

The Bar Association of San Francisco Awards Three Scholarships to Local Law Students

July 24, 2012 – San Francisco – The Bar Association of San Francisco recently announced the recipients of its 2012 Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of donors, three scholarships will be awarded to minority students attending Bay Area law schools this fall.

Scholarships were awarded based on financial need, scholastics, involvement in public service, and barriers faced in life. Each recipient will receive a \$10,000 scholarship for the 2012-2013 school year. The scholarship may be renewable for an additional two years.

BASF's 2012 scholarship recipients are Yannina Casillas, Mahriana Collins, and Amina Malik.

Yannina Casillas, UC Hastings College of the Law, grew up in the small city of Moreno Valley as the daughter of Mexican immigrants. As a UCLA student, she was the Vice President of the Muslim Student Association, volunteered with the Incarcerated Youth Tutorial Project, and helped develop BruINTENT the nation's first program to bring scholarships to homeless UCLA students. She is a Coro alumnus and will continue throughout law school to be an advocate for victims to transform their stories and to empower others to make a difference.

Mahriana Collins, UC Berkeley School of Law, was raised by her mother and grandmother in Richmond, California. At UCLA, she worked with Reading to Kids Los Angeles and volunteered with women and children in Ghana at the University of Ghana, Legon. After graduation, she served as the Community Engagement Associate for the Los Angeles office of College Summit. Guided by the belief that true success is measured by our willingness and ability to help others, Collins will continue to advocate for children, increased educational access, and literacy for all.

Amina Malik, UC Hastings College of the Law, grew up in Philadelphia, PA. After graduating from University of Maryland, College Park, she worked in social science research and as a research assistant for clinical trials at the Children's National Medical Center and George Washington University in Washington DC. Most recently, she worked with the College Bound Foundation, overseeing its mentor program with low-income children residing in San Francisco public housing. Malik believes that law is one of the most effective ways of obtaining social equality in the United States.

Since its inception in 1998, BASF's Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship program has provided financial assistance to more than 65 law students. The program was established to reaffirm a commitment to diversity in legal education and the legal profession.

The scholarships to be awarded in 2012 are The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Minority Law Student Scholarship; The

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Arthur and Charlotte Zitrin Foundation Minority Law Student Scholarship; and the AT&T, Morrison & Foerster LLP, Say Hey Foundation, and BASF-LRIS Scholarship. BASF continues to seek the assistance of law firms, corporations and individuals who are willing to help sustain this impactful and unified effort.

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The Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) is a nonprofit voluntary membership organization of over 8,000 attorneys, law students and legal professionals in the Bay Area. Founded in 1872, BASF is one of the largest and most dynamic metropolitan bar associations in the U.S., with a long and distinguished record of community action, public service and service to the legal profession.