District 2 Counter Balance Submission



DISTRICT DIRECTOR
HON. LESLIE A. STROTH
New York City Civil Court, NY County
Email: lastroth@nycourts.gov

SUCCESSFUL NAWJ-NY SPRING RETREAT - "I DISSENT"



Chautauqua Lake

The NAWJ-NY Chapter held its Spring Upstate Retreat on beautiful Chautauqua Lake in Jamestown, New York on May 1-3. Attending were NAWJ members from across the state, Buffalo to New York City, as well as our NAWJ Executive Director, Laurie Denham

Speakers included Hon. Edwina G. Mendelson, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives, who gave a presentation about the 5 divisions of the Office for Justice Initiatives; implementation of the Equal Justice in Courts Initiative; the Judicial Committee on Wom-



NAWJ-NY Chapter Members en in the Courts 2020 survey and implementation.

Also speaking was Kristan McMahon, of the Robert H. Jackson Center. Robert H. Jackson was a U.S. Supreme Court Justice and Chief U.S. Prosecutor at Nuremberg. The Center's mission is to advance public awareness of the principles of justice and the rule of law as embodied in the achievements and legacy of Justice Jackson.

Dean Aviva Abramovsky of the University of Buffalo Law School showed the video of Ruth Bader Ginsberg's 2019 visit to Kleinhan's Music Hall in Buffalo and the law school and provided commentary on some of RBG's cases and famous dissents. She also spoke on the topic of Women and the Law.

Professor Amanda L. Tyler from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, a former RBG Law Clerk and co-author, with RBG, of the book, *Justice, Justice, Thou Shalt Pursue: A Life's Work Fighting for a More Perfect Union.*

In addition to the formal program, our judges enjoyed visiting downtown Jamestown, New York, home of Lucille Ball, and the Lucille Ball-Desi Arnez "Lucy Desi" Museum, as well as the National Comedy Center. We had a wonderful dinner at the famous Jamestown Chop House, where we were entertained by the lovely vocal talents of our chef.

THE POWER OF WOMEN'S VOICES:

Women's History Month 1st and 2nd Departments



On Thursday, March 24, 2022, NAWJ -NY Chapter held its program for the 1st and 2nd Departments in recognition of Women's History Month 2022.



Break the Bias

On Friday, March 25, 2022, NAWJ-NY Chapter and the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts Eighth Judicial District, 4th Department Gender Fairness Committee held programs in recognition of Women's History Month 2022.

NAWJ-NY Chapter Celebrated Women's History

Month across the state during the month of March. As New Yorkers, we are proud to recognize so many women in leadership positions in NY State government and in our Judiciary. We celebrate the following New York leaders: Governor Kathy Hochul, our first woman governor; New York Court of Appeals Chief Judge Janet DiFiore and Associate Judges Shirley Troutman and Madeline Singas; Deputy Chief Administrative Judges Edwina Mendelson and Tamiko Amiker, New York Attorney General Letitia James; Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins; Majority Leader of the Assembly, Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes; NYC Corporation Counsel Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, Dean of the Judicial Institute Kathie Davidson, and countless newly appointed and elected women judges. Clearly, New York has taken to heart the following words of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg: "Women belong in all places where decisions are being made".

The NAWJ-NY 3rd Dept. held a *Women's History Month* presentation on the power of a woman's voice. The panel members were the Hon. Keri Savona, Ulster County Family Court; Hon. Susan Kushner, Albany County Family Court and Acting Supreme Court Justice; Hon. Jill Kehn, Rensselaer County Family Court and the Hon. Andra Ackerman, Albany County Court. These judges discussed the power of a woman's voice in their specialty courts.



MENTORJET - Speed Mentoring Event



On February 8, 2022, the NAWJ-NY Second Department held another successful MentorJet program. The February program was co-sponsored by the Queens County Women's Bar Association (QCWBA) and three student groups at St. John's Law School: the Women's Law Society (WLS), the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and the Immigration Law Society (ILS).

2022 Women of Distinction Ceremony United Progressive Democratic Club



On March 27, 2022, NAWJ-NY Secretary Hon. Wendy Li and fellow judges Hon. Joy Campanelli and Hon Lillian Wan were honored at the 2022 Women of Distinction Ceremony of the United Progressive Democratic Club.

For more District 2 news, please see the Sisters-In-Law New York Chapter Newsletters or the NAWT website/District 2 (latest issue April 2022).