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## About NJVLA

New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (NJVLA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides *pro bono* (free) legal referrals to organizations involved in culture or the arts and individuals involved in any creative or cultural endeavor, including music professionals, visual artists, dancers, and writers.

NJVLA matches artist and arts and cultural organization clients with volunteer attorneys who assist them with arts-related legal issues such as copyright, contracts between artists of every discipline and other parties, taxes on artist royalties, and real estate and landlord/tenant issues regarding studio and gallery space, as well as help them to resolve many other types of arts-related legal problems.

NJVLA provides speakers on a wide range of arts-related legal topics. Our website, [www.njvla.org](http://www.njvla.org), contains information on and links to a variety of other arts-related legal issues and services.

NJVLA is the recipient of grant awards from The New Jersey State Council on the Arts; The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; and The IOLTA Fund of the Bar of New Jersey.

NJVLA also presents educational programs and pro-



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## “Mask-querade” Evening a Huge Success!

On Friday, October 27, 2006, New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (NJVLA) hosted the Mask-querade Evening. This fundraiser took place at the beautiful Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick and featured a silent auction of masks and other artworks, most of which were both

created and donated by area artists. In addition, the crowd of nearly 100 attorneys, judges, artists, and arts patrons were treated to the musical stylings of the New Jersey Salsa Project and delicious food and cocktails.



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# “Mask-querade” Evening Cont’d...



Siegmar “Sig” Silber, Esq., with the wonderful pen and ink drawing “Mask-querade.”

One of the true highlights of the auction was NJVLA Board Secretary Siegmar Silber, Esq.’s pen and ink drawing “Mask-querade,” which he created during the event as the crowd watched in fascination (see photograph at left).

at right), to NJVLA Board member Robert L. Steinbaum, Esq., publisher of the *New Jersey Law Journal*, honoring him for all his hard work in getting NJVLA off the ground and being instrumental in incorporating the organization in 2005.



Another highlight of the event was the presentation made by NJVLA Board President Nicholas Stevens, Esq. (on right in photograph

The event raised approximately \$8,000 for NJVLA.

## What Clients are Saying About NJVLA

“Wow – [NJVLA staff] were so great – I can’t tell you. They were thorough and professional and they got the job done in an amazingly short amount of time!!! We were so impressed! We needed to re-write our bylaws, make changes in officers and get everything filed and approved within two weeks in order to respond to an IRS deadline. [The NJVLA volunteer attorneys] did it and we received our determination letter by fax only 6 days later!”

— Margaret Swinchowki,  
*Palisades Virtuosi*



NJVLA Board member Pamela Labaj, Esq. (with festive mask) and artist Susan Freeman chat at the NJVLA Mask-querade Evening.

(From left) Herman Rosenberg, Mary Jo Mathias, Esther Steinbaum, and artist Little Bobby Duncan enjoy themselves at the NJVLA Mask-querade Evening at the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum.



## Many Thanks to Those Donating Works to the Auction

### New Jersey Artists

- Chiara Bertin
- Mark E. Chernin
- “Little Bobby” Duncan
- Phyllis Halsted Freedman
- Susan J. Freeman
- Benjamin Hollis
- Ann Light
- Ruth W. Manning
- Tom Manning
- Joanne M. Nestor
- Ellen Rebarber
- Harry Rubel

### Bucks County, PA, artists

- Gail Bracegirdle
- Dot Bunn
- Diana Contine of Dakota Moon
- James Feehan
- Nora Lewis

- Susan Roseman
- David Leopold of the Studio of Ben Solowey

### Philadelphia artist

- Scott Johnston

### The House of Clay

- Abbie Gray
- Hollis Citron
- Susan Gross
- Tony Gray
- Arthur Citron
- Matt Gross
- Jared Citron (age 6)
- Lacie Gray (age 9)
- Sidney Gray (age 6)
- Skylar Citron (age 3)

### The Paper Making Class at the Mason Gross School of Art at Rutgers University

- Rebecca Androwski
- Kerry Carolan
- Tory Franklin
- Melissa Grimshaw

- Jennifer Hillyer
- Amanda Jessup
- Delia Kovac
- Anne Q. McKeown
- Natalie Northrup
- Elizabeth Santana
- Joyce Tom
- Keith J. Varadi
- Aviva Westheim

### Other Items Donated by:

- The Honorable Paul W. Armstrong, J.S.C.
- McCarter & English, LLP
- New Jersey Theatre Alliance
- Sussex County Arts & Heritage Council
- Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum

*Winston* by Susan Roseman, one of the works created and donated to the “Mask-querade” silent auction by a local artist. Reproduced by permission of the artist.



## Thanks to All for Helping Out!

I want to thank all the artists who so generously donated the wonderful fruits of their creativity to make our event a truly special occasion. I also want to thank everybody who bought tickets, bought an ad in the ad book, and made a donation to our wonderful organization, as well as the NJVLA Board of Directors for their assistance in

planning the event. Finally, I want to thank the Rutgers School of Law-Camden and Seton Hall University School of Law students who put so much time and effort into this night, particularly Kathryn “Kate” Lewis and J. Brugh Lower, who truly went above and beyond the call of duty. With this much help and support, NJVLA

will be able to serve the Arts Community in the great Garden State for a long time to come.

— Tracey I. Batt, Esq., NJVLA

Executive Director



Anish Joshi, Esq.; NJVLA Executive Director Tracey I. Batt, Esq.; Stephanie Miller; and Ivana Scarola (from left) ham it up at the NJVLA Mask-querade Evening.



## **NJVLA STAFF AND DIRECTORS:**

### **Executive Director:**

Tracey I. Batt, Esq.

### **2006 Officers:**

Nicholas Stevens, Esq. - President  
Deborah Fennelly, Esq. - Vice President  
Siegmar Silber, Esq. - Secretary  
Pamela Labaj, Esq. - Treasurer

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Eve Biskind Klothen, Esq.  
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Peter L. Skolnik, Esq.  
Robert Steinbaum, Esq.

### **General Counsel:**

Howard J. Schwartz, Esq.

### **Interns and Student Volunteers:**

Ian Brereton  
Jennifer Constantinou  
Russ Cote  
David Gratz  
Kathryn Lewis  
J. Brugh Lower  
Kevin Turbert

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## **NJVLA Services**

The New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (“NJVLA”) provides legal education, representation, and other legal services to the entire State’s arts community, and in particular to low income artists and non-profit arts organizations.

NJVLA provides artists and arts and cultural organizations with referrals to volunteer attorneys who provide a range of services:



**The Legal Line:** A 30-60 minute telephone consultation with an attorney to discuss an arts-related legal issue.



**The Law Fax:** Attorneys review short (three pages or fewer) legal documents, and discuss the content with the client in a single 30-60 minute telephone call.



**The Full Service Referral:** Our attorneys take on cases for artists and arts and cultural organizations as they would for any of their other clients when an arts-related legal issue cannot be resolved in a single telephone call. The attorney’s time is provided free, with the client responsible for any costs such as court fees. Please contact us to see if you qualify for this service.