

National Lawyers Guild of Chicago Newsletter 2019 1Q



Please enjoy and catch up on all the work of the Chicago NLG and its committees!

Coming up: NLG Chi's Annual **May Day Celebration**

7pm Friday, April 26th
At Young Chicago Authors
1180 N. Milwaukee



Photo: Artists for Action Chicago

Co-sponsored with Latino Union
Tickets on sale now
www.tinyurl.com/MayDay2019

Read more about this year's May Day party below!

May Day is almost here!

Our annual May Day party is coming up on April 26th. We hope to see all of you there. Latino Union of Chicago is joining with our local chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild to bring you a May Day event of unprecedented proportions: food! music! drinks! dancing! Abolish the Gang Database! Law for the People! The venue is ADA wheelchair accessible, and child care will be provided.

Entertainment provided by Jarochicanos, food provided by the Street Vendors Association, priceless memories provided by you and your favorite agitators. There will also be a raffle! All proceeds divided between Latino Union of Chicago and NLG - Chicago.

Buy tickets today at www.tinyurl.com/MayDay2019

NLG is proud to be partnering with **Latino Union** for May Day 2019



Latino Union creates jobs with dignity and hold employers accountable. Latino Union builds solidarity among workers to create safer workplaces and collect wages stolen by employers who have harmed the community. They organize to pass laws that protect the wages of all workers in Illinois.

Latino Union works to protect their community from racist immigration raids and police harassment. Latino Union day laborers organize in response to ICE and police targeting of hiring sites. Latino Union's work is part of the movement for immigrants rights, for the abolition of ICE, and police. The same system that criminalizes immigrants also targets U.S.-born people of color for arrest and imprisonment.

Haywood Burns Fellow in Chicago

This summer, Chicago Community Bond Fund will be hosting one of National Lawyers Guild's Haywood Burns Fellowship recipients. The Fellowships sponsor law students and legal workers to spend the summer working for public interest organizations across the country in order to build their legal skills, strengthen their long-term commitment to social justice, and provide much-needed legal support to under-served communities.



Christine Farolan is a 1L at Northeastern University School of Law and a proud daughter of Filipino immigrants. After graduating from

Northwestern University with a degree in Social Policy, she completed an AmeriCorps year of service for the Legal Assistance Foundation. At LAF, she organized volunteer opportunities for attorneys and law students and assisted in management of a pro bono legal services clinic in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood. In law school, she is a co-chair of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. She is also a member of the Criminal Law Project, with whom she has been researching campus police authority and misconduct. Christine hopes to use her career to further criminal legal reform and is eager to work with the Chicago Community Bond Fund as a Haywood Burns fellow.

Chicago Community Bond Fund is excited to have Christine working as a 2019 summer intern. Christine will be supporting CCBF's revolving fund by helping conduct intakes and also supporting their systems change work through doing research, writing, and other policy advocacy.

NextGen Committee Update

The NextGen committee rang in the New Year with a happy hour in Pilsen. We went to Harbee Liquors on 18th Street and enjoyed a great time. In February, we hopped over to River North and went to Woodhaven. March took us to Empty Bottle, where we had drinks and a show! A honky-tonk band played that night and made our happy hour that much happier. April brought us to Rainbo in Bucktown.

The NextGen committee hopes to get happy hours going in lots of different neighborhoods and welcomes suggestions. Get in touch with any board member or chicago@nlg.org to suggest your favorite bar. Who knows – your favorite bar could become ours, too! We're also interested in doing other activities and welcome non-boozy suggestions just as much.

To get in touch with the NextGen co-chairs please email [Stephanie sciupka@gmail.com](mailto:Stephanie_sciupka@gmail.com) or Miranda at mhuber4@kentlaw.iit.edu



2018 Legal Observer Recap

In 2018 NLG Chi had Legal Observers at many different actions., ranging from small demonstrations with just a few observers to large mobilizations with over a dozen LO's present. Here's a list of some of the demonstrations that LO's participated in during 2018:

Women's March

#NoCopAcademy Protest

Vigil for Decynthia Clements

Midwest March for Animals 2018

Chicago Anti-War Coalition: Protest all the Wars

Women's March to the Polls

Van Dyke Verdict Announcement

Chicago Committee Against War and Racism – 50th Anniversary of 1968 DNC

Protest against Murder of Harith Augustus

Families Belong Together March

Chicago Coalition for Justice in Palestine: Protest for #Nakba70 and Right of Return

Coalition for Police Contracts Accountability

Ida B. Wells Commemoration

Thank you to all our NLG Chi Legal Observers

Welcoming our new LO Coordinator Joe DiCola

Hello Chicago NLG, I'm Joe DiCola. I've been the Legal Observer Coordinator since December 2018. I graduated from John Marshall Law School in May 2018 and in November I started a solo practice. I also work part-time as a staff attorney for the Chicago Community Bond Fund. I was introduced to the LO program at Occupy Chicago and have been a legal observer since I started law school. I think the LO program plays an important part in movement organizing in Chicago and I am excited to be in this position. As the LO Coordinator, I respond to requests from organizers for legal observers, find volunteers for those actions, and observe at some myself. I can be reached at 773-598-5604 and please tell your friends to make a timely request for LOs before their next direct action by emailing chicago.lo.program@gmail.com



Movement Lawyering CLE: Restorative Justice and Abolition

On March 28th, the Mass Defense Committee hosted a CLE on restorative justice and abolition, to an overflowing room of more than 50 participants. Emmanuel Andre of Circles and Ciphers was in discussion with Page May of Assata's Daughters, and Sharlyn Grace of the Chicago Community Bond Fund moderated.

Starting out with defining restorative justice and abolition, Andre said restorative justice requires “switching the lens,” because it should not be program-based but how we approach the world, with a focus on addressing harm and what’s needed for people to be whole again. May named that “abolition is a project of Black liberation specifically.” She said that to abolish the prison industrial complex (PIC) it is necessary to abolish anti-blackness; to critique the PIC one must critique capitalism and settler-colonialism.

The speakers touched on much of their day-to-day work of building an abolitionist world, including tasks that are less glamorous and visible. May said “abolition is not tomorrow” and both speakers advised the audience of action steps they can take now as part of an abolitionist vision. May emphasized the importance of creating counter-narratives on prisons and police, with actions such as disrupting racism at CAPS meetings or putting signs up saying “We DON’T call police.” Andre’s closing advice included, “Build relationships, not institutions. Don’t leave your imagination behind.”

NLG Chi Protests Chicago Bar Association:

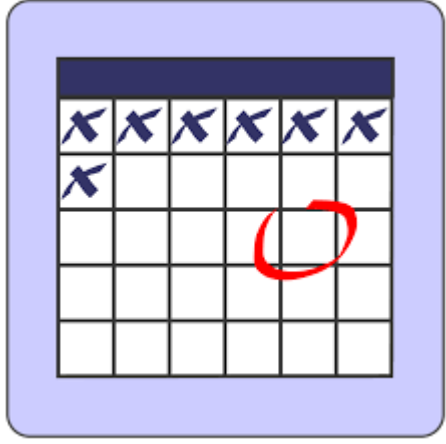
Move the CLE!

This March, NLG Chicago protested the Chicago Bar Association’s CLE conference being held in Jerusalem. NLG Chicago, in partnership with the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, The Center for Constitutional Rights, and Palestine Legal, wrote the Chicago Bar Association, demanding the CLE be moved to another location. We circulated a petition, receiving over 500 signatories, and asked other members of the Chicago Bar Association to contact the CBA president.

Our [full letter](#) to the Chicago Bar Association is on our website. NLG Chicago protested this CLE on the basis that it discriminates against Chicago Bar members who would be denied the right to attend due to their religion, race or national origin, and legitimized Israel’s occupation of Palestinian land, in violation of international law.

Save the date!

August 5th



NLG Chicago
fundraiser at
Lagunitas
2607 W 17th St



Stay tuned for more details!

Have something you want to share? Do you think a colleague's work should be publicized? Submit any pictures from Guild events, updates of work in your respective committees, articles on topics/issues pertinent to Guild members, etc., for the next newsletter.

Send your submissions to: chicago@nlg.org
Subject line: Newsletter Submission

Donate to the Guild!



The vast majority of our work is done by volunteers coordinated by three indispensable part time staff. This is why your donation goes a long way in helping our lawyers, law students, legal workers and jailhouse lawyers work in the service of the people. Donate today at www.nlgchicago.org/donate

For the most up to date news on our Chapter, be sure to visit our website: www.nlgchicago.org

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