

2015-2016 YLS Fellows by their Multiple Substantive Practice Areas

CHILDREN/JUVENILE RIGHTS

- Rachel Judd '15 Provide individual representation and systemic advocacy to keep at-risk (low-income, special needs, minority) Denver-area students in school and out of court when facing disciplinary proceedings
Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center – Denver, CO
Equal Justice Works Fellowship
- Sheela Ramesh '14 Provide comprehensive, direct civil legal services to and systemic advocacy on behalf of victims of commercial sexual exploitation of children and those at the greatest risk of exploitation
Bay Area Legal Aid – Oakland, CA
Skadden Fellowship
- Daniella Rohr '15 Enforce the rights of children in the foster care system who have been psychiatrically hospitalized and/or prescribed psychotropic medication
Legal Aid Society- Juvenile Rights Practice – New York, NY
Skadden Fellowship
- Ryan Thoreson '14 Research and advocacy focusing on the intersection of children's rights and LGBT rights
Human Rights Watch- LGBT Rights Program – New York, NY
Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights

CIVIL RIGHTS/ CIVIL LIBERTIES

- Melissa Ader '12 Provide direct representation and community education to low-income New Yorkers with criminal records to combat barriers to employment and facilitate successful reentry
The Legal Aid Society – New York, NY
Equal Justice Works Fellowship
- Allana Kembabazi '15 Use targeted litigation and advocacy to promote the rights of people with disabilities in Uganda
Initiative for Social & Economic Rights – Kampala, Uganda
Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights
- Christopher Lapinig '13 Provide direct representation and culturally sensitive advocacy to Filipino labor trafficking survivors on a range of issues, including wage-and-hour violations, anti-retaliation and anti-discrimination claims on their behalf
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles, CA
Skadden Fellowship
- Joshua Rosenthal '13 Focus on ensuring fair, non-discriminatory access to credit and housing for communities of color
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund – New York, NY
Ford Foundation Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowship
- Jessica Vosburgh '13 Staff a worker center to defend and expand the rights of day laborers, domestic workers and other low-wage and immigrant workers in the region
National Day Laborer Organizing Network – Birmingham, AL
YLS Public Interest Fellowship

Cody Wofsy '13	Challenging state and local backlash against the new immigration deferred action programs <i>ACLU – Immigrants' Rights Project – San Francisco, CA</i> Skadden Fellowship
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	
Melissa Ader '12	Provide direct representation and community education to low-income New Yorkers with criminal records to combat barriers to employment and facilitate successful reentry <i>The Legal Aid Society – New York, NY</i> Equal Justice Works Fellowship
CONSUMER PROTECTION	
Tessa Bialek '13	Work on consumer protection litigation with the Affirmative Litigation Task Force at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office <i>Yale Law School – New Haven, CT</i> San Francisco Affirmative Litigation Project Fellowship
Lani Inverarity LLM '15	Assist communities to file and advance complaints with non-judicial accountability mechanisms housed within international financial institutions, such as the World Bank <i>Accountability Counsel – San Francisco, CA</i> Robina Foundation Human Rights Fellowship
Joshua Rosenthal '13	Focus on ensuring fair, non-discriminatory access to credit and housing for communities of color <i>NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund – New York, NY</i> Ford Foundation Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowship
Yael Shavit '13	Focus on a range of consumer justice issues, including fair debt collection practices, credit discrimination, and access to justice <i>National Consumer Law Center – Boston, MA</i> Ford Foundation Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowship
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
Melissa Ader '12	Provide direct representation and community education to low-income New Yorkers with criminal records to combat barriers to employment and facilitate successful reentry <i>The Legal Aid Society – New York, NY</i> Equal Justice Works Fellowship
Elisabeth Ford '15	Develop strategies for reforming bail practices in the criminal courts while working within the existing system to help indigent clients access affordable loans through a proposed nonprofit bail fund <i>Orleans Public Defender – New Orleans, LA</i> YLS Public Interest Fellowship
V. Prentice '15	Work closely with Vera's General Counsel on legal and organizational issues faced by Vera and its many projects and programs <i>Vera Institute of Justice – New York, NY</i> Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellowship at the Vera Institute of Justice
Ruth Swift '15	Train colleagues and advise defendants on the immigration consequences of criminal proceedings for those defendants who are not citizens <i>Community Law Office – Birmingham, AL</i> Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship

DISABILITY RIGHTS

Allana Kembabazi '15

Use targeted litigation and advocacy to promote the rights of people with disabilities in Uganda

Initiative for Social & Economic Rights – Kampala, Uganda

Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights

Freya Pitts '13

Expand access to special education and related services and limit the use of solitary confinement of young people with mental health and learning disabilities confined in California's county juvenile halls

Disability Rights Advocates – Berkeley, CA

Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship

EDUCATION

Rachel Judd '15

Provide individual representation and systemic advocacy to keep at-risk (low-income, special needs and minority) Denver-area students in school and out of court when facing disciplinary proceedings

Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center – Denver, CO

Equal Justice Works Fellowship

EMPLOYMENT LAW

Melissa Ader '12

Provide direct representation and community education to low-income New Yorkers with criminal records to combat barriers to employment and facilitate successful reentry

The Legal Aid Society – New York, NY

Equal Justice Works Fellowship

Gillian Gillers '13

Work on litigation and policy measures to challenge abuses of migrant women who work on J-1 visas in the hospitality industry in the Southeastern United States

Southern Poverty Law Center – Atlanta, GA

Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights

Christopher Lapinig '13

Provide direct representation and culturally sensitive advocacy to Filipino labor trafficking survivors on a range of issues, including wage-and-hour violations, anti-retaliation and anti-discrimination claims on their behalf

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles, CA

Skadden Fellowship

V. Prentice '15

Work closely with Vera's General Counsel on legal and organizational issues faced by Vera and its many projects and programs

Vera Institute of Justice – New York, NY

Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellowship at the Vera Institute of Justice

Jessica Vosburgh '13

Staff a worker center to defend and expand the rights of day laborers, domestic workers and other low-wage and immigrant workers in the region

National Day Laborer Organizing Network – Birmingham, AL

YLS Public Interest Fellowship

Mary Yanik '14

Provide administrative advocacy, civil litigation, and immigration defense to protect workers who face retaliation for reporting workplace violations in the Gulf Coast energy sector

New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice – New Orleans, LA

Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship

ENERGY LAW

Miles Farmer '12

Work to facilitate effective state-level implementation of the Clean Power Plan, the EPA's planned regulations governing carbon emissions from existing power plants. Assist the Sustainable FERC Project, a coalition of organizations that focuses on increasing the deployment of energy efficiency and clean energy resources into the U.S. energy grid
Natural Resources Defense Council – New York, NY

YLS Public Interest Fellowship

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Miles Farmer '12

Work to facilitate effective state-level implementation of the Clean Power Plan, the EPA's planned regulations governing carbon emissions from existing power plants. Assist the Sustainable FERC Project, a coalition of organizations that focuses on increasing the deployment of energy efficiency and clean energy resources into the U.S. energy grid
Natural Resources Defense Council – New York, NY

YLS Public Interest Fellowship

Mordechai Treiger '15

Direct support to communities in the Rocky Mountain West that are seeking to address the environmental health and safety impacts of fracking
Natural Resources Defense Council – Washington, DC

Ford Foundation Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowship

GOVERNMENT – FEDERAL

Joshua Andresen '15

Improve human rights protection and accountability and provide legal advice on a portfolio of issues related to the Security Council, U.N. agencies, and international tribunals
U.S. Department of State- Office of the Legal Advisor – Washington, DC

Robina Foundation Human Rights Fellowship

Julia Brower '14

Work on thematic issues with a human rights focus—women and security, human trafficking, access to justice, and international accountability mechanisms
U.S. Mission to the United Nations – Washington, DC

Robina Foundation Human Rights Fellowship

Kate Harris '15

Special Advisor to Secretary of State John F. Kerry, work on economic policy issues and identify ways to elevate economic issues within the State Department
U.S. Department of State- Office of the Secretary of State – Washington, DC

Heyman Federal Public Service Fellowship

Harrison Marks '15

Special Advisor to Aviva Aron-Dine, Acting Deputy Director of OMB and Allison Orris, Associate Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Executive Office of the President- Office of Management & Budget – Washington, DC

Heyman Federal Public Service Fellowship

GOVERNMENT – STATE AND LOCAL

Tessa Bialek '13

Work on consumer protection litigation with the Affirmative Litigation Task Force at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office
Yale Law School – New Haven, CT

San Francisco Affirmative Litigation Project Fellowship

HEALTH LAW

Yuvraj Joshi LLM '15

Work to advocate the repeal of India's sodomy law. Research and draft a human rights report on the law's impact on the rights and needs of LGBT people
Human Rights Watch – New York, NY and India

Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights

Allana Kembabazi '15	<p>Use targeted litigation and advocacy to promote the rights of people with disabilities in Uganda <i>Initiative for Social & Economic Rights – Kampala, Uganda</i> Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights</p>
Daniella Rohr '15	<p>Enforce the rights of children in the foster care system who have been psychiatrically hospitalized and/or prescribed psychotropic medication <i>Legal Aid Society- Juvenile Rights Practice – New York, NY</i> Skadden Fellowship</p>
HOUSING LAW	
Ryan Sakoda '12	<p>Assist individuals who have been convicted or have pending charges to keep or to obtain public and subsidized housing through direct client service and empirical research on public housing policies <i>Committee for Public Counsel Services – Boston, MA</i> Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship</p>
HUMAN RIGHTS	
Joshua Andresen '15	<p>Improve human rights protection and accountability and provide legal advice on a portfolio of issues related to the Security Council, U.N. agencies, and international tribunals <i>U.S. Department of State- Office of the Legal Advisor – Washington, DC</i> Robina Foundation Human Rights Fellowship</p>
Kristine Beckerle '15	<p>Research, report on, and advocate for changes to the male guardianship system in Saudi Arabia which prevents women from marrying, traveling or accessing higher education without the approval of a male guardian. Share the findings and recommendations of the report with Saudi authorities. <i>Human Rights Watch – New York, NY</i> Alan and Barbara Finberg Fellowship</p>
Julia Brower '14	<p>Work on thematic issues with a human rights focus—women and security, human trafficking, access to justice, and international accountability mechanisms <i>U.S. Mission to the United Nations – Washington, DC</i> Robina Foundation Human Rights Fellowship</p>
Yuvraj Joshi LLM '15	<p>Work to advocate the repeal of India's sodomy law. Research and draft a human rights report on the law's impact on the rights and needs of LGBT people <i>Human Rights Watch – New York, NY and India</i> Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights</p>
Sharanya Kanikkannan '11	<p>Work with local civil society to research the immunities and liabilities of the U.N. in Haiti and to create a rape accountability framework to advocate for victims of sexual exploitation and violence <i>Bureau des Avocats Internationaux – Port-au-Prince, Haiti</i> Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights</p>
Ryan Thoreson '14	<p>Research and advocacy focusing on the intersection of children's rights and LGBT rights. <i>Human Rights Watch- LGBT Rights Program – New York, NY</i> Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights</p>

IMMIGRATION/REFUGEE RIGHTS

- Caitlin Bellis '14 Represent detained immigrants in deportation proceedings and work with a community coalition to establish a publicly-funded program providing counsel to detained immigrants in the Los Angeles area
Public Counsel – Los Angeles, CA
Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship
- Gillian Gillers '13 Work on litigation and policy measures to challenge abuses of migrant women who work on J-1 visas in the hospitality industry in the Southeastern United States
Southern Poverty Law Center – Atlanta, GA
Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights
- Grace Kao '15 Represent immigrants in affirmative petitions and removal proceedings at one of New York City's legal service organizations
Immigrant Justice Corps Fellowship
- Charanya Krishnaswami '13 Employ novel litigation strategies to advocate at the administrative and federal levels for the recognition of asylum claims of immigrant children from Mexico and Central America seeking to escape gang and cartel-based violence
Public Counsel – Los Angeles, CA
Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights
- Christopher Lapinig '13 Provide direct representation and culturally sensitive advocacy to Filipino labor trafficking survivors on a range of issues, including wage-and-hour violations, anti-retaliation and anti-discrimination claims on their behalf
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles, CA
Skadden Fellowship
- Ruth Swift '15 Train colleagues and advise defendants on the immigration consequences of criminal proceedings for those defendants who are not citizens
Community Law Office – Birmingham, AL
Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship
- Sam Thypin-Bermeo '15 Defend the rights of DAPA (Deferred Action for Parents of Americans) beneficiaries throughout New York State and bring claims against private employers who discriminate against DAPA beneficiaries
New York Civil Liberties Union – New York, NY
YLS Public Interest Fellowship
- Mary Yanik '14 Provide administrative advocacy, civil litigation, and immigration defense to protect workers who face retaliation for reporting workplace violations in the Gulf Coast energy sector
New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice – New Orleans, LA
Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship

IMPACT LITIGATION

- Cody Wofsy '13 Challenging state and local backlash against the new immigration deferred action programs
ACLU – Immigrants' Rights Project – San Francisco, CA
Skadden Fellowship

INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Philipp Kotlaba '15 Assistant Legal Counsel
Permanent Court of Arbitration – The Hague, Netherlands
YLS Permanent Court of Arbitration Fellowship

Manuel Casas Martinez
LLM '15 Clerk
International Court of Justice – The Hague, Netherlands
YLS International Court of Justice Internship/Clerkship

LGBT RIGHTS

Yuvraj Joshi LLM '15 Work to advocate the repeal of India's sodomy law. Research and draft a human rights report on the law's impact on the rights and needs of LGBT people
Human Rights Watch – New York, NY and India
Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights

Ryan Thoreson '14 Research and advocacy focusing on the intersection of children's rights and LGBT rights
Human Rights Watch- LGBT Rights Program – New York, NY
Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights

PRISONERS' RIGHTS

Elisabeth Ford '15 Develop strategies for reforming bail practices in the criminal courts while working within the existing system to help indigent clients access affordable loans through a proposed nonprofit bail fund
Orleans Public Defender – New Orleans, LA
YLS Public Interest Fellowship

Jamelia Morgan '13 Work to limit solitary confinement in American prisons and build awareness of the challenges facing prisoners with physical disabilities who are placed in solitary confinement
ACLU – National Prison Project – Washington, DC
Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship

Freyia Pitts '13 Expand access to special education and related services and limit the use of solitary confinement of young people with mental health and learning disabilities confined in California's county juvenile halls
Disability Rights Advocates – Berkeley, CA
Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Kristine Beckerle '15 Research, report on, and advocate for changes to the male guardianship system in Saudi Arabia which prevents women from marrying, traveling or accessing higher education without the approval of a male guardian. Share the findings and recommendations of the report with Saudi authorities.
Human Rights Watch – New York, NY
Alan and Barbara Finberg Fellowship

Julia Brower '14 Work on thematic issues with a human rights focus—women and security, human trafficking, access to justice, and international accountability mechanisms
U.S. Mission to the United Nations – Washington, DC
Robina Foundation Human Rights Fellowship

- Gillian Gillers '13 Work on litigation and policy measures to challenge abuses of migrant women who work on J-1 visas in the hospitality industry in the Southeastern United States
Southern Poverty Law Center – Atlanta, GA
Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights
- Sharanya Kanikkannan '11 Work with local civil society to research the immunities and liabilities of the U.N. in Haiti and to create a rape accountability framework to advocate for victims of sexual exploitation and violence
Bureau des Avocats Internationaux – Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Robert L. Bernstein Fellowship in International Human Rights
- WORKER'S RIGHTS/ORGANIZING**
- Melissa Ader '12 Provide direct representation and community education to low-income New Yorkers with criminal records to combat barriers to employment and facilitate successful reentry
The Legal Aid Society – New York, NY
Equal Justice Works Fellowship
- Gillian Gillers '13 Work on litigation and policy measures to challenge abuses of migrant women who work on J-1 visas in the hospitality industry in the Southeastern United States
Southern Poverty Law Center – Atlanta, GA
Gruber Fellowship in Global Justice and Women's Rights
- Christopher Lapinig '13 Provide direct representation and culturally sensitive advocacy to Filipino labor trafficking survivors on a range of issues, including wage-and-hour violations, anti-retaliation and anti-discrimination claims on their behalf
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Skadden Fellowship
- Jessica Vosburgh '13 Staff a worker center to defend and expand the rights of day laborers, domestic workers and other low-wage and immigrant workers in the region
National Day Laborer Organizing Network – Birmingham, AL
YLS Public Interest Fellowship
- Mary Yanik '14 Provide administrative advocacy, civil litigation, and immigration defense to protect workers who face retaliation for reporting workplace violations in the Gulf Coast energy sector
New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice – New Orleans, LA
Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship