
PANELIST BIOS



Maria Baldini-Potermín, J.D.
Founder and Attorney
Maria Baldini-Potermín & Associates, P.C.
Chicago, IL

Maria founded Maria Baldini-Potermín & Associates, PC in Chicago, Illinois in 2008. She focuses on removal/deportation defense, federal litigation, waivers, naturalization, family-based immigration and immigration consequences of criminal dispositions. Maria is author of the Immigration Trial Handbook, serves as update editor for Immigration Law & Crimes, and is an expert author-consultant for Interpreter Releases and Immigration Briefings, all published by Thomson West. She is also the author of Defending Non-Citizens in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin (2009) as well as Defending Non-Citizens in Minnesota Courts (2010, 1999, 1998). Maria has been involved in the field of immigration law since 1990, beginning with four years on the Texas-Mexico border. She taught at the University of Minnesota Law School Immigration Law Clinic from 1997 to 1999 as an adjunct professor and received two National Association of Public Interest Law fellowships, first in Minnesota and then in Chicago. She serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild. Maria is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). She received a 2013 AILA Presidential Commendation ("For Always Fighting for What's Right"), the 2010 Edith Lowenstein Award for Excellence in Advancing the Practice of Immigration Law and 2004 Chicago AILA Chapter Minsky Mentor Award. Maria speaks frequently at local and national conferences and has served on numerous local and national committees.

Alina Ball
Associate Professor
UC Hastings College of the Law
Director, Social Enterprise & Economic Empowerment Clinic
San Francisco, CA

Professor Alina Ball directs the Social Enterprise & Economic Empowerment Clinic at UC Hastings College of the Law. The clinic prepares students for a career in corporate law and provides them an opportunity to critically explore how transactional lawyering can advance issues of economic and social justice. Prior to joining the faculty at UC Hastings, she was a Clinical Teaching Fellow with the Harrison Institute for Housing and Community Development at Georgetown University Law Center, where she worked with low-income residents to preserve affordable housing through tenant ownership. Before her career in academia, Professor Ball was an associate at Morrison & Foerster LLP, in San Francisco and Washington, DC, where her practice focused on representing private and public companies in debt, venture capital, private

equity, and mergers and acquisitions transactions. She also advised nonprofit organizations on issues relating to entity formation, regulation of exempt organizations, and corporate governance.

Janese Bechtol, J.D.

Chief, Domestic Violence Section

Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia

Ms. Bechtol joined the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia in 1998 as a trial attorney in the Domestic Violence Section. For the next five years she represented over 450 domestic violence survivors in obtaining and enforcing civil protection orders against their abusers. She became chief of the section in October 2003 and since then has supervised from three to five attorneys representing domestic violence survivors, one attorney representing Adult Protective Services in guardianship proceedings, and various administrative staff members who support the attorneys and the city's Domestic Violence Intake Centers. She chairs the committee responsible for management of the intake centers which are comprised of seven public and private agencies, co-chairs the city's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, and continues to maintain a small trial caseload.

Ms. Bechtol graduated with distinction from Cornell University in 1991 and Stanford Law School in 1994. Following law school, she fulfilled a four-year military commitment at the Pentagon as an Assistant General Counsel for the Department of the Army and as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army and later the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Carla T. Bernal

J.D. Candidate, Class of 2014

UCLA School of Law

Los Angeles, California

Carla is a 3L at UCLA School of Law pursuing the Entertainment, Media and Intellectual Property Law Specialty. She graduated from New York University in 2011 with a BA in Economics and Music. During her time in Los Angeles, Carla has worked as a Research Assistant for Professor Jerry López, working on matters related to prisoner reentry reform and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program. Last fall, as a student in Professor López' Rebellious Lawyering Clinic, Carla helped develop an educational workshop and webinar for individuals considering applying for DACA. This past summer, Carla worked in the Business and Legal Affairs Department at Capitol Records; she currently works as a legal clerk at a boutique law firm that specializes in entertainment and media law.

Matthew Bernstein

J.D. Candidate, 2014

UCLA School of Law

Los Angeles, CA

Matthew Bernstein is a member of the class of 2014 at the University of New Mexico School of Law. He holds a master's degree in United States history from UNM, where his thesis focused on race relations and education in Chicago before the Great Migration. Prior to coming to law

school, Matthew taught English, history, and economics at Amy Biehl High School in downtown Albuquerque. He currently works at Pegasus Legal Services for Children, focusing on education issues for kids in custody, the school-to-prison pipeline, and special education. His recent article on the exclusion of students with disabilities from for-profit online charter schools appeared in the Spring 2013 issue of the *Richmond Journal of Law and the Public Interest*.

Kip Bobroff, J.D.
Lead Organizer
Albuquerque Interfaith

Kip is the Lead Organizer with Albuquerque Interfaith. He has devoted his career to public interest work and social justice. After exploring his interest in national and international public affairs at Princeton and as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, Kip graduated from Stanford Law School. In partnership with Levon Henry and sponsored by both a Skadden Fellowship and an Echoing Green Fellowship, from 1994-1997, Kip focused on Navajo land owner's rights. Between 1997-2008, Kip was a law professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, developing courses on Native American law, educational reform, and clinical practice. He and his wife, Michelle, have been thrilled to travel to visit their son Reed, a college student at Yale.

Stephen Carpenter, J.D.
Attorney
Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc.
St. Paul, MN

Stephen Carpenter is an attorney at Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. (FLAG) in Saint Paul, Minnesota. FLAG is a nonprofit law firm that works on behalf of family farmers.

He is a 1981 graduate of Drury College ("forty acres of Christian atmosphere") in Springfield, Missouri, and was a graduate student at Boston University for several years, and studied with historian Howard Zinn. At Stanford Law School Stephen was active in the East Palo Alto Community Law Project, was a *Stanford Law Review* executive editor, and received a Skadden Foundation Fellowship that brought him to FLAG in 1993.

FLAG work has centered on discrimination in agricultural lending, debtor-creditor issues, disaster assistance, federal farm programs, sustainable agriculture and direct marketing, and the problems of farmers contracting for livestock production. He served as Senior Counsel in the Office of the Monitor in the *Pigford* case, and is at present the court-appointed Ombudsman for the *In re Black Farmers Discrimination* case

Liz Carrasco
Class of 2015
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM

Liz Carrasco is a junior at the University of New Mexico majoring in Political Science and Spanish. She joined the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center in August and is currently serving

as the first DREAMer fellow at the center. In the Spring she will be moving to Washington, DC to serve as a congressional intern for one of the elected officials in the New Mexico delegation. Liz is an aspiring immigration lawyer and a community activist/organizer.

Aidin				Castillo
Immigration		Policy		Attorney
Immigrant	Legal		Resource	Center
Washington,				DC

Working in Washington D.C., Aidín focuses on the effective implementation of DACA and bringing the voice of California’s immigrant communities to immigration reform. A former ILRC summer intern, Aidín has been involved in immigration advocacy for nearly a decade. After graduating from UC Davis School of Law in 2011, she worked at the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation in Sacramento, California, advising rural migrant communities of their rights. Her passion for immigrants’ rights stems from her own experience as an immigrant from Mexico.

Moisés R. Ceja, J.D.
Farmworker Staff Attorney
Oregon Law Center, Woodburn Farmworker Office
Portland, OR

Moises is an Oregon farmworker attorney that primarily represents farmworkers, many of whom are immigrants, in wage and hour and discrimination/retaliation suits.

Eric Cohen, J.D.
Executive Director
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
San Francisco, CA

Eric is the ILRC’S Executive Director and has been with the ILRC since 1988. For six years while at the ILRC, Eric was a co-supervisor of Stanford Law School’s Immigration Law Clinic. Eric has extensive experience training attorneys and law students. In fact, he has been on the faculty of over 75 CLE trainings. Eric has co-authored several of the ILRC's manuals and other publications, including *Motions to Suppress, Naturalization and U.S Citizenship: The Essential Legal Guide*, and *How to Successfully Appeal Naturalization Denials*. For nearly 20 years Eric has served as a liaison between community groups and the CIS (Citizenship and Immigration Services). He helped develop ILRC's community model for effectively processing naturalization applications and works with community organizers and others on voter education and civic engagement campaigns.

Callie Dendrinis, J.D.
Staff Attorney
New Mexico Legal Aid, Inc.
Santa Fe, NM

Callie is a staff attorney for New Mexico Legal Aid's Rural Advocacy Project. In that capacity, she conducts outreach to rural communities in the north-central and northeastern parts of the state, builds partnerships with local stakeholders and service providers, and handles a full caseload. The goal of the project is to provide rural clients with access to the full spectrum of civil legal services, on par with the services available to urban residents. She is a recent graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and a two-year alum of AmeriCorps.

Eva Eitzen, J.D.
Staff Attorney
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Eva Eitzen joined NMILC in September 2012. Eva assists students at several area high schools to apply for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and works on various other immigration matters. Prior to working at NMILC, Eva worked at Catholic Charities' Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance in Houston, Texas, where she supervised the crime victims program, asylum program, and coordinated the Center's pro bono attorneys. Eva previously worked at Miller & Chevalier in the international trade department.

Eva graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Maryland at College Park and *magna cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center, where she was awarded the International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award for Advocacy for her representation at the Law Center's immigration clinic. Eva is a member of the bars of New Mexico, the District of Columbia, and Maryland.

Michele Fei
Aspiring Midwife
Former Executive Director of the Immigrant Defense Project
New York, NY

Michelle Fei is currently an aspiring midwife, training as a birth assistant and doula in homebirth settings. Until recently, she served as Executive Director of the Immigrant Defense Project, where she focused her substantive work on community education and policy initiatives. There, she co-led the statewide campaign that led to the New York suspension in 2012 of a large-scale federal deportation program. Michelle helped launch the Center for Community Problem-Solving at NYU in 2003, where, with the support of an Equal Justice Works Fellowship, she spearheaded a jail and prison reentry project and an immigrant workers' rights project. She also previously worked at a community-based law firm, representing Central American clients in their immigration cases.

Tara Ford, J.D.
Co-Founder and Attorney
Pegasus Legal Services for Children
Albuquerque, NM

Tara is the Co-Founder of Pegasus Legal Services for Children. She has been involved in children's legal issues for over twenty years, providing representation to children and their caregivers even while at Stanford Law School. Tara is a frequent speaker at national and state conferences regarding the important role of education in children's lives; she has often taught as an adjunct faculty at the University of New Mexico School of Law and she regularly works with state and community stakeholders to develop policies that support children in New Mexico. In 2009, Tara provided consultation services to the International Medical Corps in Jordan to provide recommendations regarding needs of children living in institutions, either as a result of dependency or delinquency.

Ardené			Fox
J.D. Candidate, 2014			
Arizona	Summit	Law	School

Ardene is currently a third year law student at Arizona Summit Law School. She received her undergraduate degree in Humanities from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. As a student of Professor Mary Dolores Guerra, Ardene has been exposed to the contemplative practices which she finds has enabled her to effectively balance both her life and legal education. Ardene plans to practice international sports and entertainment law upon graduation. She looks forward to continuing to incorporate the contemplative practices into her life as a practicing attorney.

Adriana L. Garcia, J.D.
Columbia Law School Public Interest Fellow
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
Los Angeles, CA

Adriana is a Columbia Law School Public Interest Fellow at MALDEF in Los Angeles, California. She has dedicated much of her educational and professional career to immigrants' rights with a focus on immigrant workers and Dreamers. Adriana graduated from Columbia Law School in May of 2012 where she directed the Society for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and was a member of the Human Rights Clinic. She also served as the Executive Editor of the Spanish language Jailhouse Lawyers Manual, a publication of the Human Rights Law Journal. She wrote her law school Note on the advancement and success of Dreamers in higher education. Adriana is a board member of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

Lauren Garrity, J.D.
Staff Attorney
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Lauren Garrity officially joined the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center as a staff attorney in September 2013, after working with the organization as a legal intern during her final year of law school. She works primarily on cases involving survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, and also represents students at several local high schools who are applying for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and other forms of relief. Before law school, Lauren worked as an intensive case manager for immigrant survivors of human trafficking in New York City; her experience working directly with clients inspired her to apply to law school and become an immigration attorney. Lauren earned her J.D. at Northeastern University School of Law in Boston, MA, and her B.A. from New York University in New York, NY. She is currently a member of the bar in New Mexico.

Teresa Goines
Founder and CEO
Old Skool Café
San Francisco, CA

Teresa Goines is the founder and CEO of Old Skool Café – a supper club run by at-risk youth in San Francisco, which provides training, jobs and a second chance at life for youth coming out of incarceration and foster care.

Teresa's experience working with gang-affiliated youth, as a juvenile correction officer, impacted her life in a way that changed her forever. Their stories gave her an in-depth understanding of how many young people end up on such a destructive path and compelled her to find a solution to the hopelessness she saw in the lives of incarcerated and forgotten youth. Teresa's mission is to permanently break the cycle of incarceration, by giving young people hope, economic opportunities and training in a supportive environment where they can grow emotionally, physically and spiritually. From this passion the concept of Old Skool Café was born in 2005.

Barbara Gomez
Class of 2015
University of New Mexico
Volunteer
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Barbara Gomez, a junior at UNM and an international student from Mexico, started volunteering with the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center (NMILC) in 2011. She currently serves as a legal assistant and provides case management for immigrants who are survivors of crimes. Barbara originally planned to become a journalist (she is a reporter for the UNM newspaper, the "Daily Lobo"). However, she is now planning on applying to law school because of her passion for helping immigrants.

Martha Gómez, J.D.

Attorney

Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

Martha Gómez is a staff attorney at MALDEF. She specializes in employment and civil rights litigation that impacts the Latino community. Her cases include constitutional challenges to anti-immigration laws, and employment challenges to race and national origin discrimination, whistleblower retaliation, and wage and hour violations of low-wage earners, among others. Martha earned her law degree from UCLA School of Law in 2010, where she studied in the Critical Race Studies program, served as co-chair of *La Raza* and as an associate editor to the *UCLA Chicana/o-Latina/o Law Review*. Prior to law school, Martha worked as a high school teacher in the greater Los Angeles area.

Amy Gottlieb

Program Director

American Friends Service Committee Immigrant Rights Program

Newark, NJ

Amy Gottlieb is the Program Director of the American Friends Service Committee Immigrant Rights Program in Newark, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the rights of immigrants and refugees through legal services, community organizing, and advocacy. Amy also worked in the spring 2012 as a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor in the Cardozo Immigration Justice Clinic and as an adjunct professor of Immigration Law there. Amy graduated from Rutgers Law School - Newark in 1996, where she has taught immigration law as an adjunct professor. She is past chair of the steering committee of the Detention Watch Network, and is a board member of La Fuente and Houses on the Moon Theater Company. She is a recipient of the ACLU of New Jersey's Legal Leadership Award (2012) and the Arthur Kinoy People's Lawyer Award from Rutgers Law School Student Lawyers Guild (2012).

Mary Dolores Guerra, J.D.

Professor of Law

Phoenix School of Law

Professor Mary Dolores Guerra joined the Phoenix School of Law Faculty in 2006. She teaches Commercial Law, ADR, Business Associations, Interviewing and Counseling, and her newest class, Latinas, Latinos and the Law.

She has been instrumental in bringing to Phoenix School of Law two conferences: the Lawyers as Peacemakers and Healers Conference, which she chaired in 2012 and 2013, and the Southeast and Southwest People of Color Conference, which she chaired in 2009.

A UCLA School of Law graduate, Professor Guerra practiced law at Ekmark and Ekmark and as a civil litigator at Bowman and Brooke. Professor Guerra clerked for Hon. Jefferson L. Lankford at the Arizona Court of Appeals. She also clerked for Hon. Michael D. Ryan at the Arizona Court of Appeals, and during that year he was appointed to the Arizona Supreme Court.

Professor Guerra has served on legal and community organizations including the ABA Council for Racial & Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline, the Arizona State Bar Committee on Minorities and Women in the Law, the Arizona State Bar Committee on Legal Services, the State Bar Task Force on Diversity in the Legal Profession, Mujer, the Arizona State High School Renewal Initiative, and Chicanos Por La Causa.

M. Stacey Hawver, J.D.
Executive Director
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
Redwood City, CA

M. Stacey Hawver is Legal Aid's Executive Director and has been a public interest lawyer for more than 20 years. A well-known advocate on behalf of low-income residents of San Mateo County, Ms. Hawver has received the San Mateo County Women Lawyers Section's Elinor Falvey Award for service to low income families and seniors. Ms. Hawver joined Legal Aid as a staff attorney in 1990 and became Executive Director in 2002. Ms. Hawver graduated first in her class from Stanford Law School and also has a Masters Degree from the London School of Economics and an A.B. in Economics from Cornell University. Ms. Hawver is bi-lingual in Spanish and English.

Bill Ong Hing, J.D.
Professor of Law
University of San Francisco School of Law and
UC Davis School of Law
General Counsel for Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Throughout his career, Professor Hing's pursued social justice through a combination of community work, litigation, and scholarship. He is the author of numerous academic and practice-oriented publications on immigration policy and race relations, including *Ethical Borders—NAFTA, Globalization, and Mexican Migration* (Temple University Press, 2010), *Deporting Our Souls—Morality, Values, and Immigration Policy* (Cambridge University Press, 2006), *Defining America Through Immigration Policy* (Temple University Press, 2004), and *Making and Remaking Asian America Through Immigration Policy* (Stanford University Press, 1993). His book *To Be An American: Cultural Pluralism and the Rhetoric of Assimilation* (NYU Press, 1997) received the award for Outstanding Academic Book by the librarians' journal *Choice*. At UC Davis, Hing directed the law school clinical program. He was also co-counsel in the precedent-setting U.S. Supreme Court asylum case, *INS v. Cardoza-Fonseca* (1987). Hing is the founder of the Immigrant Legal Resource Center in San Francisco and continues to volunteer as general counsel for this organization. He serves on the board of the Southeast Asian Refugee Action Center and is president of the San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission.

Megan E. Jordi, J.D.
Co-Founder and Legal Director
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Megan E. Jordi co-founded NMILC along with Jennifer Landau in September 2010. Megan is NMILC's Legal Director and provides day-to-day management and supervision in our Albuquerque and Santa Fe offices. She specializes in deportation defense before the immigration court, focusing on crime victims, persons seeking asylum, students eligible for Deferred action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and unaccompanied minors. Megan also assists elderly and disabled immigrants in applying for resident or citizen status. A former high school teacher, Megan is able to continue the community education work she loves through leading prose workshops for DACA-eligible students who cannot afford an attorney. As a law student, Megan worked at Catholic Charities of Central New Mexico's immigration department, assisting victims of domestic violence. She also spent one year in Harlingen, Texas, as an Americorps volunteer at the Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project of South Texas (ProBAR), helping to provide deportation defense to unaccompanied minors in detention.

Rohini Khanna, J.D.
Staff Attorney
Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, Inc.
Los Angeles, CA

Rohini is a staff attorney with the Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, providing defense to parents in dependency court proceedings. Prior to that, she was a staff attorney at the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, where, in addition to managing cases, she ran the Mothers Behind Bars project, in which she taught 3-session classes on the dependency court, domestic violence and child support and paternity issues to women incarcerated in Los Angeles' women's jail. She has focused her young career in anti-racist work with people and communities affected by incarceration in its many forms. She is thankful for the unique legal education she received through the Critical Race Studies program at UCLA School of Law and is a proud Los Angeles native with a strong love for the East Coast.

Jennifer Landau, J.D.
Co-Founder and Executive Director
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Jennifer Landau is the Executive Director and co-founder of the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center. Ms. Landau has been involved in immigration and refugee issues, providing direct services and advocacy, since 1999. In 2007 she was awarded a two-year Equal Justice Works Fellowship to work with the El Paso based Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services, Inc. on improving access to justice for New Mexican immigrants in deportation proceedings. She was also presented the 2009 Justice Pamela B. Minzer Outstanding Advocacy for Women award by the State Bar of New Mexico's Committee on Women and the Legal Profession. Ms. Landau has

often taught immigration courses as an adjunct faculty at the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Jody LeFevers
Professor
Santa Fe Community College

Jody teaches philosophy, U.S. Policy, and social economic theory for the Master's Program at the Santa Fe Community College. He has over twenty years of teaching and administrative experience, twelve of which he served as Dean of Students, Interim Head of the Upper School, Teacher, and Cross Country Coach at Santa Fe Prep. Jody holds a Master of Arts in Liberal Arts degree from St. John's College and a M.Ed. from Eastern New Mexico University. His undergraduate work was focused in economics and history. Pedagogically, Jody feels that the classroom should provide each student (and the teacher) the opportunity and freedom to address the difficult questions regarding virtue, justice, and equality. Jody readily admits to having heroes, such as Plato, Joseph Campbell, and Peter Pan. When not reading and talking with students, Jody can be found running the trails around Santa Fe or riding his motorcycle.

Grace
Policy Director
Chinese for Affirmative Action
San Francisco, CA

Lee

Grace Lee is the Policy Director at Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), an Asian American civil rights organization based in San Francisco. She oversees CAA's advocacy for policies and programs that meet the needs of the immigrant, low-income, and/or limited English proficient community. Grace conducts policy research and advocacy with a particular focus on immigrant rights, racial justice, and language diversity issues. Her research has contributed to the development of San Francisco's Policy for Local Hiring, the San Francisco Language Access Network, and alternative economic development models in immigrant communities. She holds a B.A in Asian American Studies and History from UCLA and J.D. from UCLA School of Law, with specializations in Critical Race Studies and Public Interest Law and Policy. She was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Teresa Leger de Fernandez
Founder, Leger Law & Strategy
Santa Fe, NM

Teresa Leger de Fernandez founded Leger Law & Strategy, a social justice firm focused on impact litigation, financing, economic development and the public interest. For the last 25 years she has served as General Counsel to several Native American Tribes and their business enterprises. Her work ranges from voting rights litigation to protecting sacred sites to negotiating multi-million dollar leases; it includes the strategic development of the legal, legislative, business, economic and physical infrastructure for tribal sovereigns. After President Clinton appointed her as a White House Fellow; she worked on public/private financing of affordable housing and other community development initiatives as a White House liaison at

HUD. She has served as both issuer's and borrower's counsel for loan and bond projects ranging from resorts to schools to basic infrastructure. President Obama recently appointed her to the President's Advisory Council for Historic Preservation. She started her academic career in the first Headstart class in New Mexico, went on to graduate from Yale and receive her J.D., with distinction, from Stanford Law School.

Michelle L. Light
Executive Director
NYC Office of Human Capital Development
New York, NY

Michelle was appointed in August 2012 by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg as the founding Executive Director of the new NYC Office of Human Capital Development, where she currently provides leadership and drives impactful change for the City's workforce development and adult education system. Prior to her appointment in this role, Michelle served as the Chief Recovery Officer for New York City. She was the key architect of the City's accountability, compliance, and transparency efforts for over \$7 billion in grants and expense relief from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. With a career devoted to public service, Michelle has spanned the philanthropic, nonprofit, and government sectors, and tackled a variety of other complex social challenges as well - including poverty, prisoner reentry, zero tolerance and school discipline, and Jewish-Arab coexistence - in New York, Chicago, and Israel. Michelle is a graduate of Princeton University and NYU School of Law, where she was a Root-Tilden-Kern Public Service scholar.

Suzette S. Lin, J.D./M.P.A.
Fellow
Harvard Kennedy School
Ash Center for Democratic Innovation and Governance

In 2002, Suzette began her public interest career as a legal aid attorney advocating for the rights of people with disabilities and low income families in San Mateo County. From 2005-2010, she moved to China and served as consultant to several nonprofit organizations in Beijing. She traveled extensively and advised on programs involving poverty-alleviation, LGBTQ, HIV/AIDS, disability rights and ethnic minorities. In addition, to supplement her income, she joined a leading Chinese social media internet company and served as Director of Legal Affairs for 3 years.

During Suzette's tenure in China, she witnessed the tightening of advocacy space for most of the grassroots organizations she was involved in, including extreme measures such as police watch, harassment, and even imprisonment. This led to her decision to return to the U.S. In 2012, she graduated from the Harvard Kennedy School with a Mid-Career MPA and subsequently completed a fellowship at the Ash Center. She plans to return to the Bay Area with her partner in 2014.

Mica Llerandi, J.D.
Staff Attorney and Project Director DOJ/LAV
DNA-Peoples' Legal Services, Inc.
Kayenta, Arizona

Mica is the Project Director for the Domestic Violence Project at DNA-Peoples' Legal Services. Mica works with domestic violence shelters and safe houses on the Navajo Reservation to provide direct legal services to victims and survivors of domestic violence. Mica also provides presentations on domestic violence and teen dating violence to area schools and community groups. Mica received her law degree from the University of Arizona College of Law with a certificate in Indigenous Peoples' Law and Policy and was an Articles Editor for the Arizona Journal of Environmental Law and Policy. She received her Bachelors of Arts in Religious Studies from Yale University and is a member of the Navajo Nation. She is a member of the California, Arizona, and Navajo Nation Bar Associations.

Gerald P. López, J.D.
Professor of Law
UCLA School of Law

Gerald P. López is Professor of Law at the UCLA School of Law, where he is faculty member of the Critical Race Program. He teaches *Rebellious Lawyering Workshop*, *Legal Analysis Workshop*, *Civil Rights Litigation Clinic*, *Transforming Legal Education Workshop*, *Community Outreach, Education, and Organizing Clinic*, *Problem-Solving Workshop*. López has been one of the nation's leading theorists about lawyering as problem-solving, developing the "rebellious vision" of progressive practice, not just for lawyers but for every individual and institution engaged in problem-solving work. With diverse collaborators, including his students, he engages regularly in civil rights litigation, diverse work with immigrants, with those incarcerated and living with criminal convictions, with those pursuing economic development projects, and those aiming radically to improve education (including legal education). Before returning to UCLA, López was a Professor of Law at New York University and at Stanford University. He co-founded at Stanford the Lawyering for Social Change Program and at UCLA the Program in Public Interest Law and Policy, among the nation's first sequenced curricula training future progressive practitioners. At New York University, he founded the Center for Community Problem-Solving in New York City, dedicated to working with low-income, of color, and immigrant communities. And in his early years in San Diego, California, he was a founding partner of Jones, Cazares, Adler, and López, a radical storefront law office. He is the author of *Rebellious Lawyering*, perhaps the most influential book ever written about progressive law practice and community problem-solving, and many community guides and scholarly articles on race, problem-solving, immigration, legal education, health, financial literacy, workplace justice, legal analysis, and still more. He has been honored with many community, civil rights, and teaching awards.

Dania Lopez Beltran
Staff Attorney
Sanctuary for Families' Immigration Intervention Project
New York, NY

Dania Lopez Beltran is a Staff Attorney at Sanctuary for Families' Immigration Intervention Project, a part of their Center for Battered Women's Legal Services. Dania represents survivors of domestic violence, sex trafficking, and other forms of gender-based violence in their immigration matters. She also actively informs New York City immigrants of their rights and changes in immigration law through outreach events and local media. Before coming to Sanctuary, Dania was a Volunteer Assistant Attorney General at the New York State Attorney General's Office in the Civil Rights Bureau where she worked on various immigration fraud and immigrant's rights matters. Dania holds a Juris Doctor from the University of California Los Angeles School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts in International Management and Political Science from Pepperdine University.

Diana Lopez Jones, J.D.
Professor of Law
Arizona Summit Law School
Phoenix, AZ

After twelve years as a practicing attorney in the public sector, Professor Lopez Jones joined the faculty at Arizona Summit Law School in 2008. She teaches contracts, contracts-related courses, and legal research and writing.

Professor Lopez Jones has an extensive background in federal Indian law and most recently worked with Titla & Parsi, PLLC as general counsel for the San Carlos Apache Tribe, where she was delegated primary responsibility for issues involving Indian housing, employment law, and Indian Child Welfare Act ("ICWA") cases. She regularly represented the Tribe at the trial court and appellate levels.

Lopez Jones graduated from the ASU Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. She also holds a B.A. in English Language and Literature from Yale College. Lopez Jones's husband plays tournament golf on a Native American circuit in the Southwestern United States and Canada. When they are not traveling, they reside in Arizona.

Allegra Love
The Adelante Program
Santa Fe, NM

Allegra is an attorney. She works for the Adelante Program of Santa Fe Public Schools. Adelante helps families in Santa Fe Public Schools who are experiencing homelessness and other difficult living situations. Allegra is an advocate for the students in the schools and practices immigration law. She spends most of her time doing DACA cases with the awesome students and families of Santa Fe, doing outreach and education in the schools about immigration and homelessness, and

scheming about how to make legal services for the good people of Santa Fe County who live in poverty better and free-er.

Michele Magar
Civil Rights Attorney
San Francisco, CA

Michele Magar is a San Francisco-based civil rights attorney specializing in disability rights and in fair housing. Before attending law school in 1992, Michele worked for 14 years as an award-winning journalist covering civil rights and became the first national news reporter to specialize in disability rights coverage during her tenure at National Public Radio. More recently, she traveled to the United Nations to help draft and lobby for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which has since been ratified by more than 135 nations. She is currently expanding her practice to include asylum and immigration law, and continues to produce pieces for public radio and print outlets.

Shauna Marshall, J.D.
Professor of Law and Academic Dean
Hastings College of Law

Shauna Marshall joined the Hastings faculty in 1994 as a Clinical Law Professor. Prior to joining the faculty, she spent 15 years working on behalf of the public interest. She began her career as a trial attorney for the US Department of Justice, Antitrust Division. Five years later, she joined Equal Rights Advocates as a staff attorney working on impact cases, policy initiatives and mobilizing campaigns on behalf of low income women and women of color. She then spent four years in the Stanford and East Palo Alto community, lecturing in the areas of civil rights and community law practice at Stanford Law School and directing the East Palo Alto Community Law Project. She served as Hastings Associate Academic Dean from 2000 – 2002 and became Academic Dean in 2005. Dean Marshall's favorite part of her job remains teaching and working with students in the public interest concentration. She likes to break up her day with lunches with former students where she learns about the amazing work they do with their Hastings degree. During her free time, Dean Marshall likes to travel with her husband Robert Hirsch. Her favorite destinations are Boston and New York where her daughters now reside.

Jessica Martin
Staff Attorney
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Jessica Martin is a staff attorney at the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center (NMILC). Ms. Martin primarily represents immigrant children, immigrant families of children with special needs, and victims of domestic violence and violent crimes who are at risk of deportation. Ms. Martin is an adoptive parent and a former Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children (CASA). In 2011, as a law student, Ms. Martin was awarded the Michael Maggio Immigrants' Rights Summer Fellowship to develop a children's advocacy project which led to her current position at NMILC. In 2012, Ms. Martin graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of

New Mexico School of Law where she received the Margaret Keiper Dailey Award for Social Justice.

Andrea
Staff Attorney
Legal Services of Northern California
Sacramento, CA

Matsuoka,

J.D.

Andrea is a Staff Attorney at Legal Services of Northern California (LSNC)'s Sacramento office. She works primarily with tenants and homeowners at risk of losing their housing in foreclosure, but also supports LSNC's general practice of civil rights, public benefits, and other housing work. Before joining LSNC in September 2013, Andrea clerked for Judge Harry Pregerson of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Pregerson taught her a lot about advocating for the underserved, and Andrea was privileged to work with the Judge on immigration, criminal procedure, habeas, and constitutional law appeals. Before law school, Andrea spent five years in Washington, D.C. as a Legislative Assistant on Capitol Hill, an anti-poverty advocate, and a community organizer working with youth in the foster care system.

Ana Graciela Nájera Mendoza
J.D. Candidate, 2014
UCLA School of Law
Los Angeles, CA

Ana Graciela Nájera Mendoza was raised in Los Angeles, California by a loving African-American grandmother and a Guatemalan mother who exemplified hard work and perseverance by raising four children while working low-wage jobs. Ana Graciela attended Macalester College (St. Paul, MN), where she led campaigns to increase student of color enrollment and bring Latin@ Studies to the campus. Since 2004, she has worked as a community organizer across the country and in Ecuador in low-income and of color communities in civic engagement, media justice, community economic development, and education reform. At UCLA School of Law, Ana Graciela is enrolled in the Critical Race Studies specialization and is a Certified Volunteer with A New Way of Life's Re-Entry Legal Clinic. She was a 2012 Summer Law Clerk at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Most recently, Ana Graciela was selected as one of eight law students in California to be a 2013 CELA Employee Justice Fellow and, in this capacity, serves as a Law Clerk at Alexander, Krakow, and Glick LLP, a plaintiff-side employment law firm.

Ryon Nixon
J.D. Candidate, Class of 2013
Law Clerk for the Central District of California
Riverside, CA

Ryon is a recent graduate of UCLA Law. Prior to law school, Ryon graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from UCLA in 2009 and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree. During law school, Ryon was active with the student organization La Raza, UCLA's Law Fellows Program, and every Jerry Lopez class he could take. Ryon is looking forward to watching some of his

closest friends speak at the Rebellious Lawyering conference, in addition to meeting many more exception people.

Adriel Orozco
J.D. Candidate, Class of 2016
University of New Mexico
Immigrant Advocate
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Adriel Orozco is currently a 1L at the University of New Mexico School of Law, where he is an active member of MALSA. He works at the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center as a supervisor of its social services program that assists low-income immigrants access resources across the city. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Enlace Comunitario, a local organization whose aim is to eliminate domestic violence from the Latino community. He is interested in national and international politics and deeply dedicated to the immigrant community.

Ruth Pekar
Jesuit Volunteer, Immigrant Advocate
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Ruth Pekar is a Jesuit Volunteer and Youth/Dreamer Advocate at the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center. She works as a legal assistant on Deferred Action cases. Additionally, she is a case manager for the social services program of the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center. Ruth is bilingual in Spanish and English and also assists in English as a Second Language Classes at Encuentro, a local organization dedicated to transforming New Mexico into a thriving community for all of its residents. She is deeply interested in learning about the challenges facing immigrants, particularly the most vulnerable, in order to take action to advocate for a better life for all.

Evelia Pérez
Program Coordinator
Koshland Program of The San Francisco Foundation
San Francisco, Bay Area, California

Evelia Pérez brings deep passion and dedication to her work of supporting grassroots community leaders. She is the Program Coordinator of the Koshland Program of The San Francisco Foundation, a community development program that is working toward civic unity, leadership development, neighborhood partnerships, and celebrating unsung community heroes. Her previous employment includes, Youth Together, Catholic Charities of the East Bay and Casa de Esperanza; a social justice arm of St. Mark's Church in Richmond, California.

Evelia was born near Guadalajara, Mexico and immigrated, with her family, to the Bay Area when she was a year old. She is bi-cultural and bi-lingual and extremely proud of her immigrant history. Evelia received a Bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

Mary Louise Pratt, Ph.D.
Professor
New York University
New York, NY

Mary Louise Pratt a faculty member in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University.

Ravi Ragbir
Immigration Rights Activist
New York, NY

Ravi Ragbir is a NYC immigrant rights activist who has helped hundreds of people as an organizer with the New Sanctuary Movement. He works directly with those who are facing deportation to educate them about their case and to empower them to struggle against their deportation. He has trained numerous advocates from various immigrant and allied organizations on the impact of these terrible immigration policies. Working with these groups Ravi has organized Know Your Rights and community forums to educate and empower communities to advocate for the individual but more importantly to advocate for a fair and humane immigration policy. Ravi has firsthand knowledge of the deportation proceedings because he is facing removal. He is fighting to remain here with his family, friends and supporters.

Rev. Leisa M. Richards, M.Div., J.D.
Leisa Richards Law Office, P.C.
Albuquerque, NM
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Leisa is a native of South Dakota and a fifth-generation lawyer. She has a degree in English from Carleton College and a master's degree in theology from Harvard University; and is an ordained United Methodist pastor. After graduating from the University of South Dakota School of Law in 2000, she began practicing law at Dakota Plains Legal Services on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota and South Dakota. She moved to Albuquerque in May 2004, where she was legal director of Domestic Violence Resource Center until June 2011, when DVRC's primary funder cut its support for the legal program. She has recently opened her own family law firm, to help fill the ever-widening gaps in funding for legal services, and with the firm belief that an attorney can serve low-income families, and still make a living. Since the closure of DVRC, she has volunteered at Law Access New Mexico and at the forms clinics in the 13th Judicial District. She is a member of New Mexico, South Dakota and United States District Court (D.S.D.) bars; and a former member of the Standing Rock and Isleta tribal court bars, and the State Bar Association of North Dakota.

Grisel Ruiz, J.D.
Attorney
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
San Francisco, CA

Grisel joined the ILRC in 2012 through a fellowship focused on the intersection between immigration law and criminal law. Prior to joining the ILRC, Grisel was an associate at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP where she focused on civil litigation in state and federal court. Before Pillsbury, Grisel received the Stimson Fellowship to head a project jointly housed at the Immigration Law Clinic at UC Davis School of Law and the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, through which she co-founded “Know Your Rights” programs at two local ICE-contracted facilities. These projects provided individual representation, pro bono referrals, pro se materials, and case consultations to hundreds of detained immigrants in removal proceedings. Grisel also provided community presentations regarding constitutional rights when confronted by law enforcement and supervised law students in removal defense cases before the Executive Office for Immigration Review. Grisel is fluent in Spanish and graduated from the University of Chicago Law School where she received the Tony Patiño Fellowship. Prior to law school she worked as a paralegal and coordinator at the National Immigrant Justice Center. She attended the University of Notre Dame for her B.A.

Maureen Sanders
Attorney
Sanders & Westbrook, P.C.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Maureen Sanders practices in Albuquerque, New Mexico with the firm of Sanders & Westbrook. Her “day job” usually involves cases related to commercial litigation, insurance and whistleblower issues. She is also an ACLU-NM cooperating attorney and member of its volunteer Legal Panel. Recently that work has involved issues of marriage for same sex couples, compassionate dying and an Albuquerque ballot initiative related to banning post 20 week abortions. Over the past several years she has often been selected by the parties to mediate their cases. Prior to returning to private practice almost twenty years ago, Maureen was a tenured Professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, Director of the Civil Division of the NM Office of Attorney General, and General Counsel for the NM State Corporation Commission.

Grace Spulak, J.D.
Staff Attorney
Pegasus Legal Services for Children
Albuquerque, NM

Grace Spulak is a former Skadden Fellow and staff attorney at Pegasus Legal Services for Children. Ms. Spulak acts as a guardian ad litem and youth attorney to children and youth in foster care, represents youth in emancipation cases, and works with homeless and runaway youth on a variety of issues. Ms. Spulak is also active in policy work related to children and youth throughout the state and has presented on legal rights for children and youth in a variety of

settings. During the 2009 New Mexico legislative session, Ms. Spulak helped draft legislation allowing youth 14 and older who are parents or living apart from their legal guardians to consent to their own medical treatment. Ms. Spulak served as the 2012 Chair of the New Mexico Bar's Children's Law Section. She received her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 2008 and was admitted to the New Mexico state bar in 2008.

Janeen Steel, J.D.
Founder and Attorney
Learning Rights
Los Angeles, CA

Janeen is the Founder of Learning Rights. She received an Echoing Green fellowship to start Learning Rights in 1999, a legal services organization dedicated to education equity with a focus on at-risk students with disabilities. Over the past 14 years Learning Rights Janeen grew Learning Rights from an idea while in law school to a legal services organization that provides representation to low-income students throughout Los Angeles County. Janeen graduated from the UCLA School of Law in 1999 after earning a B.A. in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University.

Katie Stone
Advocate and Activist
Albuquerque, NM

Katie is not a lawyer but is a small business owner, and mother of two children with special needs. She is an advocate for children with disabilities in New Mexico. Particularly concerning Katie these days are New Mexico's failure to meet IDEA requirements, and the subsequent loss of all Federal funding for special education in the poverty stricken state, as well as the lax regulation for residential treatment facilities for children with disabilities. She's also a public radio producer who works with kids in a weekly program airing on KUNM-fm.

Paula Teran
Immigrant Advocate
New Mexico Immigrant Law Center
Albuquerque, NM

Paula Teran is currently enrolled in the MSW program at *New Mexico Highlands University* and has previously served in the capacity of community organizer, health educator, gender consultant, counselor, midwife assistant, and Spanish professor. She currently works at the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center as an Immigrant Advocate / Pathways Navigator. Paula received her Master's Degree in Gender and Development at *Universidad Complutense, Madrid* and her Bachelor's Degree in Women's Studies at Rutgers University. Originally from Spain, Paula has lived and worked in Mexico and various regions of the United States.

Wendell Y. Tong, J.D.
Attorney
Sullivan Papain Block McGrath & Cannavo, P.C.

Wendell Y. Tong is an attorney with Sullivan Papain Block McGrath & Cannavo, P.C., one of New York's oldest plaintiffs' personal injury law firms. Her practice areas are toxic torts, products liability, and mass torts. Her clients are working people who have been injured by consumer products that, due to design defects or failure to warn, should never have been sold. She has litigated cases against manufacturers of pharmaceutical drugs, medical devices, unreasonably flammable products, and industrial equipment. As part of the plaintiffs' co-liaison counsel team in the World Trade Center Disaster Site Litigation, Wendell has represented 9/11 rescue and recovery workers who had not been provided with respiratory protection equipment and subsequently became afflicted with severe injuries. This mass lawsuit against the City of New York and its contractors resulted in a global settlement after seven years of litigation; appeals on certain issues are still ongoing. Wendell graduated from the UCLA School of Law in 2000 after earning a B.A. from Brown University and M.A. from Columbia University, both in comparative literature (English, Chinese, Japanese, and Spanish). She counts Brooklyn, Queens, Tokyo, Taipei, Manhattan, Westchester, and Los Angeles equally as her hometowns.

Emily Tucker
Staff Attorney
Center for Popular Democracy
Brooklyn, NY

Emily is a Staff Attorney at the Center for Popular Democracy (CPD) in New York City, where she works on state and local policy initiatives across the country to protect immigrant rights and promote racial justice. Her current focus is on the overlap and interplay between the immigration and criminal justice systems, and she provides legal and strategic support to community driven campaigns to sever collaboration between ICE and local police. Prior to joining CPD, Emily was the Director of Policy and Advocacy at Detention Watch Network in Washington, DC, where she advocated with Congress and the White House for an end to the practice of immigration detention. Emily has also worked as a teacher, a writer, a waitress, and a professional ballet dancer.

Siobhan Waldron
Staff Attorney
Immigration Center for Women and Children
Los Angeles, CA

Siobhan is 2012 graduate of UCLA School of Law. In her early legal career, she has provided direct immigration legal services to low-income residents of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. She primarily helps victims of crime and abuse obtain immigration benefits and avoid removal, specializing in U Visa, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status cases. Since 2006, Siobhan has traveled to isolated and rural villages throughout El Salvador to support and encourage community projects.

Lauren A. Winkler, J.D.
Managing Attorney
DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc.
Tuba City, AZ

Lauren is the Managing Attorney of the Tuba City office (located on the Navajo Nation) of DNA-People's Legal Services. Since working at DNA, Lauren has assisted the Hualapai Tribe in amending its Domestic Violence Code, which was passed in May 2013. She is currently working with the Kaibab Paiute Tribe in amending its criminal code and developing a wellness code. Lauren also provides direct legal services to those living in the Western Agency of the Navajo Nation, focusing on consumer law, family law, and public benefits. Lauren attended the University of San Francisco School of Law and was the Editor-in-Chief of the USF Law Review, Volume 46.

Mia Frances Yamamoto, J.D.
Attorney
Private Practice

Born in Poston Relocation Camp, Arizona, 1943, Mia Yamamoto graduated Cal State University Los Angeles in 1966 with a B.S. Government. She served in the U.S. Army 1966-68, 4th Infantry Division, USARV, awarded National Defense Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal. She received her J.D. from the UCLA School of Law in 1971, and co-founded Asian Pacific Islander Law Student Association. She worked in the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles from 1971-74; as the Deputy L.A. County Public Defender and California State Public Defender from 1974-84; and has been working in Private Practice from 1984 – present.

She was the past President of California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, a statewide organization of 2,500 private and public defenders; co-founder and past chair of the Multi-Cultural Bar Alliance (coalition of minority, women's and LGBT bar associations of Los Angeles); and past president, Japanese American Bar Association.

She is a recipient of the Rainbow Key Award from the City of West Hollywood (2011); "Sisters Standing Up For Love" API-Equality 2012, The Harvey Milk Legacy Award, LA Pride and Christopher Street West 2012; and the Liberty Award LAMBDA Legal 2012. She received the inaugural Stonewall Award from the ABA on February 9th, 2013.

Theresa Zhen
J.D. Candidate, Class of 2014
UCLA School of Law
Los Angeles, CA

Theresa Zhen is a 3L at UCLA School of Law. While in law school, Theresa was a student in the Rebellious Lawyering Clinic, where she and twelve others developed a workshop and materials for beneficiaries of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals immigration program. During her summers, Theresa has been fortunate enough to learn from the amazing people at the

Southern Center for Human Rights, the Bronx Defenders, and A New Way of Life Reentry Project, and is committed to working with communities of color upon graduation.