



WOMEN LAWYERS  
ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN  
FOUNDATION

[www.wlamfoundation.org](http://www.wlamfoundation.org)

## E Newsletter

Fall 2015

### ~ Save The Date ~

#### WLAM Foundation Annual Reception

Please save the evening of **Wednesday, March 23, 2016**, for the Annual Reception of the WLAM Foundation. WLAMF will introduce TEN outstanding scholarship recipients, each of whom will receive \$3,000. The Reception is also the Foundation's time to recognize and thank the donors who make these awards possible.

The setting for the Reception is Southfield's **Great Lakes Culinary Center** ([www.glculinarycenter.com](http://www.glculinarycenter.com)).



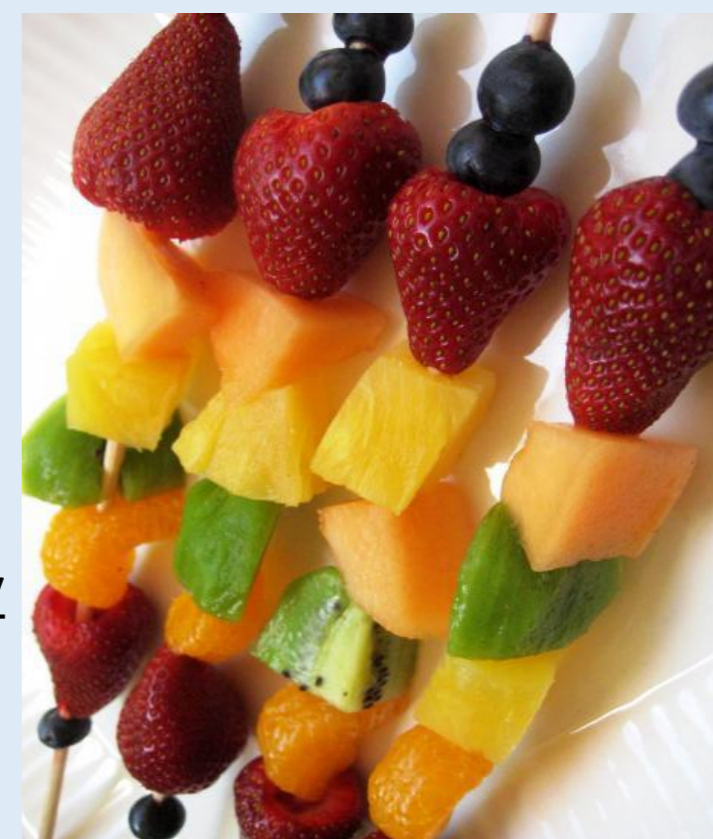
*Pictured above: our 2015 Awardees at this year's Reception: **Heather Spielmaker; Paula Willuweit; Sabrina Rewald; Miriam Schachter; Karen Wentz; Charlotte Johnson; Samantha Hall; Leah Hurvitz; Mikyia Aaron; Ashley Zacharski.***

### Thank you to the Bench-Bar Culinary Challenge Committee

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Bench-Bar Culinary Challenge was held at the home of Attorney Laura Eisenberg on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The charitable event benefits Alternatives for Girls,

Crossroads for Youth and our own WLAM Foundation Scholarship Fund. We

wholeheartedly thank the organizers, participants,



and Culinary Challenge Committee: Lavinia Biasell & Valerie Newman (Co-Chairs); Judge Lisa Asadoorian; Denise Alexander; Carol Breitmeyer; Evanne Dietz; Nancy Glen; Judge Linda Hallmark; Elizabeth Jolliffe; Judge Kirsten Frank Kelly; Judge Colleen O'Brien; Julia Perkins; Anne Cole Pierce; and Marcia Ross.

This year the lawyers won the grill competition and Elizabeth Jolliffe won best dessert for her brownies.

More information on this event and their charitable support can be found at their website:

[www.facebook.com/BenchbarCulinaryChallenge](http://www.facebook.com/BenchbarCulinaryChallenge)



### Stay Connected!

For more information on the Foundation's community involvement, scholarship program and upcoming events visit our website at [www.wlamfoundation.org](http://www.wlamfoundation.org) or email us at [wlamfmi@gmail.com](mailto:wlamfmi@gmail.com).



## ☆Prior Awardee Spotlight: Michelle Johnson Tidjani

In 1998, when Michelle Johnson Tidjani became one of the first WLAM Foundation scholarship awardees, she was completing her legal education at University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and preparing to launch her career. Since then she has established herself as a preeminent healthcare lawyer. She currently serves as Deputy Chief Legal Officer at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation where she is recognized for her expertise in healthcare reimbursement, reform, antitrust, and regulatory matters.

In addition to her work at Cleveland Clinic, Michelle has served as Senior Counsel for Tenent Healthcare Corporation in Dallas, Texas, as an Assistant Corporation Counsel for Wayne County, and in private practice at Hall Render Killian Heath & Lyman and Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge. Along the way, Michelle has served as an adjunct professor at Grand Valley State University and Siena Heights University and a lecturer for Cleveland State University – John Marshall College of Law, Michigan Association of Homes and Services for the Aged, and the Michigan State Medical Society. Michelle has authored articles on clinical integration and healthcare reform and served as a featured speaker for various organizations including the American Health Lawyers Association and the American Corporate Counsel Association.

Michelle's leadership is demonstrated not only by her professional achievements, but also by her commitment to promoting diversity in both law and healthcare. Michelle is a member of the Cleveland Clinic Executive Diversity Counsel and a mentor for the Cleveland Clinic Young Business Leaders and the 3Rs program of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. She has served on the WLAM Foundation board, as the Treasurer for the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, and as a member of several legal and healthcare associations. In 2014, the Norman S. Minor Bar Association honored Michelle as a Trailblazer.

Although her career has moved her away from Michigan, Michelle continues to support the goals of WLAM Foundation. This spring Michelle responded to WLAM Foundation's invitation to our Annual Reception not only by traveling back to Michigan, but by filling a table of guests.

The WLAM Foundation celebrates Michelle Johnson Tidjani and her remarkable career.

## Support Our Scholarships

The Women Lawyers Association of Michigan Foundation's primary mission is to support the legal education of women who show leadership in advancing the position of women in society. Donations can be made through our [website](#), by emailing the foundation, or by contacting WLAMF Treasurer Paula Talarico at (248) 740-7003.