

LEGAL UTREACH

RAISING THE BAR

The P.A.C.T. Post

NYU Pathway to Achievement and Community Transformation

On Monday, June 29th, 2015, the seventh Summer Law Institute at New York University School of Law commenced. This year, 22 motivated young men from all over New York City were selected to participate. Two law school students, Mark Fuller (Brooklyn School of Law) and Joel Park (Fordham School of Law), as well as P.A.C.T. alumni and a college intern, Jordan Knox (Georgetown University) educated these youths in the criminal justice system and professionalism.

For five weeks this summer, rising high school freshmen participated in Legal Outreach's Summer Law Institute ("SLI") at NYU School of Law. The NYU PACT is all male. SLI inspires students to pursue careers in law and to strive for academic excellence. At each site, two law students and an undergraduate intern serve as the students' instructors. SLI culminates in a thrilling criminal mock trial where, this year, students aggressively tackled State v. Williams, a case involving a nightclub fight in a high-end nightclub. PACT, which stands for Pathways to Achievement and Community Transformation, used this all-male dynamic to minimize distractions and help the boys foster a sense of brotherhood and accountability to each other.



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Education



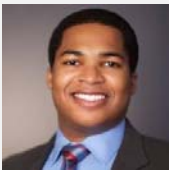
Each morning, students engaged in challenging lessons from Legal Outreach's "Criminal Justice: Theory and Practice" curriculum, which taught them substantive law and helped them develop analytic and oral advocacy skills. This portion of the day included lessons on such topics as Miranda Rights and Search and Seizure, all designed to inform the students about basic criminal law. In the afternoons, students studied the "Criminal Trial: Process and Procedure" curriculum, from which they learned how to present opening and closing statements, conduct direct and cross examinations, and serve as witnesses in preparation for the culminating event of the summer: the mock trial competition. In addition, once a week, lessons were given on study skills, time management, essay writing and how to set and achieve goals. All were designed to improve the students' academic skill set. For homework, they were expected to complete a five paragraph essay each night. The essays usually posed a question that critically analyzed a topic discussed during that day.

PACT 2015 Vision Statement: "Empowering young men through brotherhood and education to be better, to do better, to want better, and to transform their community and society."

Guest Speakers



Conway
Ekpo



Nate Saint
Victor



Alphonzo
Grant



Duane
Hughes

Lifestyle

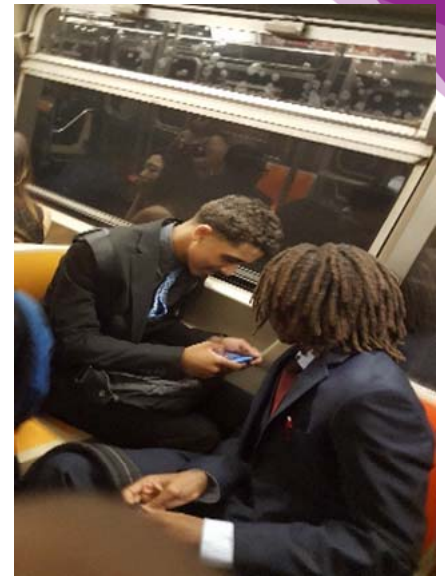
Every day of SLI began with a presentation by a guest speaker. This year's unparalleled 16 guest speakers introduced the students to a range of practice areas, including entertainment law, regulatory law and civil rights law. Each guest speaker shared his life story and how he became successful. Further, each engaged the students in an interactive presentation designed to expose students to the type of legal work the speaker does every day. For example, students defended the rights of minors who were inappropriately searched, negotiated a settlement and mediated a resolution. A majority of our guest speakers were NYU School of Law graduates. Many of the speakers taught the students that life is not black and white; they did not need to know what they wanted to do when they grew up yet. However, they emphasized how hard work and dedication were vital components to the formula of success. Collectively, the guest speakers opened the students' eyes to the diversity of career paths that one can pursue with a law degree.

Student Thoughts

"Through SLI, I have grown professionally, and expect more out of myself." –Callier

"PACT was a home." -Vasquez

"The competitiveness of my brothers, push me to do better." -Goodridge



Travels

Verizon Wireless Inc.

At Verizon, the students worked closely with Verizon interns and attorneys to solve hypothetical legal issues. After receiving a delicious pizza lunch, the students were broken into groups and worked closely with some of the summer interns at NY County DA's Office, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, and Verizon Wireless Inc. to make arguments related to the legal problems that they were given. This all culminated in a legal outreach-style debate in front of everyone which gave the students an opportunity to show off their argument skills which they had been honing in on the past few weeks.

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

At Simpson, Thacher, Bartlett, the students were able to see what a big law firm looks like and learn from some of the attorneys what occurs there and what types of law they practice. After receiving a catered lunch, the students were able to speak as a group with one of the more senior partners at the firm. Following this, the students were given a comprehensive tour of Simpson Thacher's facility, seeing everything from the IT department to where all of the case files were kept. After this, the students received a legal issue where they had to formulate and present arguments in front of the group. The trip concluded with a Q&A session.

NY County DA's Office

Students were excited to have the chance to learn about the justice system within their own state. This was an opportunity for them to see the facilities that they aspire to become a part of after taking the necessary steps, to becoming a successful attorney. The future lawyers were especially pleased by the opportunity to sit and watch a court proceeding, in which the judge expressed his pleasure of seeing youth taking an interest in their future. The NY County judge encourage the young men to continue working hard and striving for greatness.

Mock Trial

Throughout the program, students learned about the processes and procedures of a criminal trial. In preparation for the culminating event of the summer – the mock trial competition – students were coached not only by their SLI instructors, but also by practicing attorneys. This year, students argued *State v. Carper*, a case involving two celebrities of the same family that turn a beautiful night into a tragic nightmare. One of the stars allegedly threatens the other through and things heat up when an argument turns physical in an elevator. The catch is that the defendant is seen walking to the driver’s side of his car, but claims to have not been driving.



Mock Trial Finals; The National Legal Guild (Top); Hon. William Kuntz (Middle); The Litigators (Bottom) [Mock Trial Final Winners]

MOCK TRIAL TEAMS

Prosecution:

The Golden Jurors

Little Azeez
Gordon Burrell
Jesus Iagomarsino
Lawrance Goodridge
Michael Lopez-Lee
Giovanni Luke

The National Legal Guild

Kawan Joseph
Samuel “Tyler” Young
Aaren Vasquez
Patrick Casimir
Aaron Idemudia

Defense:

The Scales of Justice

Tyler Morales
Sean Idemudia
Jelani Simms
Samuel Sylvestre
Salim Callier
Jayson Mendez

The Litigators

Elijah Stout
Angel Soto
Jayvon Bullock-Lewis
Benjamin Amissah
D’ Angelo Francis

Congratulations NYU P.A.C.T. Summer Law Institute Class of 2015

<i>Benjamin Amissah-MS 223</i>	<i>Little Azeez-IS 302</i>
<i>Jayvon Bullock-Lewis-IS 418</i>	<i>Gordon Burrell-IS 181</i>
<i>Salim Callier-FDA I</i>	<i>Patrick Casimir-IS 340</i>
<i>D'Angelo Francis-IS 59</i>	<i>Lawrance Goodridge-Exploer Charter</i>
<i>Aaron Idemudia- IS 318</i>	<i>Sean Idemudia-IS 318</i>
<i>Kawan Joseph-IS 318</i>	<i>Jesus Lagomarsino-IS 230</i>
<i>Michael Lopez-Lee-IS 276</i>	<i>Giovanni Luke-MS 244</i>
<i>Jayson Mendez-Harlem Prep</i>	<i>Tyler Morales-St. Lucy's</i>
<i>Jelani Simms-IS 381</i>	<i>Angel Soto-Bronx LGJ</i>
<i>Elijah Stout-MS 217</i>	<i>Samuel Sylvestre-Lenox Academy</i>
<i>Aaren Vasquez-IS 318</i>	<i>Samuel "Tyler" Young-Renaissance Charter</i>

Thank You to our Guest Speakers & Field Trip Host

<i>Duane Hughes-Morgan Stanley</i>	<i>Michael A. Makinde-O'Melveny Myers LLP</i>
<i>Jason Clark-NYS Attorney General's Office</i>	<i>Captain William Osilaja-US Military Academy</i>
<i>Dino Bovell & Duvol Thompson- Ogletree Deakins/Holland & Knight</i>	<i>Conway Ekpo-Hogan Lovells</i>
<i>Sandy Santana-Children's Rights</i>	<i>Nate Saint Victor & The Group-Morgan Stanley</i>
<i>Preston Demouchet & 1844-McCarthy Fingar</i>	<i>Hardy Vieux-Human Rights First</i>
<i>Yahonnes Claery & Christina Seda-Paul, Weiss, Rifind, Wharton & Garrison LLP</i>	<i>Brook Gardiner-National Football League (NFL)</i>
<i>Alphonzo Grant-Morgan Stanley</i>	<i>Gailon McGowen & Robert Lagay- BMW/Cyndx Advisors LLC</i>
<i>Simpson Thacher & Batlett LLP (Kristin Glaudel)</i>	<i>Verizon Inc. (Deesha Hill)</i>
<i>NY County DA's Office (Denise Liriano)</i>	<i>New York University School of Law (Jorge Luis Paniagua Valle & John Lee)</i>