



Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation

... dedicated to women's education since 1983

www.wlamfoundation.org

September, 2007

Scholarships to Top \$50,000 in 2008!

Thanks to the generosity of individual donors and major corporate gifts from the Ford Fund and General Motors, the WLAM Foundation's 2008 Awards to Outstanding Women Law Students will exceed last year's record of \$50,000. Twenty women will receive awards totaling \$51,500 next spring, following a highly competitive application process. In 2007, nearly 100 applicants vied for the awards, which range from \$2,000 to \$3,000 each. The Foundation is assisted by committees at each law school, which devote considerable time and effort to publicizing the awards and screening applications. Each award category has unique application criteria, with leadership and commitment to women's and social issues among them.

Nine of the twenty awards are named for the Foundation itself, and are funded through donations from individuals, law firms and corporations. These "Foundation Scholars" each receive \$2,000.

Four Ford Motor Company Fund Scholars will each receive a \$3,500 award made to students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership capabilities. Ford has made this generous commitment for seven years running! Dolores Nunez Studier, a Ford attorney, serves on the WLAM Foundation Board.

General Motors Scholars, one at each law school, each receive a \$3,000 award reserved for women law students who have demonstrated leadership and commitment to diversity issues. This is the third year of GM's generous support of Foundation scholarships, guided by the WLAMF Board membership of Alice McCann Osburn.

And, new for 2008 and funded by the Dickinson Wright Women's Network, a student at the University of Michigan Law School will receive a \$2,500 award reserved for a student who has demonstrated leadership capabilities in advancing the position of women in society, in business and in the community.

Students apply each year by October 15th, and awardees are chosen by the Foundation Board in January. The 2008 Outstanding Women Law Students will be feted at the Foundation's March 27, 2008, Awards Reception at the St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth, Michigan. More information about the application process, awards and annual reception appears on the Foundation's web page, www.wlamfoundation.org.

Karen R. Maheu Awarded 2008 Ford Mentium Scholarship



The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation is pleased to announce that Karen R. Maheu will serve as the 2008 Ford Mentium 100 Awardee. Ms. Maheu is Vice President of Global Resourcing for Lumen Legal, in Royal Oak, Michigan. While at Lumen Legal (formerly Contract Counsel), Ms. Maheu played key roles in transforming the company from a tri-state legal staffing company to one with a national presence. Before joining Lumen Legal in 1999, Ms. Maheu served as Director of Career Services at Michigan State University College of Law, a particularly challenging

position during that school's transition from private to public institution. Ms. Maheu has helped hundreds of lawyers to grow as in their careers, and now hopes to benefit, and serve the community, as a result of the Mentium leadership experience.

Ms. Maheu receives a full scholarship from the Ford Motor Company Fund for her participation in Mentium 100, a nationally-recognized program that matches high potential women with more senior executive mentors from different backgrounds. Ms. Maheu is the sixth recipient of the Ford/WLAMF Mentium award. The year-long program includes six half-day business forums, numerous meetings between mentors and mentees, and creation of a peer network with over 100 professional women. Its value for women lawyers of high potential is widely recognized.

Mentium, continued

The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation administers funding of the annual Ford Mentium 100 Award, selecting an awardee who is a lawyer or volunteer for a non-profit organization, with a minimum of six years of professional experience, demonstrated leadership capability, above-average performance, and proven commitment to her own growth. Ford's commitment to the education of women is demonstrated not only by this award, but also its generous support of the Foundation's annual awards to outstanding women law students. A total of \$19,000 was contributed by the Ford Fund and Ford Motor Company to WLAMF scholarships last year.

WLAM Foundation Contributions

Do you know the power of a dollar contributed to the WLAM Foundation? Only pennies (generally, under 10% of money raised) go to administrative costs, and the rest goes directly into projects supporting women's education.

Contributions are made in several forms: fundraising events take place during the year, WLAM members exercise their "dues check-off" option, art prints are available any time, and firms and corporations take part in the annual Dean's List campaign. You can jump in right now through another popular option: use the contribution form in this newsletter to honor a special person or event. Whichever giving choice you make, we'll be sure to acknowledge your contribution here.

The Foundation Board thanks these generous donors who made recent tax-deductible contributions.

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Save the Date: Annual Awards Reception Set for March 27, 2008

Please save the evening of Thursday, March 27, 2008 for the Annual Awards Reception of the WLAM Foundation. This is our time to introduce the 2008 Outstanding Women Law Students, twenty women who will receive over \$50,000 in award money in 2008. And, the Reception is also the Foundation's time to recognize and thank the donors who make these awards possible. The setting for the 2008 WLAMF Awards Reception is the St. John's Conference Center, in Plymouth, Michigan, a lovely setting enjoyed by more than 100 attendees of the 2008 Reception.

Visit the WLAM Foundation on the Web!

The WLAM Foundation maintains a Web site, www.wlamfoundation.org, which provides news about law student scholarships, fundraising events, and much more. Photos of art work, supporting attorney-artists, events and contributors provide a great exhibition of how the Foundation fulfills its mission of supporting the education of women.

Contribution Form

Your contribution is a way to recognize and honor special people and events. If you wish publication of the reason for your contribution, please provide it here:

Contribution in honor of:

[please provide name or other details]

Donation amount: _____

Your name and address:

Honoree's name and address [so that we can acknowledge your gift]:

Contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

Please send this form and your check to:
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645 Griswold; 3300 Penobscot Building
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