



APRIL 2007

PO Box 64933

Chicago, IL 60644-0933

www.lagbac.org

Check out our new website at www.lagbac.org!

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you have no doubt witnessed, LAGBAC has been growing and expanding in many wonderful directions. Although I am often congratulated for LAGBAC's achievements, the truth is that I am not the one who deserves the praise. Clearly, LAGBAC's vitality and success is due to the hard work and dedication of its Board of Directors and Committees. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Board Members and Committee Members for their hard work and dedication over the past year and encourage them to continue with the same energy and enthusiasm that has brought LAGBAC this far.

As one of my goals as President has been to work closely with the area law student LGBT affinity groups, I want to recognize Jason Johnson and Mike Jarecki for their work on the law student mentorship program and their guidance and support of the OUTLaw Coalition Chicago (the newly-formed association of area law school LGBT affinity groups). Because of their efforts on behalf of LAGBAC, we have seen communication and collaboration flourish between LAGBAC and the OUTLaw Coalition Chicago. Along those same lines, I want to recognize Megan Schaeffer for joining the Board as the first law student member of the Board of Directors. Megan brings a unique and fresh perspective and is a valuable resource as we expand our reach into law schools and beyond.

When I think of LAGBAC as a stronger organization, two specific areas come to mind: membership and programming. As Membership Chair and Secretary, Dan Allen has gone above and beyond the call of duty. Under Dan's leadership, LAGBAC has increased its membership among law students and practitioners and become more responsive to membership inquires and needs. Mario Sullivan, who serves as Events/Programs Chair, has also gone well beyond as he coordinates much of the events that have been created by this Board and those that continue. Mario also serves on the Host Committee that is responsible for bringing NLGLA's Lavender Law to Chicago this Fall (September 6-9). Mario has been working to seamlessly integrate LAGBAC into Lavender Law's program and related events. See Mario's article about Lavender Law in this issue.

Another initiative of the Board over the last year has been to update the LAGBAC web site and to create a bigger presence for LAGBAC. No doubt, Tanya Jachimiak deserves accolade for the phenomenal job managing and coordinating the creation of a new and interactive LAGBAC web site (www.lagbac.org). Because of Tanya's vision, along with our web designer extraordinaire Elizabeth Wenscott, LAGBAC soon will have a fully-functioning and user-friendly web site that is to launch this month! I also want to recognize and thank Elizabeth for her generous contribution to LAGBAC! Please check out the new web site - now up and running!

Last, but certainly not least, I want to recognize and thank some of our longest-serving Board Members and Committee Chairs. Both Will Thomas and William Hall are our longest-serving Board Members and have played a strong role in LAGBAC's structural stability and poise. I want to specifically thank Will for spearheading the monumental task of revising LAGBAC's bylaws to contemplate LAGBAC's growth and maturity and William for contributing to the development of many of LAGBAC's new initiatives. Finally, I want to recognize Susana Darwin and Mark DuPont as Chairs of LAGBAC's Judicial Evaluation Committee, which is consistently distinguished as one of the most respected participants in the Bar Alliance for Judicial Evaluations. All four of them serve as a great resource for LAGBAC and I want to thank them for helping me as I find what LAGBAC needs from its President. Thank you.

Serving as President is often rewarding and some times challenging. But it is always satisfying to work with a group like this. I hope that you will take a moment to thank your Board of Directors and Committees and recognize them for the work that they do!

Best, *Jeremy*

PS Please join us in honoring our 2007 Vanguard Award recipient, former LAGBAC president Dorene Kuffer. Details on the ceremony are inside. Congratulations Dorene!

*Vanguard Award Luncheon to honor Dorene Kuffer... see page 2.*

*New LAGBAC Women's Committee is forming... for details see page 2.*

*First LAGBAC Foundation scholarships awarded... see page 5.*

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# Check out the new LAGBAC website www.lagbac.org

NOTE: All Board of Director email addresses have been changed from xx@chilagbac.org to xx@lagbac.org.

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## Mark your calendars for Lawyers for Diversity BBQ!

Mark your calendars for the Third Annual Lawyers for Diversity! Lawyers for Diversity Mid-Summer Barbecue is a networking and fundraising event that benefits Chicago's biggest and best Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community organizations: The Center on Halsted, Equality Illinois Education Project, the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association (LAGBAC) Foundation and Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). As the mission of these organizations is to level the playing field for LGBT persons and the LGBT community, law firms can show their support for achieving that equality by participating in the Lawyers for Diversity Mid-Summer Barbecue. Three levels of participation are offered for this event for law firms. The support is greatly needed by these LGBT organizations so they can continue to provide and expand the services on which the community has come to rely. Law firms interested in sponsorship should contact Jeremy at [jgottschalk@lagbac.org](mailto:jgottschalk@lagbac.org).

Lawyers for Diversity will take place on Thursday, July 26, 2007 from 6-8pm. Lawyers for Diversity is open to LAGBAC members at no charge! So please join us!

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## Women's Committee Launches

LAGBAC's Women's Committee is a new committee and welcomes members of all genders. The committee exists as a reminder to us all that lesbian and bisexual women are under-represented not only among the LAGBAC ranks but also within other legal professional organizations. It is our hope that some day this committee will no longer be needed. For now, however, the Women's Committee will continue to encourage other female legal professionals within our community to join LAGBAC and to provide a voice within LAGBAC for concerns that may be of particular importance to female legal professionals. For more information or to become involved, please contact Tanya L. Jachimiak at [tjachimiak@lagbac.org](mailto:tjachimiak@lagbac.org).

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## OUTLaw Coalition Chicago

LAGBAC is excited to announce the establishment of the OUTLaw Coalition Chicago – a student-based initiative which seeks to strengthen the relationship between GLBT organizations at Chicago-area law schools. Currently, the Coalition includes members from Chicago-Kent College of Law, DePaul University College of Law, John Marshall Law School, Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, Northwestern University School of Law, University of Chicago Law School, as well as LAGBAC representatives Jason Johnson, Mike Jarecki, and Megan Schaeffer. Working together, the law schools have planned Solomon Amelioration events to address military recruiters on law school campuses. In February, the Coalition organized a panel discussion on the military's policy of Don't Ask Don't Tell which included panelist Stacey Vasquez, a named plaintiff in *FAIR v. Rumsfeld*. Additionally, the Coalition and LAGBAC are working together on the Spring Awards Reception, the HIV/AIDS Legal Check Up, and the Lavender Law conference. For more information or to become involved, please contact Jason Johnson at [jjohnson@lagbac.org](mailto:jjohnson@lagbac.org).

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## LAGBAC Awards the Vanguard Award to Dorene Kuffer

This year, LAGBAC will honor our immediate Past President Dorene Kuffer for all her hard work and dedication to our great bar organization. Dorene will be recognized for all of her hard work and energy over the last few years and for making the LAGBAC Foundation a reality. Under Dorene's leadership, the LAGBAC Foundation was formed and the Scholarship Program was created. If you would like to attend the Vanguard Award Luncheon, to be held Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 11:30 AM at the Standard Club (320 S. Plymouth Court), please contact Jeremy at [jgottschalk@lagbac.org](mailto:jgottschalk@lagbac.org). Tickets are \$65. We have a limited number of seats at the LAGBAC Table, so please let Jeremy know ASAP if you would like to attend.

# LAGBAC'S WEB-BASED REFERRAL NETWORK

Have you ever faced a situation where you need to find an attorney with a particular expertise (or from a certain discipline or practice) and wished you knew a "family" member or supporter to whom you could pitch the business? LAGBAC is launching a referral network that will be available through our new web site at [www.lagbac.org](http://www.lagbac.org). If you're interested in taking part, please fill out the Questionnaire below and return to LAGBAC, or contact our Membership Chairperson, Daniel Allen, at [dallen@lagbac.org](mailto:dallen@lagbac.org), for an electronic copy of the application. If you sign up for the network, please be advised that all the information you provide, including your firm's information, will be posted on the LAGBAC web site. We all know how important networking is, and this added benefit is free to all LAGBAC members. We hope to have this up and running soon.

## LAGBAC QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MEMBER ATTORNEYS

Do you currently practice law? \_\_\_YES / \_\_\_NO  
Are you currently licensed to practice in Illinois? \_\_\_YES / \_\_\_NO  
Are you licensed in any other jurisdictions? \_\_\_YES / \_\_\_NO  
If yes, which other jurisdictions? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you practice law, which best describes your firm?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1-5 Attorneys
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6-25 Attorneys
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26-99 Attorneys
- \_\_\_\_\_ 100 + Attorneys

In what area(s) of the law do you practice or specialize? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In what area(s) of the law does your firm practice or specialize? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you open to referrals? \_\_\_YES / \_\_\_NO  
Is your firm LGBT friendly? \_\_\_YES / \_\_\_NO  
Contact Information to be displayed on the LAGBAC Web site:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By checking this box, you agree to have your information along with you firms information displayed on LAGBAC's web site. If you do not check this box, your information will NOT be displayed on the web site.

Please return the filled out form to via email [dallen@lagbac.org](mailto:dallen@lagbac.org) or via fax to 773-784-0207.

## 2007 Elections for LAGBAC Board - Help us become even better!

LAGBAC needs up to 5 motivated legal professionals to serve on the Board of Directors for the term beginning on July 1, 2007. Except for the Law Student Board Member, Board Members are elected for two-year terms. Responsibilities include attending monthly meetings, heading Committees, and organizing and participating in LAGBAC events and programs. Board membership presents incomparable opportunities to make a difference in the local LGBT community. Those interested in becoming Board Members should submit a brief bio for distribution to the general membership to [whall@lagbac.org](mailto:whall@lagbac.org) by May 3, 2007. The bio should include past involvement in LAGBAC and other GLBT activities and the reasons for seeking a Board position. Ballots will be made available to the general membership on May 10, 2007, with instructions for returning them. Should you have questions about the role of a Board Member, feel free to contact any current Board Member at their [lagbac.org](http://lagbac.org) email address.

# Attention Students: City of Chicago Internship and Law Clerk Opportunities

The City of Chicago is now accepting applications for two internships with the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP).

1) The first internship is unpaid and is available to graduate/law students in good academic standing (GPA: 3.0/4.0 or higher). The intern would be expected to work a minimum of 20 hours per week during the school term and 35 hours per week in the summer. Transportation is a must given the location of OMP's office, which is at 10510 W. Zemke Rd., Chicago, IL 60666. Applicants are not required to be City of Chicago Residents. Applications are due by April 30, 2007.

2) The second internship is paid (\$10/hr for graduate and law students) and is available to graduate/law students in good academic standing (GPA: 3.0/4.0 or higher). The intern would be expected to work a minimum of 20 hours per week during the school term and 35 hours per week in the summer. Transportation is a must given the location of OMP's office, which is at 10510 W. Zemke Rd., Chicago, IL 60666. Applicants are not required to be City of Chicago Residents. Applications are due by April 30, 2007.

The City of Chicago is now also accepting applications for general Law Clerks.

Law students may work as law clerks for the City of Chicago. Clerks should have completed at least one year of law school, LEXIS, or WESTLAW training, successfully completed research and writing courses, participation in extra-curricular writing activities, and demonstrated ability to do legal research in different practice areas. Law clerks will research law questions, draft memoranda and pleadings, assist in the preparation of discovery requests and responses and perform related duties as required. Applicants are required to be City of Chicago Residents. Applications are due by April 30, 2007.

Students interested in any of these opportunities should send their resumes via e-mail to Patricia McCaskill at [op-interns@cityofchicago.org](mailto:op-interns@cityofchicago.org) or fax to 773/462-7343. Please include a cover letter, transcript, and a writing sample along with your resume. Also, please note the residency requirements for each.

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The CBA Committee on the Legal Right of Lesbians and Gay Men sponsors programs to assist attorneys in their respective practices. May 1, 2007, is the next Committee meeting, which will be a presentation on "HB 1826: Civil Unions Act". The Committee meets at 12:15 p.m., Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Court. Note, be sure to check the CBA's web site from meeting date changes or contact [msullivan@lagbac.org](mailto:msullivan@lagbac.org) for details.

In April, LAGBAC will be presenting: *What to Expect in Your Summer Clerkship*. Time and date TBD - check our new website for details!

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## MEET THE BAR NIGHTS SCHEDULED

Meet the Bar is a monthly social held at Sidetrack that brings together the Chicago area law students, practitioners, and judges in an informal setting to meet, network, and socialize. Mark your calendars for the next Meet the Bars on the April 27th, and May 18th (graciously sponsored by Kirkland & Ellis LLP). If you or your firm is interested in sponsoring Meet the Bar, please contact Mario Sullivan at [msullivan@lagbac.org](mailto:msullivan@lagbac.org).

# LAGBAC FOUNDATION UPDATE: FIRST SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED!

The LAGBAC Foundation is the charitable “arm” of the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago. The goals and mission of the Foundation include the education of the public on issues of importance to the LGBTQ community and to promote the growth of individuals who wish to dedicate their time to agencies within our community. In its inaugural year, the LAGBAC Foundation Scholarship Program has awarded Malcolm “Skip” Harsch and Todd Kolb each \$4,000 scholarships for their work during the Summer of 2007 with Lambda Legal. Both Skip and Todd will work as interns and assist attorneys in the Chicago office with work on behalf of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work. Congratulations Skip and Todd!

Interns typically focus on legal research and writing for cases currently being (or about to be) litigated by Lambda Legal. Interns are also trained to assist callers to Lambda Legal’s national Help Desk, which allows interns to work on intake and evaluation of requests for legal assistance. The interns will be supervised by senior Lambda attorney Jim Madigan and they will work with all of the lawyers and paralegals throughout Lambda’s organization.

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## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

LAGBAC is excited to announce a new student mentorship program for GLBT law students. LAGBAC’s Law School Committee will oversee the program by matching students with attorneys in their field of interest. For attorneys, the program provides an opportunity to mentor students who may be facing concerns about career choices, passing the bar, and entrance into practice as LGBT attorneys. For students, the program will offer networking opportunities, the chance to learn about different practice areas, and the support of an attorney who was once in their shoes. Attorneys and students who participate in the program should meet at least once a quarter. Additionally, the Law School Committee plans on organizing an event each semester that will bring together all mentors and their mentees. For more information about the program, please contact Jason Johnson, Co-Chair of the Law School Committee, at [jjohnson@lagbac.org](mailto:jjohnson@lagbac.org).

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## LAGBAC JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

LAGBAC’s Judicial Evaluation Committee has completed its review of the 110 candidates for Associate Judge positions. After a very busy 2006, there are not going to be a lot of new candidates to review in 2007. Many thanks to the hardworking members of LAGBAC’s Judicial Evaluation Committee for their work on these ratings. If you have expressed interest in participating in the committee, watch forthcoming newsletters. We are going to be scheduling a meeting and training for new evaluators in the next few months. If you have any questions about the committee, please contact Mark Dupont at 312-435-3001.

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## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We’re still looking at ways to grow our membership. With the launch of the new web site, we are excited to see how we can utilize it to get everyone more connected. Let us know of different membership benefits you would like to see from LAGBAC. More social events, more networking opportunities, etc. We would love to hear from our members. Email Dan at [dallen@lagbac.org](mailto:dallen@lagbac.org). Thanks again for everyone’s patience during February. We had a problem with our PayPal account earlier. Everything is back on track, and we’re excited to keep growing our membership. As a friendly reminder, our membership calendar is from January 1st to December 31st.



## LAGBAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Future communication from LAGBAC will be electronic. You MUST provide us with an e-mail address to send future information and newsletters. If you are unable to accept electronic communications, your membership fee will be slightly higher. **Membership runs January 1-December 31.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Dues:

Sustaining Member: \$100 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsoring Member: \$75 \_\_\_\_\_  
Supporting Member: \$60 \_\_\_\_\_  
Regular Member: \$40 \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Member: \$30\* \_\_\_\_\_ Law school and graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Snail Mail Surcharge \$5 \_\_\_\_\_  
AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

\*NEW LAW STUDENT RATE: A one-time \$30 membership payment enables law students to LAGBAC membership through December 31st following graduation!

I would like to join the following committees:

- Communications Committee (develop, create and maintain web site & newsletter)
- Judicial Evaluation Committee (participate in judicial investigations and interviews)
- Program/Events Committee (design and execute programs/events for members, students)
- Women's Committee (design and execute women's initiatives, programs and events)
- Law School Liaison Committee (develop and maintain law school/student relationships)
- Membership Committee (outreach to and development of LAGBAC membership)

The best way to reach me about committee activities is by:  phone  e-mail

Would you like to be added to LAGBAC's Membership Resource Directory?  yes  no  
*The LAGBAC Membership Resource Directory is an online referral list on our web site. By choosing "yes" you agree to be publicly included in our online referral list.*

If you are interested in further info, please contact us at : [jgottschalk@lagbac.org](mailto:jgottschalk@lagbac.org)

Send to: LAGBAC  
P.O. Box 64933  
Chicago, Illinois 60664-0933

or apply online at [www.lagbac.org](http://www.lagbac.org).

# LAGBAC welcomes NLGLA's 2007 Lavender Law conference to Chicago



The National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (“NLGLA”) is bringing Lavender Law to Chicago in 2007. Each year NLGLA presents Lavender Law, an LGBT Conference, presenting panel discussion, CLE programs, and events focused on current legal issue affecting the LGBT Community. This past Lavender Law was an overwhelming success! It was attended by over 800 students, lawyers, judges, and other legal professionals who came together to support diversity in the profession. For registration, hotel, and programming information please visit [lavenderlaw.org](http://lavenderlaw.org).

## Sponsorship

NLGLA needs your help. The legal profession has recognized the importance of diversity in their firms. Supporting Lavender Law 2007 – Chicago, the only national LGBT job fair, as a sponsor and attendee at the career fair provides your firm with recognition for its diversity efforts. Won't you join us? For more information on sponsorship opportunities please contact D'Arcy Kemnitz at [darcy@nlgl.org](mailto:darcy@nlgl.org) or visit NLGLA's website at [www.nlgl.org](http://www.nlgl.org).

## Call for Volunteers

Want to be a part of Lavender Law Chicago. Every year, the best and brightest law students, practitioners, policy advocates and judges, along with other legal professionals come together for a one-day career fair, and a two-day continuing legal education career. The Lavender Law 2007 - Chicago local host committee will use last year's success to spring board this year's conference to even higher levels of professionalism. LavLaw 2007 will be at the Chicago Hilton September 6-8. Now is your chance to add your unique skills to make the Lavender Law 2007 - Chicago event the most successful LGBT career fair and conference ever. If you would like to get involved in any capacity, whether it be organizing or volunteering at the event, please contact Mario Sullivan at [msullivan@lagbac.org](mailto:msullivan@lagbac.org).

## Interested in Presenting a Workshop?

Lavender Law aims to provide the most challenging and rewarding learning experience possible for our attendees and presenters. Chicago will feature two dozen workshops on cutting-edge legal issues affecting LGBT individuals and the community on Friday and Saturday (as well as the career fair on Thursday). Topics covered will include practical litigation and transactional skills, constitutional law developments, estate planning and drafting, employment discrimination, HIV/AIDS, immigration, domestic violence, the Solomon Amendment and other LGBT law student group management issues, “Don't Ask, Don't Tell and other military matters, and issues affecting out legal practitioners in the profession from solo practice to large firms. For details on how to present a workshop, please visit [lavenderlaw.org](http://lavenderlaw.org). Deadline is April 30th.

## Another Upcoming Conference

The NLGLA Young Lawyers Liaisons invite you to the YLD Spring Conference sponsored jointly by the ABA YLD and the Young Bar Association of Montréal. The various events will be held in beautiful Montréal on May 3-5, 2007. This will be the first time in twenty years that the ABA YLD has held its conference in Montréal.

NLGLA thanks the ABA YLD for including LGBT issues in its conference, and NLGLA is proud to co-sponsor a program called “Same-Sex Marriage – An International Discussion.” For more information please visit: <http://www.abanet.org/yld/spring07/programs.shtml>.

# ATTENTION STUDENTS

## LGBT Student Writing Competition

### Michael Greenberg Student Writing Competition

Michael Greenberg Student Writing Competition was established in memory of Michael Greenberg, former NLGLA board member and Philadelphia attorney who died in 1996 from complications of AIDS, this exciting competition is dedicated to encouraging and recognizing outstanding law student scholarship on the legal issues affecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex persons.

### TOPIC

A cutting edge legal issue affecting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and/or Intersex community.

### ELIGIBILITY

The 2007 competition will open to students enrolled in an ABA-accredited law school during the 2006-2007 academic year, beginning in February 2007.

### AWARDS

First Place:

- \$3,000 scholarship
- Publication in the Journal of Law and Sexuality at Tulane University Law School
- Registration, airfare & lodging for Lavender Law 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.\*

First Runner-up

- \$2,000 scholarship
- Registration, airfare & lodging for Lavender Law 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.\*

Second Runner-up

- \$1,000 scholarship
- Registration, airfare & lodging for Lavender Law 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.\*

### FORMAT

Entries should be a scholarly piece fit for publication in a law review. Entries should follow standard Note format, including Bluebook (18th edition) citation form. Electronic copies should be in either Word or PDF format. All entries must be submitted in English. Each entry should be no longer than 25 single-sided pages with one-inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced. The page limit includes footnotes. Entries containing endnotes or including appendices or supplemental material will not be considered. Published papers or papers to be published in other publications are ineligible. Each individual may submit only one entry.

All entries must be submitted electronically. Entrants should not include their name or the name of their school on the competition paper itself. Instead, participants should submit a cover page indicating their name, school, permanent address, and telephone number.

### DEADLINE

June 1, 2007

Entries must be submitted to: [LGBTWritingComp@nlgl.org](mailto:LGBTWritingComp@nlgl.org).

### QUESTIONS?

Please contact NLGLA Law Student Division co-chair Becca Levin at [becca.levin@nlgl.org](mailto:becca.levin@nlgl.org).