



Public Interest Law Project

Lewis & Clark Law School
"Students Empowering Students"

*Founded in 1990, the students of PILP have funded **383** fellow law students, empowering them to accept unpaid public interest positions over the summer*



STUDENTS EMPOWERING STUDENTS WE CAME TO LAW SCHOOL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, AND WE ARE DOING JUST THAT.

Many public interest opportunities for law students are unpaid and understaffed.

We keep the doors to public interest work and the ability to empower others open for all, not just those who can afford to work for free.

MAKING AN IMPACT

As a team of motivated, unpaid, passionate law students, PILP works together to:

- Engage the student body in community service
- Empower fellow students through providing the funding and resources necessary for them to pursue their public interest dreams and know that they are supported in becoming – and that we so desperately need

PILP'S PRIMARY GOALS - 2022

- Fund every student with an unpaid summer opportunity that contributes to the betterment of society such that no student has to turn down a position for lack of funding.
- Spread awareness on how vast and intersectional public interest law is through facilitating many events and community service opportunities that inspire students to pursue their careers with a public interest mindset; and
- Inform all students about opportunities to practice public interest law and empower students with resources to cultivate relationships with public interest law practitioners

WHAT IS PUBLIC INTEREST LAW?

Public interest law intersects with all facets of society and the legal field. It is centered on advancing justice, contributing to the public good, and protecting the rights of individuals – and it is more important than ever before that we empower all those inclined to pursue such critical work.

Public interest law is immensely underfunded with minimal access to resources. As a society, we must invest in and prioritize resolving this justice gap – but, in the meantime... groups like PILP and the difference-makers that fill our team are essential as we create a bridge allowing for:

- the continued growth of the public interest field;
- the betterment of our society; and
- ensure that we continue to provide for all members of our world despite the systemic barriers & constraints we face.

WHO WE ARE

PILP's Board is made up of 24 motivated law students with varying legal interests that represent the many facets within public interest law. What we have in common is the desire and belief that we can make the world a better place for all.



WHAT WE DO

Over the past 3 decades, PILP has granted stipends to students that demonstrate a sincere desire to protect individual rights and advance justice.

PILP has helped finance over 380 students pursue more than 175,000 hours in total of public interest work that would otherwise have been unpaid. Our summer awardees are able to contribute invaluable work on behalf of our most vulnerable communities and individuals while contributing to the betterment of our society. PILP's work in Oregon and across the country has advanced public interests in countless and immeasurable ways.

The impact PILP is able to have, as a group of ambitious law students gives us hope for the future – and we could not do it without the generosity and support of people like you.

The generosity of our donors and the Portland community allows us to fund students in pursuit of their public interest dreams through working at entities such as:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| • Disability Right's Oregon | • Oregon Innocence Project |
| • Criminal Justice Reform Clinic | • Minnesota AIDS Project |
| • Immigrant Rights Project | • Youth, Rights & Justice |
| • CA Attorney General, Natural Resources | • Juvenile Rights Project |
| • Metropolitan Public Defender | • CASA for Children |
| • National Crime Victim Law Institute | • EPA, Region 10 |

Save
the
date

**PILP's 32nd Annual
Auction:
Saturday, February 25**

Ways to Support: Donate, Volunteer, Share
PILP is a part of Lewis & Clark Law School, a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations of cash and auction items are tax-deductible.



SCAN ME

Visit PILP's Website: https://law.lclark.edu/student_groups/public_interest_law_project/

PILP'S SUMMER 2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS

NUMBER OF LAW STUDENTS FUNDED BY PILP'S
SUMMER AWARDS TO-DATE:

383+



MITCH LeCLAIR



ALEXIS KAIN



BILL O'BRIEN



KAT ANDERSON



NATALIE OSTROVE



MARIAH HOGAN



NEEKA DABIRI



MATT CLARKSON

Mariah

1) St. Andrew Legal Clinic

- 2) To increase access to representation in family law cases for low-income families and individuals.
- 3) "We don't accomplish anything in the world alone and whatever happens is the result of the whole tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual threads from one to another that create something." - Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.
- 4) Stambovsky v. Ackley: This case is my favorite because I never would've expected to read "as a matter of law, this house is haunted" in a law school course. Or ever.

Mitch

1) Oregon State Office of Public Defense Services, Appellate Division

- 2) To help attorneys effectively represent indigent clients who were appealing their criminal cases.
- 3) "In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute." - Justice Thurgood Marshall, Furman v. Georgia, 408 U.S. 238, 371 (1972) (concurring opinion).
- 4) Johnson v. M'Intosh: This case details certain aspects of the United States' rotten roots, including the Doctrine of Discovery.

Elaxis

1) Cowlitz County Office of Public Defense

- 2) Representing indigent clients in criminal cases.
- 3) "There are no bystanders in life . . . Our humanity makes us each a part of something greater than ourselves." - Justice Sonia Sotomayor.
- 4) Stambovsky v. Ackley: I mean... if Readers' Digest says the house is haunted, it must be true.

Neeka

1) Los Angeles Public Defender's Office

- 2) Serving indigent and mentally ill people who just need some help getting on their feet!
- 3) "Reacting in anger or annoyance will not advance one's ability to persuade." - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
- 4) Lucy v. Zehmer: because it's a cautionary tale that reminds me I don't need that third or fourth drink!

Natalie

1. Metropolitan Public Defenders

2. Conducting legal policy research to assist the Multnomah Co. Director in his efforts to reform their trial court system.
3. "If the right of privacy means anything, it is the right of the individual, married or single, to be free from unwarranted governmental intrusion into matters so fundamentally affecting a person as the decision whether to bear or beget a child." - Justice William Brennan.
4. Katko v. Briney: human safety > property for sure. I also really respect the plaintiffs' love of antiques!

Meet 2022 PILP Summer Award

Recipients

Each student represents a profound commitment to community service and public interest law. We are honored to be able to help them as they pursue their dreams and make the world a better place.

We asked each of recipient to share:

- 1) Where they worked this Summer,
- 2) Their workplace's mission,
- 3) Their favorite Supreme Court Justice Quote, and
- 4) Their favorite classic 1L case.

Kat

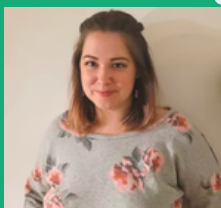
- 1) Metropolitan Public Defender
- 2) Providing representation and advocating for indigent clients.
- 3) "Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time" - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
- 4) Stambovsky v. Ackley: haunted houses!!!

MEET SOME PILP '22-'23 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS: WHY DO YOU LOVE PILP/PUBLIC INTEREST LAW?

"It is my personal goal to do good with my legal knowledge, and partnering with PILP is consistent with that goal. PILP stands out as a student organization with a positive reach beyond our campus. Together we promote public interest law and improve opportunities for people to serve others. What could be better?"



"I LOVE PILP because it empowers and enables our students to work in public interest law and thereby change the world during their summers while contemporaneously getting their feet wet in the local legal community - many, for the first time. I LOVE that PILP allows for this type of win-win for students AND our community!"

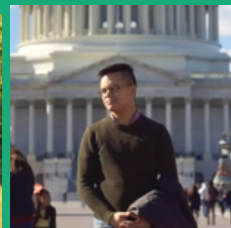
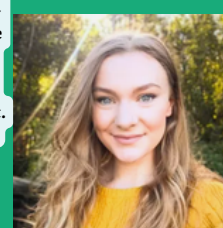


"There are so many bright and motivated people out there who share the same dreams, but are routinely stopped by systemic obstacles like financial accessibility. I love being a part of PILP because we help make public interest work accessible to those who can't afford it, and help others who weren't interested in it at first see how impactful and fulfilling this kind of work can be."

"I love that PILP is dedicated to supporting Lewis & Clark Law Students in their pursuit of a variety of public interest work. So many of my classmates want to dedicate their law careers to helping others, particularly those without the means to seek legal help (most often because they are from marginalized communities) but struggle to find ways to make ends meet in that professional pursuit. PILP is a lifeline for these students and has been a lifeline for me!"



"PILP rocks because it gave me the chance to meet other public interest minded students and practicing attorneys, serve others, and take a summer opportunity at an awesome public defense office which would have been otherwise financially unfeasible for me. I've cherished my time as a PILP board member and am looking forward to all the incredible work the org will do this upcoming year!"



"I love PILP because one of my core philosophies is that legal representation should not be dictated by your income. I deeply enjoy giving my time to help fill this gap for households in need."

"PILP gives me hope. It is fulfilling and energizing to be a part of this group of motivated, optimistic, and determined students in pursuit of bettering our societal well-being while empowering fellow students to pursue their dreams. What we all have in common, despite different backgrounds and interests, is the desire to make the world a better place for all. Through bettering the community directly as a group or indirectly by helping others overcome systemic barriers to do the same, PILP is a reminder of the impact individuals can make when they come together on behalf of the greater good."