



# CITY BAR REPORT

News from the Bar Association of Baltimore City

## Ethics Hotline Volunteer

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## THE BABC Celebrates Black History Month



The Hon. Teresa Epps Cummings, President of the Bar Association of Baltimore City

On Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in honor of Black History Month, I attended the BABC's program, The Story of Victorine Quille Adams, which was co-hosted with the Monumental City Bar Association, Baltimore's oldest and largest specialty bar association. While the program was promoted as a Black History Month program, we walked away with more than just the history of Mrs. Victorine Quille Adams. Mrs. Adams was the first African American woman to serve on the Baltimore City Council. During the dynamic and interactive presentation by Dr. Ida E. Jones, author, historian and Morgan State University's archivist, we gained insight into the history of the Baltimore City Council.

As I sat through the program, I realized that one cannot learn their own history in a vacuum, because as much as some may try, we cannot live our lives in a vacuum. Therefore, in honor of all holidays, customs and traditions which we will celebrate in 2025, I thought it would be appropriate to once again share the BABC's statement regarding our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) principles. Therefore, reprinted below, please find excerpts from the BABC's DEI principles which were adopted with permission of the Philadelphia Bar Association, whose Board of Governors adopted this Statement of Diversity and Inclusion Principles on September 22, 2014.

*The Bar Association of Baltimore City is committed to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in the profession, so that all members of the bar can fully participate in all aspects of the profession. This Statement of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Principles evidences a renewed commitment to*

*promoting diversity, a broad concept that includes race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, marital status, veteran status, parental status, socioeconomic status and our unique attributes, and inclusion, the harnessing of our diversity so that everyone is valued and has the opportunity to fully participate and succeed in the profession.*

*Increased diversity and inclusion benefits the profession in many ways. For example, increased diversity enables law firms, legal departments, and other legal organizations to better understand their diverse client base, fostering better communication and representation. Continued diversity, equity and inclusion efforts will help to ensure the representation of more varied perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds in the profession, and to create a more equitable and inclusive environment that is critical to the continued success of law firms, legal departments, law schools, and other legal*

*organizations.*

*Diversity and inclusion can be achieved through initiatives with respect to the recruitment, retention, and promotion of lawyers, irrespective of visible or perceived differences, and by training and educating our members, and our current and future leaders.*

*Creating a diverse and inclusive environment is a long-term commitment to the future of the profession. And achieving diversity and inclusion is a continuing process that requires a steadfast commitment by the bar.*

In closing, I would like to once again thank the BABC's Historical Committee and the Monumental City Bar Association for organizing and hosting a very informative program and I hope you will all join us next month as we celebrate Women's History Month.

And please remember, we are one. One city; one profession; one bar.

## A Taste for Everyone



Rachel Samakow, Chair of the Young Lawyers' Division

It's February, and thanks to a certain groundhog, it looks like it's going to remain chilly for a bit. Thankfully, the YLD will keep you cozy with some hot and tasty events. Here's a peek at the fantastic menu we have planned for you:

Come celebrate Valentine's Day with a perfect pairing of pizza and cocktails! This

year, the YLD's annual virtual cooking adventure goes 4D. We will be meeting in person on February 18th at Kneads Bakery to enjoy some sips and slices. Try your hand at becoming a talented Mixologist as we learn how to make some potent potables. Space is limited in our first-time collaboration with Kneads, so reserve your space and be our Valentine!

Once your bellies are full, come feed your brain on February 20th, where the YLD will team up with the MSBA's Young Lawyers' Section at the University of Maryland for our program Futuristic Law: Artificial Intelligence Innovations in Legal Practice. This informative event

will focus on the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and legal practice, providing a demonstration of how AI can best be used in your practice, followed by a panel of AI experts sharing their thoughts on AI in the legal field.

Next, get out of your head and get a bit more grounded with an event focusing on nature. We're keeping some of the details of this March event underground until we're good to grow, but let's just say it will be unbe-leaf-able. You don't want to miss it, and spots will be limited (though the puns will not).

And finally, come nourish your heart. On April 8th, the YLD will be joining

Courting Art, a program that encourages Baltimore's youngest artists to follow their passion as well as provide education scholarships. To take a look at the numbers, this is Courting Art's tenth year, and in that time they have had close to 450 art entries, provided over \$10,000.00 in art supplies to the finalists, \$150,000 in scholarships to the top Baltimore City School student-artists for post-high school education, and currently there are over 150 pieces of art from these students on long-term display at the Eastside District Courthouse.

We look forward to having you enjoy our full buffet of events!

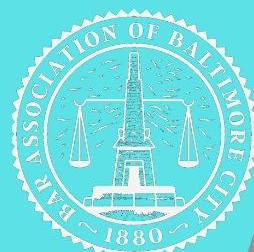


## BECOME A LAW FIRM SPONSOR

- ✓ The Law Firm Sponsorship Program is designed to enable law firms in the Baltimore region to continue their support of the Bar Association of Baltimore City. Law firms are asked to make their commitment annually to the BABC and support its programs. This program has been intentionally designed to provide supporting law firms significant value in the form of benefits throughout the bar year.
- ✓ Sponsorship Levels Between \$1,000-\$10,000 offers a range of benefits, including tickets to the Crab Feast, Past Presidents' Luncheon, Annual Holiday Party, and Annual Meeting, as well as an invitation to BABC's Annual Managing Partners' Luncheon. Sponsors also receive complimentary BABC membership for a new young lawyer or newly admitted attorney. Additional perks include the firm's logo or name featured on the Bar Association's website with a link to the firm's website, and recognition as a sponsor at the Crab Feast, Past Presidents' Luncheon, Annual Holiday Party, and Annual Meeting. Sponsors are also acknowledged in BABC's newsletters, The City Bar Report and The Barrister.

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# JOINT NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR

Join the Bar Association for Baltimore City and the University of Baltimore School of Law Alumni and Career Development Office for a networking happy hour. This event promises to be an evening of valuable connections, insightful conversations, and new opportunities.

-  Thursday, March 6, 2025
-  5:30 - 7:30 PM
-  Mobtown Ballroom & Cafe  
30 W. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**Please RSVP HERE**




The Baltimore Bar Foundation Presents

## Spaghetti Opera Night

Featuring



Claire Iverson  
Soprano



Guzal Isametdinova  
Piano



Daniel E. Sampson  
Tenor

March 19 & 20, 2025  
Chiapparelli's Restaurant  
237 S. High Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

6:00 p.m. - Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)  
7:00 p.m. - Dinner & Performance

\$89 per person. After February 15,  
\$95 per person.  
includes dinner, wine, dessert and coffee

To register, go to:  
[www.baltimorebar.org/calendar/](http://www.baltimorebar.org/calendar/)

For more information, contact:  
[info@baltimorebar.org](mailto:info@baltimorebar.org)






## Futuristic Law: Artificial Intelligence Innovations in Legal Practice



**February 20, 2025  
5:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**  
University of Maryland  
Frances King Carey  
School of Law in the  
Krongard Boardroom

Join the MSBA Young Lawyers' Section and the Bar Association of Baltimore City Young Lawyers' Division for an informative event focused on the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and legal practice. The evening will commence with a catered meal from Chipotle, followed by a presentation demonstrating how AI can assist legal practitioners and law students, featuring a representative from Westlaw. A panel discussion will also include insights from AI experts Judge Paul W. Grimm, Ebony Thompson, Alexandra Moylan, and Matthew Kohel. This event welcomes both attorneys and law students.

Co-sponsored by:  

Hosted by:  UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
FRANCIS KING CAREY  
SCHOOL OF LAW

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY EVENTS COMMITTEE PRESENTS

# BASEBALL Night

**TICKETS ONLY \$55**

**TUESDAY, MAY 13**

**ORIOLES VS TWINS**

**CAMDEN YARDS**  
GATES OPEN AT 6 P.M.

**CAMDEN FRANKS & PULLED PORK** • **POPCORN BAR & NACHO BAR** • **FROZEN TREATS, SOFT DRINKS AND MORE!**

**REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 15**  
LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS, FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

REGISTER AT: [WWW.BALTIMOREBAR.ORG/CALENDAR/](http://WWW.BALTIMOREBAR.ORG/CALENDAR/)

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## 50% off of Membership



## When you join the BABC today!

Grab this chance to be part of this fabulous organization, which offers leadership and business development opportunities, mentoring, networking events with judges and top attorneys from Baltimore City, and the chance to publish scholarly articles. You can also make an impact in the community through our public service events such as Law Day for Seniors and the Holiday Party for Children Living in Shelters. Don't miss our annual signature events, including the Crab Feast, Meet the Judges, Practice Tips on Tap, and Supreme Court Admission.

*For questions about membership feel free to contact Divya Potdar, BABC Membership Chair at [dpotdar@divalaw.net](mailto:dpotdar@divalaw.net).*

**JOIN AT**

**[HTTPS://WWW.BALTIMOREBAR.ORG/FOR-ATTORNEYS/MEMBERSHIP/JOIN-OR-RENEW/](https://www.baltimorebar.org/for-attorneys/membership/join-or-renew/)**



THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE CITY  
WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED FROM  
JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2025

Amy Clibanoff  
Stephen M. Davis  
Blake Kathryn Donohue  
Tamara Sanders Dowd  
Colette McCrone  
Elizabeth Morris  
James Pauli  
Haley Lilliann Wittstadt



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Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP  
Shawe & Rosenthal, LLP

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