

Appleseed This Week

eNewsletter - October 15, 2009



A nonprofit network of 16 public interest justice centers in the U.S. and Mexico, Appleseed is dedicated to building a society in which opportunities are genuine, access to justice is universal and equal, and government advances the public interest.

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New Ways to Support Appleseed!

Appleseed is now a member of the United Way of the National

Appleseed Honors Pro Bono Partners

Awards Presented for Extraordinary Commitment

Appleseed cultivated an unprecedented level of pro bono service over the past year, leveraging nearly 19,000 hours of legal and professional support, valued at more than \$8 million. In recognition of those who helped set this inspiring new standard for volunteerism and civic engagement, Appleseed last week hosted *Raising the Pro Bono Bar*, an evening gala at the Harman Center for the Arts in Washington, D.C.

Emceed by Eleanor Clift, contributing editor at Newsweek, and featuring a special appearance by famed political humorist Mark Russell, the event attracted more than 200 guests. In celebration the pro bono spirit, Appleseed honored individuals and organizations that made extraordinary contributions to its social justice initiatives over the past year.

[Click here to view the "Raising the Bar" program.](#)

Good Apple Awards were presented to Jim Rogers and Steve Schulman, leaders of one of Appleseed's most important ongoing efforts, immigration court reform. Rogers, co-chair of Appleseed's Board of Directors and a partner at Latham & Watkins, helped initiate and spearhead the project, overseeing legal research as well as the production of [Assembly Line Injustice](#), the resulting report.

Schulman, as pro bono partner at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld and one of the country's leading immigration attorneys, was centrally involved in the final stages of drafting the report and is currently leading a steering committee that includes representatives of six major law firms, each with a stake in the immigration court system. In addition, Mr. Schulman is contributing his talents and expertise to Appleseed's Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors initiative.

**Capital Area (UWNCA)
and the Combined Federal
Campaign (CFC).**

**Please make a note of the
Appleseed designation
codes below.**

UNWCA: 9639

CFC: 10758

Appleseed also recognized two organizations for their outstanding pro bono service, presenting the Pro Bono Champion Award to Latham & Watkins for its leadership on the immigration court reform project, and the Social Justice Advocate Award to The Raben Group for its efforts in developing a comprehensive communications and branding strategy for Appleseed.

We applaud these individuals and organizations, as well as all other Appleseed partners and volunteers, for their noble commitment to social justice and the public good.