

Peggy Browning Fund

Educating Law Students on the Rights and Needs of Workers

Peggy Browning Fellows Class of 2012

This year, with your help, we were able to place 70 law students in our 10-week summer fellowship program, and 2 students in a school-year fellowship program, with 50 mentor organizations around the country. Our mentors include unions, worker centers, the National Labor Relations Board, the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the Department of Labor and union-side law firms.

The following is a brief bio of each student placed. Qualifying students were first- and second-year law students prior to the beginning of their fellowship. Their expected law school graduation date is noted beside each name.

As you review the Class of 2012, a common theme emerges. This is a group of bright students who are passionate about working for economic and social justice, and have chosen to dedicate their professional futures to protecting the rights of working people.

We know you will be impressed with their backgrounds, accomplishments and dedication. These characteristics are common to all law students who have been awarded fellowships this year. Presently, over 150 of our alumni are working within the labor community. Your generosity helped to make this possible.

Thank you for helping us to keep Peggy's passion for workers' rights alive and well.

Sincerely,



Joseph Lurie, President

P.S. If you are moved by our fellows' commitment to workers' rights, please consider making an additional gift at www.peggybrowningfund.org. It will help us to place more students next year!

2012 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows

Selby Abraham, JD '13

A student at the University of San Francisco Law School, Selby worked at the **DC Employment Justice Center** for his fellowship. He received his bachelor's degree from Tufts University and credits his time as a Campus Director at Citizen Schools, where he became aware of the systemic challenges of immigrant families, and his participation in employment and immigration courses in law school as having inspired him to apply for a Peggy Browning Fellowship.

Charles Agoos, JD '13

Charles is a student at New York University School of Law and was a fellow at the **National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), Division of Judges** in Washington, DC. He personally felt the consequences of unfair labor and employment practices through his mother's struggles. Charles worked on undergraduate political research projects under the supervision of Professor Noam Chomsky at MIT, and is currently a member of the Employment Law Subcommittee of the New York City Bar Association on Civil Rights.

Dyana Aziz, JD Dec. '12

A graduate of Duke University, Dyana is a student at Georgetown University Law Center and was a fellow at the **International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT)** in Washington, DC. Influenced by her mother's employment struggles in Southwestern PA, and after personally witnessing the treatment of employees at a construction company in Cairo, Egypt, Dyana decided to become an advocate for workers' rights. While in law school, she served as an extern at the EEOC where she analyzed appeals of employment discrimination cases.

Melanie Benesh, JD '14 Part-time Program

Melanie is an evening student at Georgetown University Law Center, having graduated *magna cum laude* from Marquette University. She was a fellow at the union-side firm of **Murphy Anderson PLLC** in Washington, DC. Prior to law school, Melanie was a youth organizer of high school and college students in Wisconsin with Voces de la Frontera, an immigrant rights organization. She also spent time as a research assistant in Chiapas, Mexico, and at the Harrison Institute for Public Law at Georgetown.

"It is my hope to create a career which integrates direct services grassroots organizing with a broader policy focus and I'm very interested in learning from NELP's model which seems to innovatively combine the two."

- Ceilidh Gao



Pittsburgh Fellows (L to R)
Amanda Bundick, Megan Walker
and Brandon Gatto.

Danielle Blanks, JD '14

An Opportunity Scholar at Northern Illinois University College of Law, Danielle was a fellow at the **Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission's Office of Administrative Law Judges**. She earned her master's degree in Public Administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. She founded The Positive Radio Campaign, a grassroots organization which challenged the prevalence of misogyny and racial degradation in popular music through petitions and surveys. She also worked for the Chicago Housing Authority and was an analyst for the U. S. Dept. of Justice, Office of the Inspector General.

Amanda Bundick, JD '13

Having grown up in a union household, her father a proud member of Utility Workers Union Local 102, Amanda learned at an early age the special role organized labor plays in our society. A student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and President of the Pitt Law Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, her fellowship was at **United Steelworkers** in Pittsburgh. In her first year of law school, Amanda worked three jobs – as a judicial extern with the Superior Court of PA, a part-time clerk for a union-side labor attorney and a clerk for a union-side law firm.

Raymond Burke, JD '14

Raymond is a student at Boston College School of Law and was a fellow at **Greater Boston Legal Services**. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Boston College, Ray volunteered and worked for a number of organizations in El Salvador. He returned to the U.S. to work as a paralegal for the public benefits unit of Legal Aid of Western Missouri and volunteered at the Kansas City Worker Justice Center. He and other volunteers expanded their work to Lawrence, Kansas, where they formed the Lawrence Worker Justice Coalition.

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Benjamin Calkins, JD '13

Ben received his B.A. in History from West Virginia University and is currently a student at the West Virginia University College of Law. He was a fellow at the **Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, Office of the Commissioners and Office of the General Counsel** in Washington, DC. Ben served as an intern at Harper's Ferry National Historic Park and at a law firm in Fairmont, West Virginia.

Julie Cantor, JD '14

A student at American University Washington College of Law, Julie graduated from the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations and was a fellow at **Laborer's International Union of North America (LIUNA)** in Washington, DC. While at Cornell, Julie was a research assistant to Professor David Lipsky in the Scheinman Institute for Conflict Resolution and a volunteer at the Community Learning and Service Partnership. There, she assisted a Cornell Dining employee in achieving her goal of becoming a U.S. citizen. Following graduation, she became a seventh and eighth grade pre-algebra teacher with the Teach For America Corps and received a master's degree in Secondary Mathematics Teaching at American University in Washington, DC.

Meghan Clair, JD '13

Growing up in California's Central Valley, Meghan witnessed first-hand the daily struggles of migrant workers. As a student at the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, she was a law clerk for the Office of the Federal Defender for California's Eastern District and was a fellow at **UNITE HERE Local 2** in San Francisco. During her undergraduate years at UC San Diego, Meghan served three consecutive terms as Associate Student Government Senator and interned in U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer's San Diego office following graduation.

Benjamin Coate, JD '13

Ben is a student at the Chicago-Kent College of Law and was a fellow at **Community Legal Services, Inc.** in Philadelphia. His grandfather was a longtime union leader and workers' rights advocate and his family, strong supporters. Ben is a graduate of Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. Upon graduation, he joined Teach For America and served for two years teaching fourth grade in Donna, Texas near the Texas-Mexico border.

"As a student with a strong public interest focus, I am concerned about the persistent and ongoing consequences of racism in our society and in the workplace."

- Paul Jung

Daniela Conde, JD '13

Originally from Anaheim, California, Daniela received her bachelor's degree from UCLA. She is a student at the University of San Francisco School of Law and was a fellow at the **New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice**. Daniela came to her fellowship with 5 years of experience engaged in the workers' rights movement. She clerked at La Raza Central Legal in San Francisco and Bay Area Legal Aid, where she helped represent low-wage immigrant workers in discrimination and wage and hour cases and welfare recipients addressing legal issues preventing them from obtaining or maintaining employment. She has also participated in USF's Employment Law Clinic.

Julio Costa, JD '13

Born in Lima, Peru, Julio came to the U.S. at the age of 1 and settled in Chicago. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois and a student at Chicago-Kent College of Law. He was a fellow at **United Steelworkers** in Pittsburgh. While at the University of Illinois, Julio was an intern for Congressman Luis V. Gutierrez in Washington, DC, and an intern in the Organizing Department at USW in the Los Angeles area, where he played an integral role in an effort to rehire an entire department of workers who had been outsourced in the midst of seeking union representation. While at Chicago-Kent, Julio was awarded a fellowship with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, which placed him as a policy analyst in the office of U.S. Senator Robert Menendez.

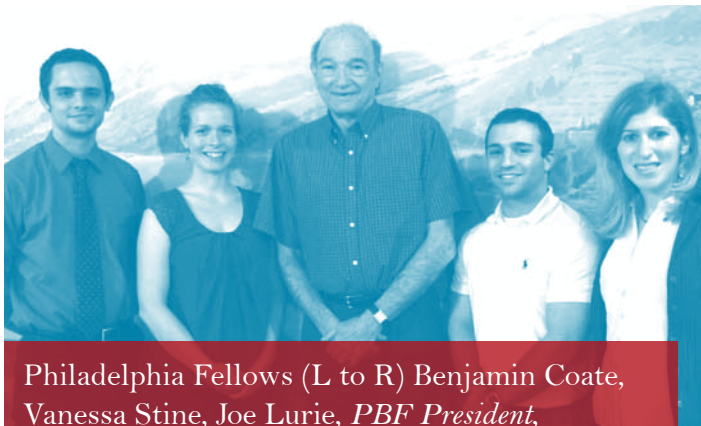
Marcella Coyne, JD '13

The daughter of Irish immigrants, Marcella is a student at American University Washington College of Law and was a fellow with **LIUNA**. Originally from Boston and a graduate of Boston University, she was a solicitor's intern for ABC Legal Services in Dublin, Ireland, and a civil litigation division intern in the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia in Washington, DC. At American University, she volunteered at the Public Defender's Office in New Orleans and clerked for the Executive Unit of the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office in Boston.

Judith Dávila, JD '14

Judith has a long-standing personal commitment to promoting the rights of immigrants in our country as the daughter of Mexican immigrants. She is a student at the University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law in Tucson and was a fellow with **CASA de Maryland**. Upon graduation from the University of San Diego, Judith moved to Washington, DC, and spent nearly a year as a public policy fellow at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. She then joined Crossroads Campaigns, a progressive political consulting firm, where she coordinated local and national programs promoting comprehensive immigration reform.

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Philadelphia Fellows (L to R) Benjamin Coate, Vanessa Stine, Joe Lurie, *PBF President*, Brandon Gatto and Laura Reznick.

Kyle deCant, JD '13

Kyle earned his bachelor's degree from Lafayette College in Easton, PA, majoring in Government & Law and Philosophy. He is a student at American University Washington College of Law and was a fellow with **Communication Workers of America** in Washington, DC. He is the Executive Editor for his school's Labor & Employment Law Forum and has previously volunteered for the Worker Rights Consortium, a non-profit that monitors apparel companies doing business with universities. Kyle was also an intern for the American Center for International Labor Solidarity of the AFL-CIO.

Alyson Dimmitt Gnam, JD '14

A student at the University of Washington School of Law, Alyson was a fellow with the **National Employment Law Project** in Seattle. Previously, she was a legal advocate for the Northwest Immigration Rights Project in Seattle where she assisted low-income survivors of domestic violence in their applications for immigration relief. She was also a Jackson Leadership Fellow in Guatemala, where she studied the effects of microfinance and land ownership projects in rural indigenous communities.

Oluwatosin Fadarey, JD '13

Tosin is originally from Nigeria and has lived in Lawrence, Massachusetts, since her family's arrival in the U.S. in 1994. She is a graduate of Brown University, a student at Vanderbilt University Law School and was a fellow with the **IBT** in Washington, DC. While at Brown, she was awarded a Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship at the University of Michigan. Following graduation, Tosin worked for LEAP Africa in Nigeria where she conducted employability workshops with Nigerian youth.

David Feinstein, JD '14

After graduating from Pomona College, David became an Americorps New York City Teaching Fellow, and a member of the United Federation of Teachers, teaching English at a New York City public high school. Following that experience, David worked at a number of New York City restaurants while earning his certification from the Court of Master Sommeliers. During that time, he explored the potential of labor law to improve the treatment of workers in the restaurant industry. David is a student at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and was a fellow with the **Service Employees International Union (SEIU)** in Washington, DC.

Cinthia Flores, JD '14

The daughter of Central American refugees, Cinthia was motivated to attend law school because of the injustices of the immigration system. She is a student at the University of California, Irvine, School of Law and was a fellow at the **National Day Laborer Organizing Network**. Upon graduation from UCLA, Cinthia worked at an immigration law office assisting with asylum, refugee and u-visa cases. She volunteered in an alternative winter break project with the Mississippi Center for Justice.

Brady Francisco-FitzMaurice, JD '13

Brady, a student at Boston College Law School, completed his fellowship at **Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein**, a union-side law firm in New York. He is inspired to advocate for workers thanks to his mother's high profile as a union steward for the Connecticut State Employees Association. Before law school, Brady graduated from Fordham University and worked as an English Teacher in a public school outside of Seoul, Korea, where he learned of the struggles of the Korean Teachers Union. Brady also worked as an organizer for SEIU's childcare campaign in Massachusetts.

Ceilidh Gao, JD '13

A Harvard Law School student and staff member of *Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left*, Ceilidh was a fellow at the **National Employment Law Project** in New York. She is passionate about representing the rights of low-income and high-risk individuals. This is evident through her work representing immigrant women and children at the YWCA Women's Shelter in Toronto and as a Student Attorney at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, where she represents clients in matters regarding housing law, unemployment and disability benefits.

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“I hope that this summer experience will allow me to begin my ultimate long-term goal of protecting and fighting for middle class workers with the utmost diligence and respect that they deserve.”

- Brandon Gatto

Brandon Gatto, JD '13

Brandon was a fellow at **Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union No. 19** in Philadelphia and a student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. As a son of a union painter, Brandon has an intimate understanding of the needs of blue-collar families. He was a summer associate at a firm in Kingston, PA, and a law clerk for a firm in Pittsburgh. He is enthusiastic about working in the labor movement and has dedicated himself to protecting the rights of unions and workers.

Michael Gillman, JD '13

A student at the University of Notre Dame Law School, Michael was a fellow at **LIUNA** in Washington, DC. Prior to his Peggy Browning Fellowship, Michael was an intern for the Community Justice Project in Pittsburgh, serving clients in the areas of workers' rights and housing law. He is ardently committed to grassroots-oriented work in the labor movement and participated in a seminar titled, "Migrant Experiences," examining the plight of farmworkers in Immokalee, Florida.

Allison Gotfried, JD '13

Allison, a student at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, completed her fellowship at the union-side law firm of **Kennedy, Jennik & Murray, P.C.** in New York City. As President of the Cardozo chapter of the Unemployment Action Center and having worked at the Labor Bureau of the New York State Office of the Attorney General, Allison gained first-hand experience in representing unemployed workers. She is driven to strengthening her knowledge of employment and labor law so she can continue advocating for workers as a labor attorney.

Jessica Harris, JD '14

As the daughter of two veterans of the civil rights movement and union activists, Jessica was weaned on stories of sit-ins, strikes and marches. Inspired to become an activist herself, Jessica sought out social justice organizations during her years at Yale, and served as Project Coordinator for a research project on government accountability in Uganda and South Africa. Jessica is a student at Harvard Law School, and was a fellow at **SEIU** in Washington, DC.

Andrew Ingram, JD '13

Andrew was a fellow at the **NLRB Division of Judges, San Francisco**, and is a student at the University of Texas School of Law. His father and grandfathers, being union members as railroad conductors and an airline mechanic, gave Andrew clarity about the importance of unions to working families. His first summer of law school was spent as a clerk for Chief Judge Royce C. Lamberth of the U.S. District Court in Washington, DC. Last summer, Andrew worked for two labor and employment firms in Austin, Texas and Washington, DC.

Paul Jung, JD '13

A student in the David J. Epstein Program in Public Interest Law and Policy at the UCLA School of Law, Paul completed his fellowship at the **Los Angeles Black Worker Center Project**. Paul is the son of Korean immigrants and his mother worked as a garment worker. His dedication to serving high-risk populations stems from his family's experiences in Los Angeles. As an undergraduate, Paul interned at the Youth Law Center at Bowdoin College in Maine. Prior to law school, he worked with several advocacy organizations in gang reduction and youth development. Recently, he worked in the LA City Attorney's Office, Criminal Division, Gang Section.

Rachel Kaplan, JD '13

Rachel comes from a long line of union members and activists, starting with her great-grandfather, and this lineage of union activism fuels her own desire to work in labor and employment law. She is a student at American University Washington College of Law and has worked in the Office of Special Counsel in Washington, DC, assisting attorneys in protecting federal whistleblowers from retaliation and investigating claims of misconduct within the government. Rachel was a fellow at the **American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)**, in Washington, DC, of which her mother is an active member.

Evamaria Kartzian, JD '13

Being the first in her family to attend college, Evamaria realized early that her family's lives would have been very different were it not for her mother's union membership. A student at Albany Law School and a member of the Albany Law Review, she completed her fellowship at **Make the Road New York**, which empowers low-income working class families. Evamaria previously worked as an internship co-coordinator for SEIU Local 32BJ's Youth Brigade, an education organizer for the New York Civic Participation Project (a community organization partnering with labor unions) and a legal intern for the Tenant Foreclosure Protection Clinic.

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Matthew Kent, JD '13

Matt is a student at the University of Maryland School of Law, and was a fellow at the **National Employment Lawyers Association** in Washington, DC. He draws from his own previous experiences to help improve labor conditions for workers. Those experiences include working as a non-unionized employee during his college years, his internships with U.S. Senator Charles Schumer and Representative Frank Krativil, Jr., his work in the Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office and his participation in the Occupy Wall Street protests in New York City.

Gregory Kirschenbaum, JD '13

Greg was eager to channel his two passions, workers' rights and baseball, into his fellowship at the **Major League Baseball Players Association** in New York. A student at Brooklyn Law School, he has interned with The Legal Aid Society, Employment Law Unit and The Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, Water Branch. More recently he interned with the firm Cary Kane, LLP in New York and aspires to serve as an advocate for workers everywhere.

Martín Klein, JD '13

From a young age, Martín's pro-union parents taught him the importance of fighting for the rights and dignity of workers. These values inspired Martín to become an advocate for workers. He is now a student at Temple University Beasley School of Law and worked as a fellow at the **Working Hands Legal Clinic** in Chicago. Before his fellowship, Martín interned at Friends of Farmworkers in Philadelphia. He is president of his law school chapter of the Latin American Law Students Association and Chairman of the Labor and Employment Law Committee.

Jacob Korder, JD '13

Jacob is a student at New York Law School and his fellowship was at the **Workers Defense League** in New York City. When he is not in classes, Jacob works as an usher in a Broadway theatre, and is himself a member of his local IATSE union chapter. He is a co-chair/training coordinator for the New York Law School Chapter of the Unemployment Action Center and has interned at two labor and employment law firms in New York City.

"While enrolled in a course taught by Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts, I studied the work of Thurgood Marshall. I strive to do for immigrant workers what Marshall has done for black Americans."

- Holly Moncavage



Chicago Fellows and Alumni (L to R)
William Igoe, *PBF'03*, Josiah Groff, *PBF'05*,
Nedu Nweze, Renee McKinney, *PBF'06*,
Martín Klein, Emil Totonchi, *PBF'10*
and Roy Carlson.

Nicholas Kreitman, JD '13

Granted his master's degree in Social Studies from the University of Chicago, Nick is a student at the John Marshall School of Law and he was a fellow at **Communications Workers of America** in Washington, DC. Before his fellowship, Nicholas worked as a law clerk for the United Auto Workers and as a campaign extern for SEIU Local 1's Stand for Security Campaign. In addition, Nick received union organizing training from UNITE HERE in 2008 and worked as a community organizer for Empower Our Neighborhoods in New Brunswick, NJ.

Wendy LaManque, JD '13

Wendy was a fellow at **Communications Workers of America, District 1** in New York and is a student at Brooklyn Law School. Her undergraduate background at Cornell's School of Industrial & Labor Relations led her to focus on labor law in her legal studies. Her past internship experiences include NLRB Region 29, SAG-AFTRA, and the NYC Office of Collective Bargaining, all of which have given her excellent motivation to serve workers and labor unions in their fight for justice.

Joshua Lowery, JD '13

Josh is a student at the University of Maryland School of Law, and brought his knowledge and background experience as a professional economist with him to his fellowship at the union-side law firm of **O'Donoghue & O'Donoghue** in Washington, DC. His father is the business manager for his local union of the Int'l Union of Elevator Constructors, where Josh was also once a member, and his insight on union issues encouraged him to pursue a career as a labor attorney.

David Matulewicz, JD '13

Before his fellowship at the union-side firm of **Mehri & Skalet PLLC**, in Washington, DC, David's interest in labor and employment law began in his undergraduate years during a summer job working as a legal assistant for corporate counsel at a construction company. His experience helping a former employee secure COBRA benefits was so challenging that he has pursued a career in labor and employment law. David has interned at a law firm and clerked for the Hon. Marcia Morales Howard in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. David is a student at Boston University School of Law.

Carter Meader, JD '13

Carter is a student at American University Washington College of Law, where she is a junior staff member for the *Journal of Gender, Social Policy, and the Law*. She interned at the Department of Justice, Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices. Carter is passionate about civil rights and employment law. Her fellowship was completed at **AFSCME** in Washington, DC.

Erin Medeiros, JD '13

Erin started her career as a paralegal at the union-side law firm of **Feinberg, Campbell & Zack, P.C.**, in Boston, MA. Desiring to further her work on behalf of unions and workers, she decided to become an attorney, and is now a student at Howard University School of Law. In addition to her fellowship with **AFSCME**, in Washington, DC, Erin has also served as an intake volunteer for the DC Employment Justice Center's Workers' Rights Clinic.

Joseph Michaels, JD '14

Joe comes from a fervently pro-union family in Michigan, which naturally led him to seek a career in the labor movement. He is a graduate of Wayne State University in Detroit, where he was active in the campus chapter of United Students Against Sweatshops. A student at the University of Michigan Law School, Joe is passionate about workers' rights and was a researcher and organizer with various unions including **AFSCME** and the **AFL-CIO**. He completed his fellowship at **United Auto Workers** in Detroit, of which his grandfather was a local union member for many years.

Pascal Moleus, JD '13

Pascal, a fellow at the **American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE)** in Washington, DC, is a student at American University Washington College of Law. A first-generation Haitian American, he decided to study law from his desire to improve working conditions for immigrants and low-wage workers. Previous to his fellowship, Pascal worked as a judicial intern for the Honorable Karen R. Calmeise at the Department of Employment Services in Washington, DC, where he assisted in cases of workers' compensation and employee benefits. Pascal is a senior staff member and Lead Line Editor for his school's Labor and Employment Forum.

Holly Moncavage, JD '13

Growing up in Pennsylvania's Coal Region, Holly witnessed the injustice faced by the region's immigrant workers. For this reason, Holly decided to pursue law to become an advocate for immigrant workers, and help to improve their lives and working conditions. Holly is a student at Penn State Dickinson School of Law and has completed her fellowship at **The Workplace Project**, an organization that works directly with immigrants and other underserved populations in New York.

Mayra Mora, JD '13

Mayra is a student at Phoenix School of Law and was a fellow at the **NLRB Contempt Litigation and Compliance Branch** in Washington, DC. She worked for over six years as a Political Coordinator for SEIU Local 817 and a Lead Labor Representative for SEIU United Healthcare Workers West in California prior to law school. She was also an organizer for **UNITE HERE** in San Diego, where she educated workers statewide about labor rights and union organization.

James Morlath, JD '14

A student at Georgetown University Law Center, James completed his fellowship at **United Mine Workers of America** in Washington, DC. During his undergraduate years at The George Washington University, he worked as a campaign intern for UFCW's Wake Up Wal-Mart campaign and a legal writer for Binder and Binder, a disability claims-focused law firm in New York. James also studied the effects of the pineapple industry in Costa Rica through the U.S. Student Fulbright Program, moving him to become an ardent advocate for free trade and fair working conditions for all laborers.

"I'd like to use my legal skills and organizing experience to help build leverage and increase union strength and density. I'd also like to gain experience with employee benefit funds. As a public sector organizer, I watched employers substitute future pension contributions for cost of living wage increases, likely in the hope that the sustainability of those future pension increases would be someone else's problem to solve."

- Nayla Wren

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New York Fellows and Alumni (L to R) *Seated:* Evamarie Kartzian, Kate Swearengen, *PBF'10*, Dan Flaherty, *PBF'09*, Katie Hansen, *PBF'08*, Brady Francisco-Fitzmaurice; *Standing:* Gwynne Wilcox, Esq., *PBF Board member*, Jacob Korder, Gregory Kirschenbaum, Ceilidh Gao, Ezinwanyi Ukegbu, Allison Gottfried, Wendy LaManque, Marie Winfield, Nora Sullivan and Jackie Tekyi, *PBF'10*.

Sean Murphy, JD '13

For over ten years, Sean worked as a sound engineer and show steward in California and was an active member of his local IATSE union. The support and solidarity he received over the years from his fellow union members inspired him to become an attorney and advocate for working people. Sean is a student at the University of New Mexico School of Law and was a fellow at the **Legal Aid Society Employment Law Center** in San Francisco. He was also a clerk for a labor and employment law firm in Albuquerque and an outreach volunteer at the New Mexico Center for Law and Poverty.

Susana Naranjo, JD '13

Susana, who was a fellow at the **CLEAN Carwash Campaign** in Los Angeles, is a student at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Before she became a U.S. citizen, Susana grew up with first-hand encounters of the problems faced by undocumented workers on a daily basis. Susana is committed to become a labor attorney so she can fight on behalf of immigrants and low-wage workers, and has been actively involved in community labor campaigns throughout Los Angeles, including the National Day Laborers Organizing Network.

Nedu Nweze, JD '14

As the son of Nigerian immigrants, Nedu believes that fair, sufficient employment can make communities strong and vibrant. He is a student at the Indiana University Maurer School of Law and an active member of the Inmate Legal Assistance Project. Before his fellowship at the **Chicago Newspaper Guild**, Nedu worked as a community organizer for the Obama for America campaign in his home city of Philadelphia, sparking his interest in community activism.

Nicole Oliver, JD '13

Nicole is a student at Brooklyn Law School, and was a fellow at **NLRB Region 5** in Baltimore. She began waitressing at the age of 16 and worked in restaurants throughout her early adulthood. This exposed her to the unfair working conditions that run commonplace throughout the food service industry. In addition to her studies, Nicole has also worked as a student attorney for the Brooklyn Law School Employment Law Clinic.

Pamela Palmer, JD '13

Pamela, who was a fellow at **AFGE** in Washington, DC, is a student at William and Mary Law School. Enthusiastic about working for social justice, Pamela regularly participates in community service efforts, and once partnered with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for a research-related service project. In addition to her law studies, Pamela has worked as an extern for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Norfolk, VA, and the Honorable Bryant L. Sugg in Newport News, VA.

Isela Ramos, JD '14

Isela is a student at Northeastern University School of Law and completed her fellowship at **SEIU** in Washington, DC. She is committed to the goals and vision of SEIU, having previously worked for the union in California and Texas as a senior labor union organizer and as a labor policy intern at the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Labor Policy Office. Isela seeks to serve women and immigrant workers, and has most recently volunteered at the DC Employment Justice Center.

Amit Rana, JD '13

Having received his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, Amit is a student at the University of California, Davis School of Law. His fellowship was at the union-side law firm of **Mehri & Skalet, PLLC** in Washington, DC. Immediately prior to his fellowship, Amit worked as an extern with the California Department of Fair Employment & Housing, where he helped to investigate employment discrimination claims. Amit has long been active in his community, and before entering law school he worked with service organizations such as the Sierra Club and the Sacramento Region Community Foundation.

Jonathan Reiner, JD '13

Jonathan, a fellow at the **AFL-CIO** in Washington, DC, is a student at the University of Minnesota Law School. Born into a union family, he has been engaged in union activism and political activity from an early age. Prior to law school, he assisted the political director at UFCW Local 1189 in St. Paul. Jonathan also worked with the Operating Engineers Local 49 of Minneapolis as part of the AFL-CIO's Law Student Union Summer Program. Jonathan served as Vice President of his school's Student Employment and Labor Law Association, and was a staff member of the *ABA Journal of Labor & Employment Law*.

Laura Reznick, JD '13

Laura's first direct experience with the labor movement was in 2004 at a UCLA seminar on labor and the workplace, including an internship at the Garment Worker Center. She entered labor law studies after having already devoted five years working at the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, DC – first as a Data Intern, then later as a Political Research Analyst. A student at New York University School of Law and a Dean's Scholarship Recipient, Laura completed her fellowship at the **U.S. Department of Labor**.

Eric Sader, JD '13

Eric is a student at the University of Kansas School of Law and was a fellow at **AFGE** in Washington, DC. He is jointly pursuing a Master of Social Work degree in addition to his law studies, and wants to focus his life's work on conflict resolution and advocacy for disadvantaged populations. Eric is also an active community volunteer. He spent several summers as a public interest fellow for the Ulster Project, addressing religious sectarian issues among Northern Ireland youth.

Samantha Schnoerr, JD '14

Samantha graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her senior honors thesis focused on the anti-union legal strategies of Wal-Mart. Samantha is a student at the Michigan State University College of Law and completed her fellowship at **United Auto Workers** in Detroit. She was also an intern with Verité, a global nonprofit dedicated to conducting labor audits on factories abroad and improving working conditions for low-wage workers around the world.

Randal Smith, JD '13

As a Detroit native, Randal was influenced by the ongoing labor struggles of the auto industry. This led to his undergraduate studies at Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations. At that time, he interned at General Motors' Corporate Division at the onset of the company's negotiation with the UAW. He was a summer extern at the Michigan Court of Appeals and a judicial intern for the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Randal is a student at Howard University School of Law and was a fellow at the **Federal Labor Relations Authority** in Washington, DC.

Vanessa Stine, JD '14

Vanessa is a student at Villanova University School of Law and a Public Interest Scholar. She was a community organizer for Stand for Children, an advocacy group that seeks to help improve the K-12 public school system. Prior to law school, Vanessa was a legal assistant at an immigration-focused law firm, as well as a volunteer with day laborers at the VOZ Workers' Rights Education Project in Portland. Her interest in working on behalf of immigrants and the underserved continues in law school with her work on the Innocence Project and the National Lawyers' Guild U-Visa Clinic. Vanessa was a fellow at the **Friends of Farmworkers** in Philadelphia.

John Sullivan, JD '14

Before law school, John served in the Peace Corps in Guatemala, working for two years as a Food Security Specialist and assisting with community building. Because of this experience, John decided to attend law school to become an advocate for Spanish-speaking workers in the United States, and is currently a student at Tulane University Law School. Prior to his summer fellowship at **LIUNA** in Washington, DC, John worked as a legal and intake volunteer at the Loyola University Wage Claim Clinic, utilizing his fluency in Spanish to assist Spanish-speaking clients.

Nora Sullivan, JD '13

Nora, who was a fellow at the union-side law firm **Levy Ratner, P.C.** in New York, is a student at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Nora's background prior to law school includes working with AmeriCorps' King County Housing Authority and ACORN of King County, both located in the greater Seattle region. One of her major projects at ACORN was the Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports, a state-wide campaign which sought to improve the working conditions of short-haul truck drivers. Nora was a student in the AFL-CIO's Union Summer Program with CWA District One in New York, where she continued as a law clerk after the summer program ended.

Benjamin Teets, JD '13

Benjamin became interested in the labor movement during high school. While a student at the University of South Carolina and during an internship with the AFL-CIO Food and Allied Service Trades Department, he witnessed the split between the AFL-CIO and the Change to Win Federation. Following a five-year stint in the U.S. Marine Corps in Iraq and Afghanistan, during which he continued his studies, Ben interned with the Center on Conscience and War as a GI Rights Counselor, at the Restaurant Opportunities Center (a DC workers' center), at the Public Justice Center and at the D.C. Employment Justice Center. He is a student at Georgetown University Law Center and was a fellow at **SEIU** in Washington, DC.

Adam Thomas, JD '13

Adam was a flight attendant for American Airlines when he first became a union member of his local Association of Flight Attendants (AFA) Council. Seeing the benefits and protections that came from a union membership, he became actively involved with his AFA Council, eventually serving as Council President for three years. Following that experience, Adam attended the University of Massachusetts and worked at their Labor Resource Center. He volunteered for the Massachusetts Teachers Association and was selected for the College of Management Honors program. As a student at Northeastern University School of Law, Adam has interned for a small plaintiff-side firm in Boston. He hopes to use what he learned from his fellowship at the firm of **Schwarzwald, McNair & Fusco LLP** in Cleveland to eventually enter into a union-side labor practice specializing in ERISA law.

"In the long-term, I would like to work for a labor-side law firm. Working as a Peggy Browning Fellow would give me greater knowledge and appreciation of the skills needed to be successful when working with union clients."

- Marie Winfield

Suzanne Summerlin Tzuanos, JD '13

With her husband and his family active in the labor movement, Suzanne decided to change from her first career in journalism, as an award-winning television news and documentary producer in Florida, to becoming an advocate for workers' rights. Her interest in labor law and dispute resolution was piqued while producing a documentary on alternative dispute resolution in Rwanda. She then became a Supreme Court-Certified Mediator and has clerked for both a union-side labor law firm and the Office of the City Attorney General in Gainesville, Florida, working on issues related to collective bargaining agreements with more than a dozen local unions. Suzanne was a summer fellow at **AFGE** in Washington, DC, and is a student at the University of Florida College of Law.

Ezinwanyi Ukegbu, JD '13

Ezi is a student at American University Washington College of Law and was a fellow at **Kennedy, Jennik & Murray, P.C.** in New York City. A Nigerian native who grew up in New York City, Ezi is interested in employment discrimination and employee benefits law. She previously worked with the NAACP Legal Defense & Education Fund and assisted their Director of Litigation in case research and processing. She also interned in the Office of the Chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Washington, DC.

Megan Walker, JD '13

Megan has long been passionate about community service and wishes to translate this passion into a law career. She is a student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and was a fellow at the **Community Justice Project** in Pittsburgh. She previously worked as a summer staff member and Operations Coordinator for the Appalachian Service Project, where she assisted underserved Appalachian families in rural Kentucky. She has also interned for the Neighborhood Legal Services Association in Pittsburgh, where she helped with cases on foreclosures, bankruptcy, and landlord/tenant issues.

Ariana Washington, JD '13

Ariana's interest in labor law began when she was working as an intern for the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, where she encountered numerous cases of U.S. veterans who were facing employment discrimination due to their military status. Ariana later interned at AFSCME in Ypsilanti, Michigan, where she helped to build union support for employees at the University of Michigan. She was also an intern at the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, focusing on poverty issues and the U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights. Ariana was a fellow at **AFGE** in Washington, DC, and is a student at Emory University School of Law.

2012 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



Washington, DC Fellows (L to R) *Kneeling:* Michael Gillman, Julie Cantor, Joshua Lowery, David Matulewicz; *First Row:* Selby Abraham, James Morlath, Carter Meader, Oluwatosin Fadarey, Ariana Washington, Marcella Coyne, Mayra Mora; *Second Row:* Amit Rana, Jonathan Reiner, Rachel Kaplan, Charles Agoos, John Sullivan, Dennis Walsh, Esq., *PBF Board Chair*, Pat Szymanski, Esq., *PBF Board member*, Eric Sader, Danielle Blanks, Erin Medeiros, Pascal Moleus, Joe Lurie, *PBF President*, Suzanne Summerlin Tzuanos, Benjamin Calkins, Dyana Aziz, Nicholas Kreitman, Judith Dávila, Randal Smith, Pamela Palmer and Kyle deCant.

Eric Weitz, JD '14

Eric is a student at Stanford School of Law and was a fellow at **United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America** in Pittsburgh. Before entering law school, Eric received his bachelor's degree in history at the University of Chicago. There he wrote his senior undergraduate thesis on labor history, focusing on the 1937 "Memorial Day Massacre" in Chicago and its impact on the then-young Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO). He has served as a client advocate at the Stanford chapter of the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project, which assists Iraqi families living as refugees in Jordan, and is the member editor of the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

Marie Winfield, JD '13

Marie, who grew up in a trade-unionist family, was a fellow at **Levy Ratner, P.C.** and is a student at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York. She has been a legal intern for the Fair Housing Justice Center in New York; an immigrant rights intern at the Manhattan Borough President's Office; an intern with the Immigrant Defense Project, District Council 37 and the Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic in New York. She has served as staff editor of the Cardozo Law Review. In the summer of 2011, she took part in the AFL-CIO Lawyers' Coordinating Committee Minority Outreach Program.

Elizabeth Wiseman, JD '13

After receiving degrees in flute performance at the Ohio State University and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Elizabeth began working in a textbook warehouse and was appalled when the company eliminated one-third of her department in layoffs in one day. Even though her job was spared, she realized her passion for workplace justice and decided to enroll in law school back at Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She has served as staff editor of the Ohio State Law Journal, Vice President for the Labor and Employment Law Association and received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Research. Elizabeth was a fellow at **Schwarzwald, McNair & Fusco LLP** in Cleveland, Ohio.

Nayla Wren, JD '14

Nayla is a student at the UCLA School of Law and was a fellow at **Gilbert & Sackman**, a union-side law firm in Los Angeles. Nayla grew up in a union family and can recount childhood memories of going to picket lines with her grandparents. Prior to law school, Nayla worked as a union organizer and educator for three major unions in Los Angeles: the AFL-CIO, the Screen Actors Guild (now SAG-AFTRA) and SEIU. She also worked for progressive causes as an intern for the late U.S. Senator Paul Wellstone of Minnesota.

Peggy Browning Fund

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2012 Peggy Browning School-Year Fellows



Roy Carlson, JD '14

Roy is a student at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago and is a school-year fellow at the **Chicago Newspaper Guild**. During his undergraduate years at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, he assisted with various advocacy projects as a student intern for a consulting firm.

Following graduation, Roy became a Field Organizer for the New York State Democratic Party and an Organizer with SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania. In that position, he helped workers form their own union in markets where unions traditionally did not exist.

Elizabeth White, JD '13

Also a school-year fellow at the **Chicago Newspaper Guild**, Elizabeth is a student at The University of Chicago Law School. Prior to law school, she earned a Master's degree in Communication, Graduate Program in Journalism at Stanford University. Her master's project covered the fight of a *San Francisco Chronicle* reporter and his union to win back his job after being dismissed for political activity. Following graduate school, Elizabeth was a journalist working in four bureaus across the country as a reporter and editor for The Associated Press. During that time, she witnessed the work done by the News Media Guild, which represents AP's editorial and technical employees, and was always impressed and excited by the Guild's efforts to protect the rights of workers.