of the Foundation were executed effectively and efficiently. The Foundation has an ambitious agenda each year, which we could not accomplish

without an engaged and devoted Board comprised of individuals willing to volunteer their time and talents, over and above the demands of their day jobs and other personal commitments.

As we close our elections and welcome four new trustees to the Foundation board, we want to recognize those who are coming to the end of their three-year term. The four Trustees moving on from the trustee board this year are: Avonne Bell, Rizwan Chowdhry, Brenda Villanueva, and Rachel Wolkowitz. Each of these Trustees has played an instrumental role in running the College Scholarship, Law School Scholarship, and Law School Stipend/Internship programs over the last three years. We thank them for their leadership and dedication during their years on the Board.

While one of the dedicated Co-Chairs will be rotating off the Board, Co-Chair Karen Sprung and Van Bloys, serving as a Co-Chair beginning in the 2024-2025 term, along with Trustees, Angela Ball, Kayla Gardner, David Grossman, Angela Kung, Danielle Thumann, and Dr. Nicol Turner Lee, look forward continuing their work on the Foundation this coming year. We look forward to welcoming the newly elected members from among an exceptional set of candidates. Thanks to all the FCBA members who ran for election to the Board—we deeply appreciate your desire to be involved and it is a testament to the generosity of the FCBA community that we have an abundance of individuals that seek to join the Board each year.

Thanks, too, to former FCBA President Barry Ohlson for his insights and contributions as the ex-officio liaison between the Executive Committee and Foundation

this year. This year's FCBA President Diane Holland continued to emphasize the collaboration between the Foundation and the FCBA and FCBA initiatives like the Diversity Pipeline Program, which is a program with interests and goals that align with those of the Foundation. The Board looks forward to Diane's participation as an ex-officio member of the Foundation over the coming year.

We reiterate our sincere thanks to the FCBA membership for your continued support. Remember, as a member of the FCBA, you are also a member of the FCBA Foundation. As Co-Chairs, we've had a unique perspective on how many volunteers it takes to help the Foundation reach its ambitious goals and it is impressive every time how many people raise their hands without reservation to review scholarship applications or to interview applicants, as well as how many are willing to help persuade an employer to support a named scholarship or to make generous monetary contributions themselves. This year was no exception and really served to underscore not only what an incredibly special bar we have, but also how, together, we will ensure that the FCBA continues to positively impact our community. We continue to demonstrate why the DC Bar awarded the FCBA the distinction of 2023 Voluntary Bar of the Year. FCBA members step up and provide support whenever needed and we, on behalf of the Foundation and program awardees, celebrate and thank you for it.

Avonne Bell and Karen Sprung
Co-Chairs, 2023-2024

Honorary Degrees (Organizations)

Inspired by the Foundation's mission to support educational and professional pursuits, organizations and their collaborative individuals' donations, this year so far, have been recognized with the following honorary degrees:

DEGREES ALL THEIR OWN

(\$10,000 and above)

AT&T
Comcast NBCUniversal
Consumer Technology Association (CTA)[®]
Cox Enterprises
CTIA
DLA Piper LLP
Fox Corporation
Google
Karen Kincaid: Sponsored by Wiley Rein and Karen's Friends
Mark Van Bergh: Sponsored by Mark's Family and Friends

National Association of Broadcasters
NCTA – The Internet & Television Association
netnumber
Qualcomm Incorporated
Sinclair Inc.
The Entertainment Software Association
T-Mobile US, Inc.
USTelecom – The Broadband Association
Verizon
Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP
Young Lawyers and Charity Auction

MASTERS OF MEDIA

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Cox Enterprises and Cox Law & Policy Department in memory of June Ohlson, mother of Past President Barry Ohlson
Davis Wright Tremaine
Mintz
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

BACHELORS OF BROADBAND

(\$2,000 - \$4,999)

Crown Castle Inc.
DISH Network
Jenner & Block LLP

Gems (Individuals)

Individual donations this year that will be going to support the Foundation's public service programs have been recognized at the following "birth stone" levels:

DIAMOND

(\$1,000 and above)

Mary Brannock
Christine Crowe
Seth Davidson
Scott Delacourt
Diana Dillon
Margaret Flinner
Wayne Johnsen
Kathleen Kirby
Elinor Kopmar
Adam Krinsky
Angela Kronenberg
Barry Matto
Barry Ohlson
Roger Sherman
James Van Bergh
Ryan Wallach

EMERALD

(\$500 - \$999)

Angela Ball
Kathleen Collins
Timothy Cooney
Kurt DeSoto
Anna Gomez
Hilary Hoyle
Patrick McFadden
Ari Meltzer
David O'Connor
Davina Sashkin
Dana Shaffer
Rachel Wolkowitz

PEARL

(\$250 - \$499)

Dennis Amari
Henry Gola
Erin Griffith
L. Charles Keller
Nancy Liebermann
Phillip Marchesiello
David Oxenford
Richard Zaragoza

RUBY

(\$100 - \$249)

Jonathan Bair
Utpal Kumar Bhattacharya
James Blitz
Van Bloys
Sally Buckman
Megan Chavez

Kathleen Collins

Paige Fronabarger
David Furth
J.G. Harrington
Jeffrey Jacobs
Rona Kohen
Kara Romagnino Graves
M. Anne Swanson
Scott Tollefsen

SAPPHIRE

(\$99 and below)

Maury Mechanick
Shakira Ramirez
Haran Rashes
Jeffrey Steinberg
Josh Waldman
K. Michele Walters