



# Houston Young Lawyers Association

Comprehensive  
2015-2016

## HYLA's Mission: *Learn. Lead. Network. Serve.*

**HYLA Membership Increases 169% to 1,549 Members, including 1,000 Regular Members**

The Houston Young Lawyers Association's membership increased 169% in the 2015-2016 bar year from 914 members to 1,549 members (as of March 31, 2016). We reached our goal of 1,500 members, including over 1,000 Regular Members. This year HYLA's total membership is 1,549, including 1,117 Regular; 387 Associate; 13 Sustaining, and 3 Vendor Members. 1,549 members represents 23.5% membership of the ~6,600 TYLA eligible attorneys in the Harris County area. Last year HYLA's total membership was 914 members, including: 649 Regular; 265 Associate; 2 Sustaining; and 6 Vendor Members.

### Continuing the Momentum

Interest continues to grow with more organizations seeking to partner with HYLA, attendance at events continues to rise, and the organization saw contested elections for the first time in two years.

Let's get social: the HYLA Facebook page increased from ~1,200 followers to over 2,180 followers in the 2015-2016 bar year.

HYLA hired a professional photographer for the majority of its events and contacted local media outlets for bigger events, analyzed analytics from our newsletters and posts, and stepped up the design efforts for invitations and event recaps.



### HYLA Hires New Executive Director on May 1st & Focuses on Building a Strong Foundation.

One month before the 2015-2016 bar year began, HYLA hired a new executive director, Lucy Cain, with 31 years of experience with the big bar (Houston Bar Association). This year we focused on building a strong foundation to ensure the continued success and continuity of HYLA and our sister organization and charitable arm, the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation ("HYLF").



### President's Focus: Brittany Ringel (2015-2016)

#### HYLA Developed Membership Strategy & Reached Membership Goal of 1,500 Members

**Despite the downturn in the oil prices, HYLA was still able to increase membership 169% from 914 members to 1,549 members.** The priority this year was focusing on increasing membership and developing and executing a membership strategy. In addition to mailing a Renewal Notice post card in May, HYLA sent a membership email via the SBOT in on October 27, 2015 (after learning about this benefit at the Bar Leaders Conference) to the approximate 6,600 TYLA eligible attorneys in Houston, mailed a Dues Statement on November 19<sup>th</sup>, and the HYLA Board Members participated in a Membership Drive whereby each Board Member contacted 30 individuals who were members the previous bar year to encourage their renewal.



#### Fiscally Responsible & Balanced Schedule

**In the 2015-2016 bar year, HYLA's revenue increased \$93,213 from \$115,799 to \$209,012. For membership dues alone, HYLA's revenue increased \$42,180 from \$55,952 to \$98,132.** Note – figures as of April 19, 2016 and do not reflect the full bar year (June 1-May 31<sup>st</sup>).

While still sticking to the quality over quantity theme, this year we charged an entrance fee (with reduced rates for members) for our bigger events and offered a balanced schedule of the types of events we offered. In addition, we focused on adding a service or charitable aspect to our general networking events by seeking donations of stuffed animals or winter clothing items and/or donating a portion of the ticket prices to our Generation Generosity community service efforts.

## President's Focus Continued:

### HYLA Redesigns & Launches Website

After many years of discussion, HYLA hired a professional website developer to completely overhaul and launch our website. We focused on making the website mobile-friendly and adding a simple calendar that would be easy to manage, keep current, and promote membership.

### Video History Update Made Possible by \$10,000 Grant from the Texas Bar Foundation

HYLA is honored to receive a \$10,000 grant from the Texas Bar Foundation to update our video history from 1998-2016. HYLA's previous video history, narrated by Governor Greg Abbott, detailed the history of the organization and Houston legal community from 1937-1997. HYLA was founded in 1937 and has a rich history of strong leadership and community service. Thanks to the \$10,000 grant from the Texas Bar Foundation, by October 16, 2016, the History Committee will work on updating HYLA's video history from 1998-2016 and the booklet history from 1998-2016. We plan to premiere the video at one of the fall 2016 events and invite all past presidents to attend.

### Servant Leadership: Empower More People to Increase Impact

We incorporated the lesson of Servant Leadership from the Bar Leaders Conference and empowered more committee chairs and members beyond the current board members so that we could broaden our impact.

Join or Renew Your HYLA  
Membership For the New Bar Year



### Generation Generosity Committee: Community Service Efforts & Partnerships

HYLA is committed to giving back. This year HYLA instituted the Generation Generosity Committee with the goal to transform our city by partnering with other non-profit organizations to provide much-needed services and donations to the Houston community.





# New Projects & Collaborations

Some of the greatest attributes of HYL A include the willingness to try new programs, the lack of fear of failure, patience with its programming and giving ideas time and room to flourish, and the ability to move quickly and implement new programs and partner with other organizations based on the needs of the organization and community. Below are a few examples of the new and/or reinstituted programming this bar year:

## Managing Partner Outreach: Holiday Card Mail Out & Managing Partner Breakfast

HYLA mailed holiday cards to the 384 managing partners at law firms across Houston.



Then we collected the email addresses for the 384 Houston Managing Partners and invited them to a Managing Partners' Breakfast on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Ouisie's Table to thank them for their support, share the benefits of HYL A membership, and seek input on what we could do better to serve their associates and the community.



## HYLA Elections are Contested for the First Time in Two Years & Organization Transitions to Online Voting

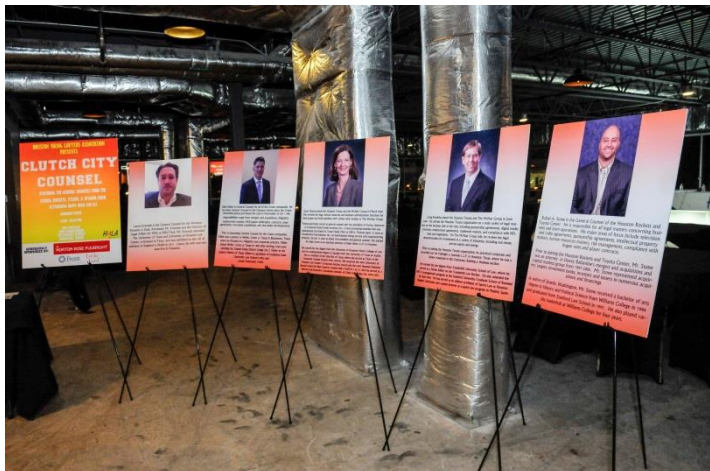
HYLA elections are contested for the first time in two years and we transitioned to electronic voting for the first time. In addition, the HYL A Executive Committee developed election and campaign guidelines modeled after the TYLA election guidelines.





## Clutch City Counsel

On January 28<sup>th</sup> at Mr. Peeples, HYLA hosted “Clutch City Counsel” featuring the General Counsels of all the Houston professional sports teams: the Astros, Rockets, Texans, and Dynamo/Dash. It was impressive to see this group together on stage to hear how each achieved a career in law and sports and what their biggest challenges are as general counsels of Houston's professional sports teams. The Clutch City Counsel speakers included: Astros' General Counsel, Giles Kibbe; Rockets' General Counsel, Rafael Stone; Texans' General Counsel, Suzie Thomas; Texans' Associate General Counsel, Greg Kondritz; and Dynamo/Dash General Counsel, Lance Eversole. At Clutch City Counsel, the Generation Generosity Committee collected donations of coats and winter clothing items to donate to the Beacon, a non-profit organization focused on serving the poor and homeless in Houston and Harris County.



HOUSTON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS

# CLUTCH CITY COUNSEL

FEATURING THE GENERAL COUNSELS FROM THE  
ASTROS, ROCKETS, TEXANS, & DYNAMO/DASH  
NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR AND CLE

JANUARY 28TH  
6:30 - 8:30 PM

MR. PEEPLES  
3RD FLOOR ROOM  
1911 BAGBY STREET  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

**HYLA**

GENEROUSLY  
SPONSORED BY:

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT



## Wellness Committee

HYLA formed the Wellness Committee to host a variety of events throughout the year to encourage HYLAs Members and their family and friends to be healthy, balanced, and try new activities. This year the Wellness Committee hosted a sand volleyball family fun day on a Saturday at Wakefield Crowbar, two private spin classes, and two professional makeup lessons and networking nights out, partnering with local businesses for each event. Each of these events was very well-attended by HYLAs members and their families and friends.



## Law School Games

HYLA hosted its first Law School Games at Wakefield Crowbar Volleyball Bar on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. All law students from Thurgood Marshall, University of Houston, and South Texas College of Law were invited to attend. The Houston-area law schools competed in a sand volleyball tournament. This was a great opportunity for students from all schools to get to know each other.



## Mentoring Breakfasts at Breakfast Klub

HYLA hosted its first mentoring breakfast at the Breakfast Klub on April 5<sup>th</sup> and will continue to host the mentoring breakfasts once a month. This is an informal way for HYLAs members to meet one another and build their network as an alternative or addition to our monthly happy hours/after-work events.





## Officers



**Brittany Ringel**

President

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**Arthur L. Bryan, II**

President-Elect

[Email Arthur](#) [more](#)



**Kristy Gabrielova**

Secretary

[more](#)



**Meghan Dawson McElvy**

Treasurer



**Jessica E. Hart**

Immediate Past President



**Andrew Bivona**

Director by Appointment

[Email Drew](#) [more](#)



**Lauren Brogdon**

Director, Position 4

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**David Canales**

Director, Position 5

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**George Edwards, III**

Director, Position 6



**John Furlow**

Director, Position 1



**Joseph W. Hance, III**

Director, Position 7



**Paul LeBlanc, Jr.**  
Director by appointment  
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**Darren Lindamood**  
Director, Position 3  
[Email Darren](#) [more](#)



**James Lloyd**  
Director, Position 8  
[Email James](#) [more](#)



**Veronica Montemayor**  
Director, Position 2  
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**Morgan Haenchen**  
Law Student Director (South Texas College of Law)



**Dominique Calhoun**  
Law Student Director (Thurgood Marshall School of Law)



**Leah Buenik**  
Law Student Director (University of Houston Law Center)



**Justice Brett Busby**  
HYLA Judicial Liaison



**Lucy Fisher Cain**  
Executive Director





## HYLA Board, Houston Young Lawyers Foundation, Past Presidents, & Committee Chair Involvement



### HYLA Board

The HYLA Board kicked off the year with a Saturday working retreat on June 13<sup>th</sup> followed by a fun dinner with significant others. Our goal was to quickly assimilate new board members and get them up to speed on expectations for board involvement. In addition, all board members were encouraged to attend the Bar Leaders Conference in Houston on July 24-25<sup>th</sup> to learn from other bar associations as well as the Best Boards Conference at Rice University on March 10<sup>th</sup>. The goal is to make each of our board members better leaders and advocates no matter which organization and community they are serving. Throughout the year, board members are asked to invite their firms and/or companies to sign up 100% of their eligible attorneys for membership, seek sponsorship for Evening with the Judiciary in October, and to purchase a table to the Law Day Luncheon in May. This year, the HYLA Board committed to personal outreach and each board member contacted 30 individuals who were members during the previous bar year and encouraged them to renew and shared information on upcoming events. We celebrated the board members' dedication with a small happy hour with our significant others on March 29<sup>th</sup> at Wooster's Garden.



## HYLA Past Presidents' Breakfast at Ouisie's Table

On March 29<sup>th</sup>, HYLA was honored to host its annual Past Presidents' Breakfast at Ouisie's Table. The Past Presidents' Breakfast is an incredible opportunity to get to know the past leaders and the history of the organization. Each past president shares an important project or challenge they faced during their tenure and gives advice to the incoming president. It is inspiring and heartwarming to see how excited everyone is to see each other and hear stories about how close they remained throughout their careers after working together on the HYLA Board.







### Collaboration with Houston Young Lawyers Board Foundation

The HYL & Houston Young Lawyers Foundation ("HYLF") Boards connected this year through frequent communication, a kick-off happy hour at Lawless Spirits after the HYL Retreat on July 30<sup>th</sup>, and a mid-year breakfast with both boards on January 12<sup>th</sup> at Winstead.




### Committee Chair Engagement


At the Committee Chair Kick-Off Breakfast on July 30<sup>th</sup> at Ouisie's Table, we shared the Committee Member Responsibility Form and Committee Goals Reports. This was an excellent opportunity to get to know each other better, hear what our members wanted to be involved in, and find leaders for committees that needed new chairs. Halfway through the year, on February 9<sup>th</sup>, HYL brought the Committee Chairs together again at Breakfast Klub to share what the committees had accomplished to date and discuss how the different committee members could assist each other. In the future our goal is to send a letter to all committee chairs that outlines the expectations for committee chairs and to officially welcome to the leadership team.





 <b>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</b> 2015-2016 As of April 20, 2016	
<b>August</b> 13 Bar Relief & Leadership Academy Reunion 6-8 PM @ Henke & Pilot 19 LegalLine Volunteer Opportunity 29 HYLF Fun Run 7:30 AM @ Sam Houston Park <b>September</b> 8 HYLA CLE – Harris County Law Library Women's Mentoring Breakfast 7:30-9 AM @ Quisic's Table 10 TADC Joint Happy Hour, 6-8 PM @ Local Pour 23 Lawyers & Libations Membership Party 6:30-8:30 PM @ St. Arnold's Brewery 28 CultureMap Social 6-9 PM @ B&B Butchers 29 HYLF Adopt-an-Angel program @ Batanga <b>October</b> 6 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Nonprofit Law Institute United Way, 5050 Waugh Drive 6 HYLA Trivia Night 6:30 PM @ Front Porch Bar Sand Volleyball & Family Fun Day 11:30-1:30 @ Wakefield Crowbar 13 HYLA CLE: "Going to Court" Hon. Michael Gomez, 125 <sup>th</sup> District Court 15 HYLF Golf Tournament Blackhorse Golf Club 20 Lunch with the Judiciary Federal Courthouse, 515 Rusk 22 Evening with the Judiciary 6:30-9 PM @ The Grove 27 CLE What Partners Expect from Associates South Texas College of Law <b>November</b> 4 Energy Counsel Committee & 181 Happy Hour 6-8 PM @ Springbok 10 HYLA CLE: "Municipal Court" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library 10 Hybrid CLE & Happy Hour with SBOT IP Section Thriving in Your Legal Career with Grover Cleveland 6-8 PM @ Winston & Strawn 14 Skeet Shoot American Shooting Center 17 Swearing-In Ceremony 4:30 PM @ 1910 Courthouse <b>December</b> 8 HYLA/CLE: "DWI" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library 10 Holiday Party 7-10 PM @ Hermann Park Cherie Flores Pavilion <b>January</b> 12 HYLA CLE: "Family Law" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library 28 HYLA CLE Clutch City Counsel Evening CLE 6:30-8:30 PM Mr. Peoples, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor 30 HBBA & HYLA Chili Cook-Off	<b>February</b> 3 Lunch with the Judiciary (17 <sup>th</sup> Civil Courts Bldg.) 4 Speed Mentoring Event with HBA Oil, Gas, & Mineral Law Section, 6-8pm, Quattro at the Four Seasons 5 HYLA Legal Clinic (Volunteer Opportunity) 6 HYLA Spin Class, 11:30 a.m., RIDE Indoor Cycling 9 HYLA CLE: "How To Draft a Simple Will" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library 9 Trivia @ Front Porch Pub 7 PM 10 HYLA Scouts – Judge Halbach's Courtroom @ noon 17 LegalLine Volunteer Opportunity 18 Making It Better Volunteer Opportunity 22 HYLA Basketball League Begins <b>March</b> 8 HYLA CLE: "Grievance Committee Process" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library 8 HYLA Professional Makeup Lesson Jenny Kelley, 6:15-8:30 PM 10 HYLA Professional Makeup Lesson #2 Jenny Kelley, 6:15 to 8:30 PM 15 HYLA A&E Committee Meeting at Revelry on Richmond 24 HYLA Networking Happy Hour 6:30-8 PM @ Museum of Fine Art Houston 30 HYLA Women's Breakfast, Quisic's Table, 3939 San Felipe, 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. 31 Energy Committee Happy Hour @ El Big Bad (6:30-8:30 p.m.) <b>April</b> 5 HYLA Wellness Spin Class #2 (Ryde River Oaks) 5 HYLA Breakfast Club @ The Breakfast Klub, 3711 Travis @ Alabama, 8 to 9 a.m. 8 HYLA Energy CLE @ The Petroleum Club, 11:30 am to 1:00 p.m. 9 HYLA Crawfish Boil, Revelry on Richmond, 1613 Richmond 12 HYLA CLE: "Buying & Selling a House" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library 12 Lean In To Law Presentation @ Aust in High School (HSIC) 17 HYLF Brunch @ The Durham House, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. 18 HYLA Diversity Speed Mentoring & Networking @ Four Seasons Hotel, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 24 Skeet Shooting, American Shooting Center, 1:00 p.m. 29 Breaking The Silence Breakfast @ 7:30 a.m. @ Heritage Plaza, 1111 Bagby St. <b>May</b> 1 Polo in the Park (Houston Polo Club) 3 Law Day Luncheon, TBA, 11:30 AM-1 PM 4 Lunch with the Judiciary 7 HYLA VUL Legal Clinic (Volunteer Opportunity) 10 Healthcare Business Partners Breakfast, Quisic's Table 10 HYLA CLE: "Immigration: VISA is not a Credit Card" 12-1 PM @ Harris County Law Library Swearing-In Ceremony 4:30 PM @ 1910 Courthouse 11 HYLA Energy Counsel, St. Arnold's Brewery 2200 Lyons Ave., 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. 18 HYLF Annual Luncheon – Brennan's 26 HYLA Networking Happy Hour Tentatively @ Wooster's Garden, 3315 Milam



 <b>Law School Events</b> 2015 -2016	
<b>August</b> 13 Thurgood Marshall - 1L Orientation 9-11 AM University of Houston Orientation 11:30AM -1PM 25 South Texas College of Law School Organization Orientation (Terrace Party) 4-5:30 PM 26 3L Thurgood Marshall Orientation 9-11 AM <b>September</b> 26 Law Games – Volleyball 11 AM-1:30 PM @ Wakefield Crowbar <b>October</b> 14 Thurgood Marshall - Donuts with HYLA 7-9 AM 21 HYLA at UH – Lunch & Learn 22 ALL SCHOOLS - Lunch & Learn "How can HYLA help me?" 12-1 PM @ Thurgood Marshall 27 ALL SCHOOLS – CLE "What Law Partners Expect from their Associates" 11:15 AM-12:15 PM @ STCL Emilie Slohm Room <b>December</b> 2 Donuts at UH – 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. <b>January</b> 27 Thurgood Marshall Lunch & Learn "I have a Texas Bar Card or will have a bar card soon, now what do I do?" Speaker, Rene A. Trevino, Of Counsel, with Greenberg Traurig, LLP. <b>February</b> 23 HYLA Lunch & Learn <b>March</b> 28 HYLA Corporate Counsel @ UH Law Center at 12 noon <b>April</b> 6 ALL SCHOOLS - Lunch & Learn "Professional Etiquette" Teresa Schneider, Winstead PC 2-1 PM @ Thurgood Marshall	<b>Law School students from any three law schools can attend HYLA Lunch &amp; Learn Programs.</b>





# LEARN

HYLA offered over 25 CLE programs this bar year.

## Lunches with Judges

Throughout the year, HYLA hosted three Lunches with Judges. On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, HYLA hosted the annual state Lunches with Judges event at the Harris County Civil District Courthouse. Our guest speakers were Judges Sylvia Matthews, Mike Miller, Judy Warne, and Randy Wilson. During the informal lunch, the guest judges shared their advice on topics such as how to maintain a successful civil practice, how to impress the bench, and how to successfully network in this increasingly competitive market. Over 30 HYLA members attended the lunch, which was hosted by HYLA's Judicial Liaison, Justice Brett Busby of the 14th Court of Appeals.



## Energy Counsel's Speed Mentoring Event with Houston Bar Association's Oil, Gas & Mineral Law Section

On February 4<sup>th</sup>, HYLA's Energy Counsel Committee in partnership with the Houston Bar Association's Oil, Gas and Mineral Law Section, hosted a "Speed Mentoring" event, during which more seasoned attorneys in the practice area of energy law were paired with younger attorneys and law students during eight-minute intervals to network and discuss trends affecting the industry. Each pair had the opportunity to engage one-on-one to learn from and about one another.







### HYLA's Energy Counsel's Happy Hour with Institute for Energy Law's Young Energy Professionals

HYLA's Energy Counsel Committee hosted a networking happy hour on November 4, 2015 at Springbok. Co-sponsors were the Institute for Energy Law's Young Energy Professionals, Reed Smith, and Norton Rose Fulbright. Over 50 HYLA and IEL members who work in the energy industry attended.

The HYLA Energy Counsel Committee's mission is to host networking and career-building events for HYLA members interested in energy law and to collaborate in this effort with other professional networking organizations in the energy industry in Houston. On March 31<sup>st</sup> the Energy Counsel Committee hosted a happy hour for law students at El Big Bad, and on April 9<sup>th</sup>, the Energy Counsel Committee hosted a CLE on "Things I Wish I Had Known as a Young Energy Lawyer."



### HYLA Offers Monthly Free CLEs at Harris County Law Library

Each month HYLA hosts a free CLE for HYLA Members at the Harris County Law Library that focuses on substantive law and practical advice for young lawyers. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, HYLA hosted a DWI Basics CLE featuring Tyler Flood, a Texas Board Certified Criminal Defense Lawyer. Tyler shared insightful advice on what attorneys need to know about handling a DWI case, including written materials, analysis of the tests and different technologies utilized during DWI stops, entertaining video footage of DWI arrests and intake, and business & client development tips. About 30 HYLA Members attended the DWI CLE and pizza was provided by Birraporetti's.





### HYLA Lunch & Learn at Thurgood Marshall School of Law

HYLA was pleased to offer a question and answer session with students at Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law during a Lunch and Learn event on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The event was attended by approximately 60 law students, who sought advice about law school, the interview process, the summer associate experience and the type of opportunities young lawyers have in the Houston metropolitan area.



### "What A Law Firm Partner Expects from the Associate" at South Texas College of Law

HYLA hosted a Lunch and Learn CLE entitled, "What A Law Firm Partner Expects from the Associate" at South Texas College of Law with approximately 110 attendees, including students from the three Houston law schools on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Lisa H. Pennington, Office Managing Partner of BakerHostetler's Houston office, Ephraim del Pozo, Partner at Porter Hedges and Michael Telle, Partner at Vinson & Elkins served as panelists for this CLE. HYLA's President-elect, Arthur Bryan, II moderated the panel.



### HYLA Diversity Speed Mentoring & Networking Event Featuring Professional Headshots

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, HYLA hosted its first diversity speed mentoring and networking event at the Four Seasons Hotel, where attendees were able to network and engage in on-on-one mentoring with practitioners from culturally diverse backgrounds to better understand the unique challenges and issues that come with being a practitioner of a culturally diverse heritage. As an added bonus, HYLA provided professional headshots to all 30 mentees and 30 mentors. For the first hour, mentor and mentees had an opportunity to meet one another and network. During the second hour, mentees rotated between mentors seated around the room in eight-minute intervals. Mentees ranged from first year law students to second year associates. Mentors included seasoned attorneys of culturally diverse heritages from Andrews Kurth LLP, Jackson Walker LLP, Vinson & Elkins, Bechtel Oil, Gas and Chemicals, Inc., CenterPoint Energy, Shell Oil Company and the Houston Bar Associations' Minority Opportunities in the Legal Profession Committee.

### In-House Counsel Panel Discussion at the University of Houston Law Center

In addition to participating in the three Houston area law schools' orientations, on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, the HYLA Corporate Counsel section hosted a panel discussion at the University of Houston Law Center about how to get an in-house counsel position and the pros and cons of being a corporate attorney.

### HYLA Monthly Free CLE Schedule

September - What is New at the Harris County Law Library?

October - "Going to Court - Civil"

November - "What Do I Need to Know for Municipal Court?"

December - "DWI"

January - "Family Law: Practical Information on Divorce & Child Support"

February - "How to Draft a Basic Will"

March - "SBOT's Grievance Process"

April - "Buying and Selling a House or Property in Houston"

May - "Immigration - A Visa Card is Not a Credit Card"

## HYLA & SBOT IP Section "Thriving in Your Legal Practice" CLE


HYLA & SBOT IP Section hosted the "Thriving in Your Legal Practice" CLE and happy hour at Winston & Strawn LLP on October 10th. Guest speaker and author of *Swimming Lessons for Baby Sharks*, Grover Cleveland, shared real-life scenarios and practical advice on building relationships, time management skills, and strategies for long-term success.

**State Bar of Texas IP Section & HYLA Joint CLE & Happy Hour**  
with Guest Speaker Grover Cleveland speaking on the topic of  
"Thriving in Your Legal Practice"

**Where:** Winston and Strawn  
1111 Louisiana Street  
Houston, Texas 77002

**When:** Tuesday, November 10th  
Happy Hour: 6-7PM  
CLE: 7-8PM

**FREE for HYLA Members & SBOT IP Section Members | \$20 for Non-Members**  
*Author of Swimming Lessons for Baby Sharks*



Generously Sponsored By:

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Intellectual Property Law Section:  
State Bar of Texas



## Women's Fall & Spring Mentoring Breakfasts

HYLA hosted fall and spring Women's Mentoring Breakfasts at Ouisie's Table. The Fall Women's Mentoring Breakfast featured guest speaker, Dana O'Brien, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of CenterPoint Energy. Ms. O'Brien shared her path to General Counsel, the importance of her mentors and mentoring, challenges she has faced, how she balanced her professional career with her personal and family life. We had fifty HYLA Members in attendance at Ouisie's Table.



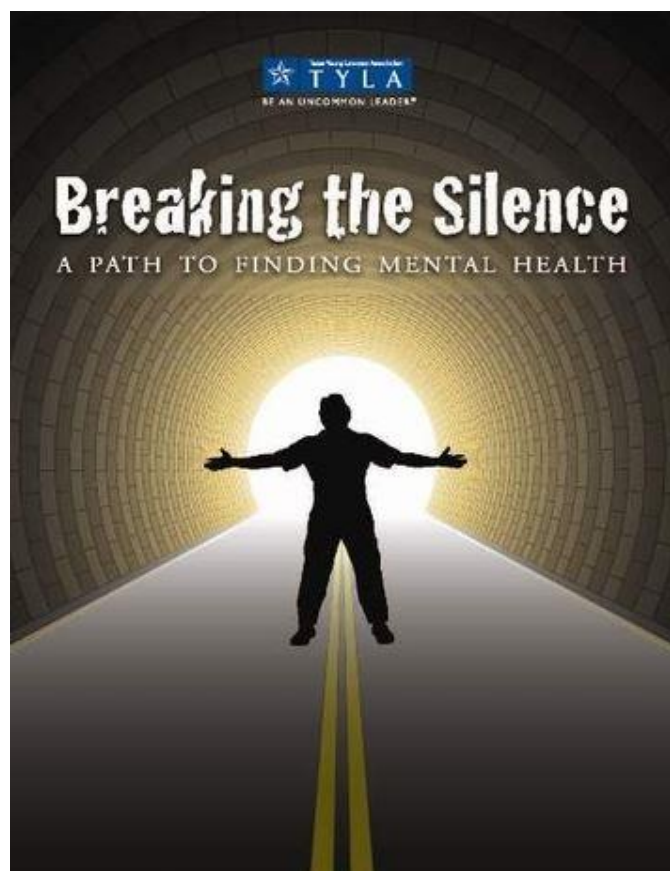
The Spring Women's Mentoring Breakfast on March 30<sup>th</sup> featured Shelley Hicks, Deputy Chief and Director of the Special Prosecutions Division (e.g., terrorism, alien smugglers, child exploitation) with the Houston US Attorney's Office.





### HYLA & TYLA present “Breaking the Silence: A Path to Mental Health”

HYLA and TYLA are teaming up for the “Breaking the Silence: A Path to Mental Health” panel discussion in Houston on April 29<sup>th</sup>. This event is a candid panel discussion on mental illness and substance abuse and how to recognize and help colleagues who are suffering from mental illness and/or substance abuse and the resources available for attorneys in need of help and support. Our goal is to bring attention to the resources available to lawyers who are facing addiction, depression, and/or mental illness, including the TYLA videos of lawyers sharing their remarkable stories of the impact of unemployment, anxiety, experience coping with death, mental health/disability, bullying trauma, men's mental issues, eating disorders, first responders, bipolar disorder, chronic/terminal illness, prescription drug abuse, suicide awareness/prevention, personality disorder, Alzheimer's disease/dementia, custody disputes, PTSD, schizophrenia, childhood/adolescence issues, self-injury behavior, postpartum, adoption, and family trauma.



### Houston Healthcare Business Partners Breakfast

Thanks to a generous grant from TYLA, HYLA is hosting a Healthcare Business Partners Breakfast on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Ouisie's Table featuring the General Counsel of Texas Children's Hospital.



# LEAD

## Leadership Academy

HYLA's Leadership Academy is back after a 1 year hiatus. We modified the format so that the program runs January through May (rather than starting before the holidays). HYLA hosted the Leadership Academy Retreat in January at Winstead. The 2016 Leadership Academy class is developing a service project in conjunction with the Houston Children's Charity. We are excited to get know this year's class and see what they can accomplish together.



HYLF Law Day Luncheon featuring District Attorney Devon Anderson and Rusty Hardin on the theme "Miranda: More than Words" to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the *Miranda v. Arizona*

Sticking with HYLF's theme of "Revitalizing the Tradition" we are thrilled to announce the guest speakers for the Law Day Luncheon. HYLA is excited to honor the 2015-2016 award recipients, including: Outstanding Young Lawyer, Kathryn Elizabeth "Katy" Boatman; the Outstanding Mentor Judge Debra Ibarra-Mayfield; and the Liberty Bell Award winner, Charmaine LeBlanc at the Law Day Luncheon.

Law Day 2016

# MIRANDA

more than words





# NETWORK

## HYLA's Arts & Entertainment Committee

Each year the A&E Committee organizes and leads a number of signature events to help promote networking and engagement with HYL A. This year the A&E Committee secured over \$60,000 in sponsorships to cover the cost of A&E events and other HYL A programming.

## Leadership Academy Reunion & Bar Relief Party

HYLA kicked off the year with a fantastic turnout at the Bar Relief Party & Leadership Academy Reunion at Henke & Pillot on August 13<sup>th</sup>.



**THE HOUSTON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION**  
Invites you to join us in celebrating  
the July Bar Exam Takers & reuniting with fellow  
academy class members at our

**Bar Relief Party & Leadership Academy Reunion**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2015 | 6:00-8:00pm |**  
**HENKE & PILLOT | 809 CONGRESS AVE., HOUSTON, TX 77002**

**HYLA**  
Houston Young Lawyers Association

HYLA Members: FREE | Non-HYL A Members: \$20

ALL HYL A MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY:

The Law Offices of  
**GUERRA & FARAH, PLLC**  
Your Rights. Your Life. Our Priority.

**axiom**  
law redefined

**HENKE & PILLOT**  
a downtown lounge + kitchen



## Lawyers & Libations Membership Party at Saint Arnold Brewing Company

HYLA hosted its Second Annual Lawyers & Libations Membership Party at Saint Arnold Brewing Company. Thanks to the efforts of the host committee, 280 guests enjoyed free entrance to the brewery, craft beer, and hors d'oeuvres. Each guest received a HYL A glass too!



**LAWYERS & LIBATIONS**  
HOUSTON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION  
**2015 MEMBERSHIP PARTY**

**Saint Arnold's Brewery**  
**2000 Lyons Avenue**  
**6:30-8:30PM**

**SEPT 23rd**

MEMBERS: FREE NON-MEMBERS: \$30

**HOST COMMITTEE**

Bryan Acklin, Brian Albrecht, Zachary Allie, Megan R. Altman, Anita Barksdale, Kristen Bollinger, Kameron Brackins, Suzanne L. Brangan, Chevazz Brown, Marcella Burke, Eric Cassidy, Sonia Chainani, Josh Chambers, Kimberly Cheeseman, Brittany Cooperrider, Brandon Darden, Andrew Edelman, John Eichelberger, Ryan Ellis, Iman Houston Farrior, Brian Feiwell, Rachel Fitzgerald, Sammy Ford, IV, Josh Fuchs, Jackie Furlow, Paige Gallespy, Ben Garry, Will Geise, Eric Gerard, Joel Glover, Jeb Golinkin, Michelle E. Gray, Madison Hagopian, Philip Haines, Jonny Heins, Tom Hillebrand, Robert Horn, Alex G. Hughes, Sterling Jones, Sarah Judge, Stephanie Bundage Juvane, Michael Kelso, Jackie Ammons Kelso, Netosha Kennerson, Nishi Kothari, Patrick Lane, Whitney Larkin, Kristin Kruse Lotz, Cynthia Mabry, Mike Marek, Matt Martin, Kristen McDonald, Kelley McIlhatten, Sean P. McKinley, Carlos D. Mejias, Emily Miller, Brock Naeve, Leif Olson, Robin O'Neil, Sondet Parnell, Diego Perez, Michael Reed, Alex Roberts, Benjamin H. Ruemke, Jason Ryan, Kacy Shindler, Jason Shrieve, Betsy Stukes, Morgan Swan, Arney Tellegen, Harry Thompson, Joel Townner, Leslie Honey Tronche, Robert Tsai, Ammad Waheed, Nate Walton, Tori Whitelaw, Robert Wilson, Patrick Yarborough, Jim Zucker

**HYLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

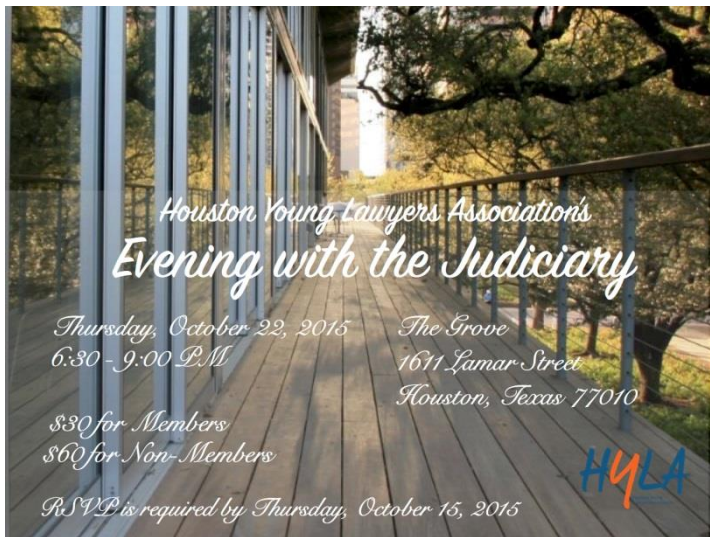
Drew Bivona, Lauren Brogdon, Arthur Bryan, II, Justice Brett Busby, Leah Buenik, Dominique Calhoun, David Canales, George Edwards, III, John D. Furlow, Kristy Gabrielova, Morgan Haenchen, Joseph Hance, III, Jessica Hart, Paul LeBlanc, Jr., Darren Lindamood, James Lloyd, Meghan McElvy, Veronica Montemayor, Brittany Ringel





## Evening with the Judiciary

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, HYLA hosted its signature event, Evening with the Judiciary, on the second floor of The Grove. HYLA invites all members of the judiciary with complimentary entrance and over twenty members of the judiciary were in attendance. Guests socialized to the unique sounds of AMP'D, the contemporary quartet from Divisi Strings.



Generously Sponsored By:

**JUSTICE:** Haynes and Boone, LLP • Vinson & Elkins LLP

**PARTNER:** Beirne, Maynard & Parsons, L.L.P. •

Jackson Walker, L.L.P. • Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP

**ASSOCIATE:** YetterColeman LLP • Gray Reed & McGraw, P.C. •

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**CLERK:** Baker Botts L.L.P. • Bracewell & Giuliani LLP •

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## HYLA's Black Tie Holiday Party at Hermann Park's McGovern Centennial Gardens

HYLA hosted its annual Holiday Party at the stunning Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion at Hermann Park. This year's co-chairs, Jackie Moore Furlow & John David Furlow, and Arts & Entertainment Chair, Veronica Montemayor, welcomed over 400 young attorneys and supporters of the legal community at the Black Tie event. The Pictures Band from Austin, Texas rocked the stage and the weather was perfect. The Holiday Party celebrated Houston Young Lawyers Foundation's Adopt-an-Angel Program, which through the help of 1,000 volunteer attorneys from over sixty-five local law firms donated and delivered toys, clothing, and school supplies to over 2,200 children from six Houston elementary schools and four private charities.



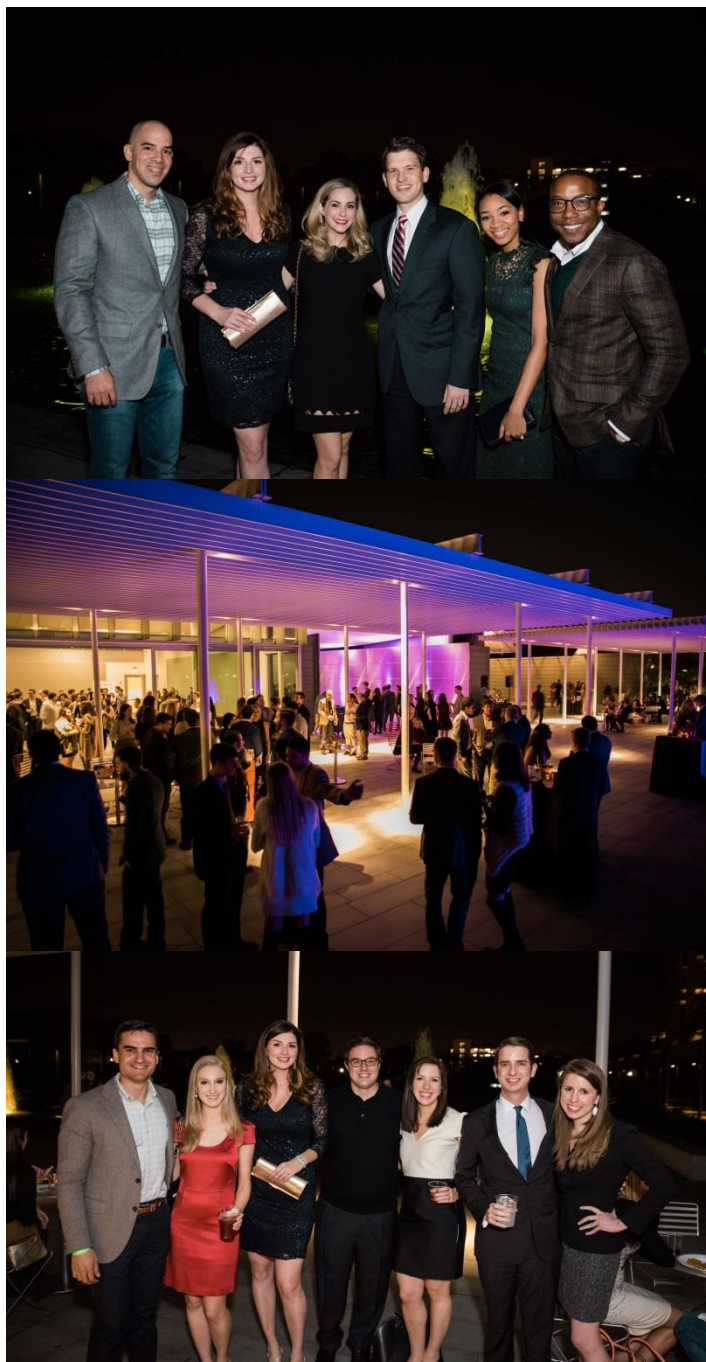




HYLA was fortunate to have the Holiday Party featured in CultureMap Houston for the work associated with the Foundation's Adopt-an-Angel Program, and HYLA's rise in the Houston community as a young professional organization to watch.

This is a screenshot of a CultureMap Houston website article. The article is titled "Young legal eagles soar into new year with holiday blast-off party in the park" by Shelby Hodge, dated 1.5.16 | 10:10 am. The article features a photo of five people in formal attire. The website header includes navigation links for RESTAURANTS + BARS, ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, SOCIETY, CITY GUIDE, EVENTS, and a SUBSCRIBE button. A sidebar on the right contains "LATEST NEWS" and "TRENDING NOW" sections. At the bottom, there is a "GET OUR EMAILS" section with checkboxes for "DAILY DIGEST", "DINING REPORT", and "PROMO ALERT".

HYLA Members at Urban Green's Park After Dark





### HYLA & HBAA Chili & Pie Cook-Off

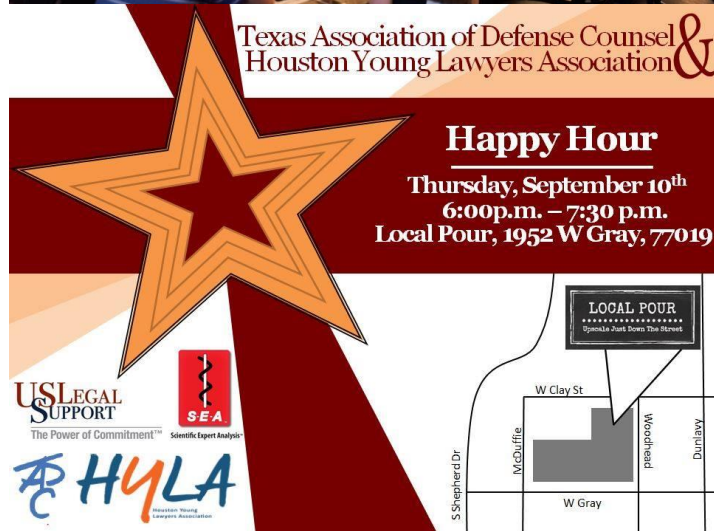
HYLA & HBA partnered with the Houston Bar Association Auxiliary ("HBAA") for its 2nd Annual Chili & Pie Cook-Off at Bayou City Events Center on Saturday, January 30th. Thirteen teams competed and the chili judges were actual members of the judiciary including: Justice Brett Busby, Honorable Clyde Leuchtag, Honorable Mike Engelhart, Honorable Debra Mayfield, Honorable Jay Karahan, Honorable Michael Landrum, Justice Ken Wise, HBA President Laura Gibson, Baking & Pie Blogger Sharron Sanborn, and Nicholas Stepp.

HYLA entered the chili contest as the "HYLA Firebolts" with Curtis Reynolds, member of HYLA's Energy Counsel Committee, leading the cooking team with his awesome chili recipe! All proceeds from the Chili Cook-Off went to HBAA's charitable fund that annually provides scholarships to law students from University of Houston Law Center, South Texas College of Law, and Thurgood Marshall School of Law.



### TADC Joint Happy Hour at Local Pour in September

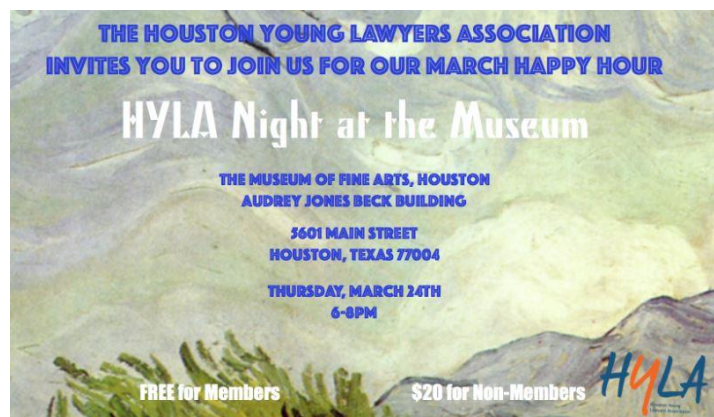
HYLA & Texas Association of Defense Counsel hosted a joint networking event in September. Members of both organizations connected and enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres together at Local Pour.





## HYLA Night at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

HYLA members and guests gathered at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston on March 24th for HYLA's Night at the Museum happy hour. Everyone had a chance to mingle and network with colleagues and friends while listening to mixes from DJ Sun, sampling bites from Japanese fusion food truck Muiishi Makirritos, taking pictures in front of the ivory paper flower wall by Balushka Paper Floral Artistry, and enjoying the beautiful weather! TYLA President-elect candidates, Baili Rhodes and Alex Yarbrough, joined us for the happy hour and had the opportunity to visit with and get to know many HYLA Members.





## Spring Crawfish Boil at Revelry on Richmond

On Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>, over 175 HYL A members and friends came out to HYL A's Crawfish Boil. All attendees received their choice of blue or orange colored HYL A sunglasses to wear as they chowed down on mudbugs and listened to live music by John Vincent Curry. The event was held at Revelry on Richmond, a neighborhood bar in the Montrose area that features a Texas-theme painted fence and outdoor bar games on the back patio.



**HOUSTON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION**  
**CRAWFISH BOIL**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016** | **REVELRY ON RICHMOND**  
**11:30 AM - 2:00 PM** | **1613 Richmond Avenue**

**PRICES AFTER APRIL 1st**  
Members: \$20  
Non-Members: \$30

HYLA Members, friends, and family are welcome  
(children 12 and under are free)

**HYLA** **HOST COMMITTEE**

Reehard Alexander, Jennifer & Justen Barks, Katie Bennett, Paige Bennett, Drew Bivona, Katy Boatman, Suzanne Brangan, Lauren & Blake Brogdon, Arthur Bryan, II, Leah Buenik, Marcella Burke, Dominique Calhoun, David Canales, Andrew Carter, Carolyn Chachere, Malcomb Chamberlain, Kimberly Cheeseman, Michael Clinton, Chad Davis, Carter Dickson, George Edwards, III, Sammy Ford, IV, Jackie & John Furlow, Ian Furman, Kristy Gabrievola, Liza Garcia, Katy Gardner, Will Geisse, Jeb Golinkin, Michelle & Buddy Gray, Madison Hagopian, Roxanne & Phil Haines, Amanda & Joey Hance, Elizabeth & Kent Harkness, Jessica Hart, Samantha-Anne Horwitch, Alex Hughes, Chara Joyner, Sarah Judge, Jackie & Michael Kelso, Andrew Klein, Patrick Lane, Whitney Larkin, Paul LeBlanc, Jr., Darren Lindamood, David Liech, James Lloyd, Kristin Kruse Lotz, Mike Marek, Meredith Massey, Sara McBrearty, Meghan McElvy, Sean McKinley, Carlos Dantes Mojias, Miriam and Matt Melancon, Emily Miller, Veronica Montemayor, Brock Naeve, Curtis Reynolds, Brittany Ringel & Nate Walton, Dieha Roy, Jason Ryan, Atman Shukla, Quentin Smith, Amy Tellegen, Samantha Torres, Joel Towner, Leslie Tronche, Bridget & Gabe Vick, Will White, Robert Wilson

**GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY: PAYCHEX®**





### CultureMap Social: The Innovation Edition

On September 29<sup>th</sup>, HYL A was featured at the CultureMap Houston Social – “The Innovation Edition” @ B&B Butchers. CultureMap Houston selected HYL A, in addition to three other young professional non-profits (The Entrepreneurs’ Organization, Central Houston, Inc. Millennial Enterprise, Harris County Hospital District Foundation SCRUBBS Young Professionals Group) to partner for its September social.



### Polo in the Park at Houston Polo Club

On Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 75 HYL A Members will dress in their Derby Chic big hats and seersucker to attend Polo in the Park at the Houston Polo Club.



Generously Sponsored By:





## HYLA Sports Committee

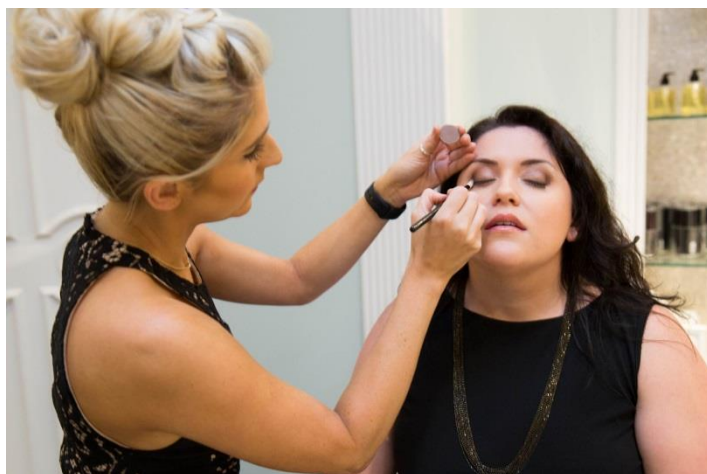
The HYLA Sports Committee runs a basketball league at the Downtown Club at the Met and a flag football league at the Houston Sportsplex.



## HYLA Professional Makeup Lessons & Networking Out



The second week in March HYLA hosted two nights of professional makeup lessons featuring stunning makeup artist Jentry Kelley at her studio, Cameo in West Ave. Jentry and her team of makeup artists taught all our fabulous guests makeup tips for "Cute in the Courtroom" and how to apply the perfect smokey eye. Then each guest had a one-on-one session with a makeup artist for a quick makeover and consultation on the best colors and recommended products for each guest. A portion of the proceeds from both nights were donated to HYLA Generation Generosity Committee's efforts to provide water, food, and hygiene items to the homeless.





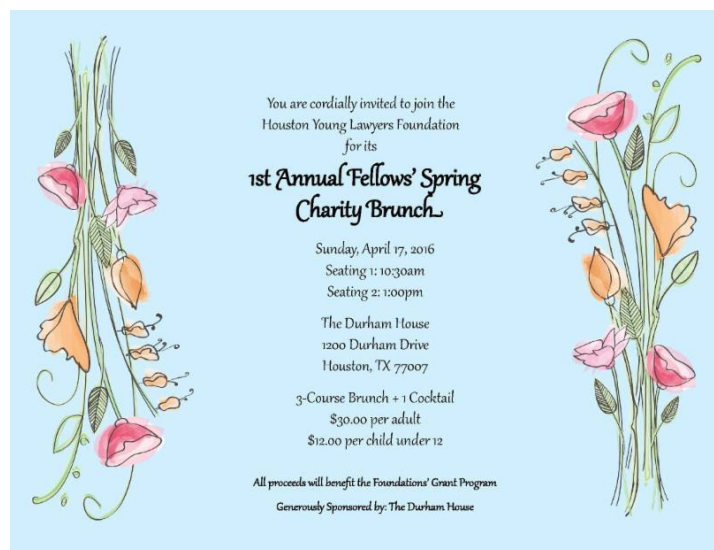
## Trivia Nights

HYLA hosted Trivia Nights on October 6<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup> at Front Porch Pub.



## HYLF First Annual Fellows Charity Brunch at The Durham House

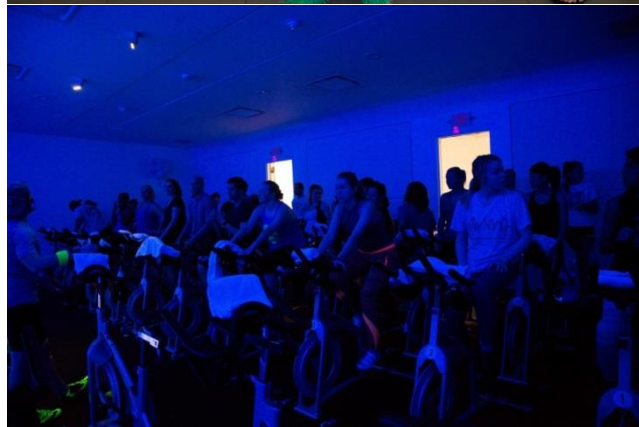
HYLF hosted its first annual Fellows Charity Brunch at The Durham House on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds raised go to support the Foundations grant program. The Durham House generously underwrote the charity brunch.





### HYLA Wellness Committee: Spin Classes at Ride in the Heights & RYDE River Oaks

The HYLA Wellness Committee hosted two private spin classes this year, including Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> class at Ride Indoor Cycling in the Heights on Super Bowl weekend & a Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> Final Four Fitness class at RYDE River Oaks. At the Ride class, HYLA collected stuffed animals for the Bears for Babies/National Adoption Day Committee to provide to children to hold onto during their adoption proceedings. The 41 participants celebrated completing the ride with mimosas, Starbucks coffee, a



### HYLA Wellness Committee: Sand Volleyball & Family Fun Day at Wakefield Crowbar

HYLA's Wellness Committee hosted a sand volleyball and family fun day at Wakefield Crowbar on October 10<sup>th</sup>.





Fall Skeet Shooting Event



HYLA hosted its annual Fall Skeet Shooting Day at American Shooting Centers on November 14, 2015. Approximately 25 shooters attended the fall event and enjoyed beautiful weather, delicious bar-b-que, a raffle, and a fun afternoon of shooting.



HYLF Annual Golf Tournament

Houston Young Lawyers Foundation hosted its 22nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament at BlackHorse Golf Club in October. Nearly 100 golfers participated in the event, and HYLF raised over \$20,000 to support local Houston charities through HYLF's grant program. Participants enjoyed lunch, golf, a dinner and awards ceremony, a raffle with numerous prizes, and a sport memorabilia auction.





## HYLF Fun Run

Houston Young Lawyers Foundation hosted its 2015 Fun Run at Sam Houston Park on August 29th. The weather was beautiful and we had a great turnout. The post-race party included music, food, Saint Arnold Brewery beer, and prizes. Thank you to our HYLF Fun Run Chairs, Darren Ticer & Chris Abundis, and our 2015 sponsors and participants. The Fun Run benefits HYLF's grant program and Change Happens!



## Young Lawyers in Schools

This year HYLA Board Member, Drew Bivona led the Lawyers in Schools Committee and sent a small group of young lawyers to deliver the "Know Your Rights" presentation to provide students with a basic understanding of their constitutional rights in regards to encounters with the police and appropriate conduct that will ensure a safe and respectful encounter.



# SERVE

HYLA Volunteers at the Spinal Cord Unit at the  
VA Hospital with Soldiers' Angels on March 9<sup>th</sup>



## Lean In to the Law

Thanks to a generous grant from Texas Young Lawyers Association, on April 12<sup>th</sup> HYLAs partnered with Stephen F. Austin High School to encourage a small group of female high school students to pursue law as a career, providing resources and education about the opportunities and obstacles involved in doing so, based on Sheryl Sandberg's Lean In. The discussion centered on practical ways for the young women to take ownership of their careers, including taking risks, "sitting at the table," finding one's voice, and conquering the imposter syndrome and insecurity, all with a focus on careers in the legal industry.



Houston Young Lawyers Association

## Lean In to Law

HOUSTON YOUNG LAWYERS ASSOCIATION'S (HYLA)  
**LEAN IN TO LAW** program is coming to  
Stephen F. Austin High School!

*Lean In to Law* will include presentations, dinner, and speed mentoring with young female attorneys and law students.

Thanks to a generous grant from Texas Young Lawyers Association, HYLAs is partnering with Stephen F. Austin High School to encourage female students to pursue law as a career.

Please join HYLAs to learn about the resources, opportunities, and obstacles female attorneys experience in the legal industry.

HYLAs members will speak to students about why and how they chose law as a career, the advantages and challenges of being a woman in the legal profession, and the practical steps to take to become a lawyer.

During dinner, students can talk with HYLAs members about the practical ways young women can take ownership of their careers by taking risks and finding their voices in the legal industry.

Following dinner, students will participate in one-on-one or two-on-one "speed mentoring" with HYLAs members. HYLAs is excited to offer this program to teach and encourage young female students to lead and succeed in the legal industry!

**LEAN IN TO LAW WITH HYLAs!**

**HYLA**  
Houston Young  
Lawyers Association

**WHEN: APRIL 12, 2016**

**TIME: 3:30pm - 5:00pm**

**WHERE: Stephen F. Austin HS**



**20 - 40 female students  
are invited to join young  
female attorneys and  
law students for a  
seminar and dinner**



### Making it Better Family Literacy Nights

Thanks to generous grants from HYLFF & TYLA, HYLFA was able to participate in three Family Literacy Nights with Making it Better.



### HYLFF Grant Program

This year HYLFF awarded \$28,725 in grant funds to Houston-area non-profits. Every year, Houston Young Lawyers Foundation supports charitable organizations through grants. The HYLFF Grant Program is designed to support, promote and encourage charitable organizations and activities in Harris County, Texas.

### Generation Generosity

HYLA's Generation Generosity Committee handed out and winter clothing items at the Beacon that were donated by HYLA Members at the Clutch City Counsel event.



### Fall & Spring Swearing-In Ceremonies

HYLA hosts a fall and spring Swearing-In Ceremony each year at the beautiful 1910 Courthouse. The courtroom was packed with newly licensed attorneys and their loved ones and friends. HYLA Judicial Liaison, Justice Brett Busby of the Fourteenth Court of Appeals, delivered the inspiring remarks and administered the new oath for the State of Texas that stresses civility in the practice of law. Houston Volunteer Lawyers attended the ceremony and several of the newly licensed attorneys signed up for pro bono cases.





## Adopt-an-Angel Provides Gifts, Clothing, & School Supplies to Over 2,200 Houston Area Children



Each year, the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation partners with the Houston Young Lawyers Association and local law firms and businesses to provide cheer to Houston-area children in their annual gift giving program, "Adopt-An-Angel." This year the program benefitted six early childhood and elementary schools, as well as an additional four private charities. Chaired by Michelle Gray, a partner at the trial boutique law firm of Fogler, Brar, Ford O'Neil & Gray LLP, the Adopt-an-Angel Committee organized the program and solicited the help of over 1,000 volunteer attorneys from 65 local law firms who sponsored individual children and families by purchasing gifts and clothing. Ms. Gray explained, "I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the many lawyers, law students, and law firm personnel who have participated in the program. This program would not be possible without each individual sponsor, each law firm or legal department coordinator, the many volunteers, and especially, this year's Adopt-an-Angel committee."

The Adopt-an-Angel program provided over 2,200 deserving children and families with holiday gifts that would not be possible otherwise. The program culminated with a delivery of over 500 gifts to students at Burnet Elementary, a Title I HISD school located just east of downtown. The delivery took place on December 16, 2015 as part of the school's holiday celebration. Volunteers, including a Santa and

several helpers, passed out gifts prior to early dismissal for the children. Participating Schools and Private Charities: Bastian Elementary (HISD); Burnet Elementary (HISD); Morton Ranch Elementary (Katy ISD); Petersen Elementary (HISD); Woodson Leadership Academy Elementary (HISD); Bellfort ECC Headstart (HISD); Casa De Esperanza; Catholic Charities; SEARCH's House of Tiny Treasures; and Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services.



**ADOPT-AN-ANGEL**

**ANNUAL KICK-OFF MEETING & HAPPY HOUR**

Wednesday  
September 30<sup>TH</sup>

Begins at 6:30 PM

BATANGA  
908 Congress Avenue  
Houston, Texas 77002

*If you are interested in helping with Adopt-An-Angel and learning more, please join us for the kick-off happy hour!*

*Opportunities to sign up for volunteer activities will be available*

Free appetizers and  
drink tickets for beer, wine, & select cocktails!

MLA  
ADOPT AN ANGEL



# Houston Young Lawyers Association

## Comprehensive Submission 2015-2016

[www.hyla.org](http://www.hyla.org)

Houston Young Lawyers Association  
P.O. Box 61208  
Houston, Texas 77208

**Brittany Ringel**

HYLA President 2015-2016

[brittringel@gmail.com](mailto:brittringel@gmail.com)

(310) 922-5086

**Lucy Fisher Cain**

HYLA Executive Director

[lucy\\_cain@hyla.org](mailto:lucy_cain@hyla.org)

(713) 224-4952