President's Message

by Jennifer Leland

“This too shall pass.”

My mom used to tell me this when I was younger. She meant to comfort me, to let me know that the feelings of frustration or sorrow would not last forever. Sometimes when she said these words, I wanted to scream “No it won’t.” But, usually, eventually, my feelings of disappointment or sadness would lessen and the event that triggered those feelings would be, if not forgotten, no longer taking up every thought of every day. As I write this message, we are in the midst of a global pandemic and this phrase comes to mind a lot. It puts things in perspective — this new “normal” which requires us to work from home, practice “social distancing” and home school our children is necessary but will not last forever. It also helps me remember that the stress and anxiety I am currently feeling are temporary as well.

To view the rest of the President's Message, please CLICK HERE.

COVID-19 Pro Bono Bank

Pro Bono Opportunities Needed!

As our communities are experiencing significant impacts of the spread of COVID-19, we have a unique opportunity to support urgent legal needs and provide remote access to appropriate legal services.

Please share any pro bono opportunities you're aware of so WLALA can help with enlisting interested attorneys who are willing to donate their time and provide free legal services.
COVID Good News!
How about some good news for a change?

There have been A LOT of facts going around regarding COVID-19, and it would be great to hear “positive news” items to lift our spirits. If you know of any victories, good deeds, or items to celebrate, please share them with us to help spread the word throughout the WLALA membership. WLALA wishes you all the best and wants to remind everyone that our most important tool during times of panic and crisis is our mindset.

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank Needs Your Help

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank remains in need of funds and volunteers. Please make a monetary donation to help feed the children of Los Angeles County who may go hungry in the summer months and be especially impacted by the financial implications of COVID-19. To learn more about WLALA’s Food from the Bar campaign and/or donate please visit here:

https://www.lafoodbank.org/food-from-the-bar-2020/

Remote-Working in the Age of COVID-19

*by WLALA President-Elect Jessica Kronstadt and WLALA Labor & Employment Committee Co-Chair Member Jacquiline Wagner*

In 1992, legendary rapper and producer Dr. Dre dropped his first solo album, “The Chronic.” Inarguably visionary and groundbreaking, the epic album showcases the adroit musings of Dre’s protégé, then genre newcomer Snoop Dogg. Lore to be spawned while Dre was on house-arrest, “The Chronic” was produced almost entirely within the confines of Dre’s Calabasas home.

In addition to evincing the creative genius and incredible talents of both artists, “The Chronic” unequivocally demonstrates that even restricted within the four walls of one’s home, one can flourish, remain productive and produce high-quality work.

Though it may feel like it at times, none of us is on house arrest. However, pursuant to the COVID-19 global pandemic, most of us are confined to our homes under Governor Newsom’s and Mayor Garcetti’s Safer-at-Home orders. Many of us have been directed to work remotely to minimize exposure to and prevent the spread of this disease.

To read the rest of the article, please [CLICK HERE](#).

When Fiction Becomes Reality, Read Fiction!

*by WLALA Immediate Past President Heather E. Stern*

Perhaps it’s just me and my “feed,” but self-care during a pandemic seems to be a hot topic out there. Personally, that self-care has always involved those few minutes before my eyes shut, when I can break out my book light and devour the next few pages of a good fiction book. My dreams are always better when I unwind with a good story that takes me far away from a stressful job. These days, with so much of the news focused on animal-to-human hopping viruses that hijack our genome, send us into N95 mask frenzies, and empty out Times Square, I thought I might share my top recommendations for science fiction.

So, in no particular order, here are some science fiction books I’ve really enjoyed, that perhaps you can read electronically if you’re into that sort of thing, or hopefully you can still order through your applicable supply chain, since unfortunately, the libraries are all closed. I would offer to let you borrow them from me, but I am holed up in a bunker for the foreseeable future.

To read the rest of this article, please [CLICK HERE](#).
Upcoming WLALA Events

Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles
Career Development & Life Balance Committee presents

Alzheimer’s Disease - the Latest Research and How to Protect Our Bodies and Minds As We Age

This program will address the latest research on Alzheimer’s risk factors and prevention and teach us how to care for our brains to reduce the risk of cognitive decline.

When: Thursday, April 30, 2020
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Where: The program will be held online (webinar-style). All participants who register by April 28 will receive an email on April 29 containing a link to access the program.

Cost: WLALA Member $20
Non-Member $50

Speaker: Michelle Quiroga-Diaz, MSW
Program and Education Manager
Alzheimer’s Association California Southland Chapter

RSVP HERE

72 hour cancellation notice needed for refund. For questions please call (213) 892-8982 or email info@wlala.org.
A Night at the Magic Castle

NEW DATE
Tuesday
August 25, 2020

Hors d’oeuvres Reception
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Magic Castle Hours
7:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.

The Magic Castle
7001 Franklin Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90028
(323) 851-3313

WLALA is proud to present a night at the Magic Castle, a unique “magical” experience in an elegant Victorian setting.

You must be over 21 years of age to attend.

Hors d’oeuvres will be served between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. in the Inner Circle where you may mingle and network with other guests. A cash bar will be available. The price of the event includes hors d’oeuvres, access to the castle, and magic shows throughout the evening. Also, all attendees will be given one Magic Castle guest pass to be used on a future evening of their choice.

There is a strictly enforced dress code: Business attire with jacket and tie for men; evening wear for ladies (cocktail dress, elegant skirt and blouse, or evening pant suit ensemble with matching jacket).

Please bring a photo ID for admittance. Please be advised there is no photography allowed within the castle.

Reservations are limited, so early registration is recommended! Your reservation with full payment must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. No registrations will be accepted after August 11, 2020! You must cancel before August 11, 2020 if you would like a refund.

Cost
$120 WLALA member
$165 Non-member

Each registered guest is may bring one guest at the same price that he or she paid.

Parking: $15 Valet

Price includes hors d’oeuvres and access to the castle and magic shows until midnight.

RSVP Now!

For questions please call (213) 892-9082 or email info@wlala.org
Spotlight on ICLC Fellowship Recipient Abbey Lent

Abbey Lent went to law school to pursue a career providing services to the most vulnerable populations. While attending the University of Michigan Law School, she worked as a student attorney in the Michigan Innocence Clinic investigating claims of innocence and overturning wrongful convictions. She also interned at Legal Services of South Central Michigan doing eviction defense and public benefits work for indigent Michiganders. During the summer of 2017, Abbey’s passion for giving a voice to the most marginalized, oppressed, and underrepresented people brought her to Los Angeles and Inner City Law Center (ICLC). Thanks to the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (WLALA) Foundation, Abbey, then a 2L, became the first-ever WLALA/ICLC Fellow, and spent her summer with ICLC’s Homeless Veterans Project representing women veterans experiencing homelessness in their claims for VA disability benefits and discharge upgrades. Serving the brave women who had chosen to serve their country inspired Abbey to come back to ICLC’s Homeless Veterans Project after graduating in May 2018 as a full-time Equal Justice Works Fellow.

To read the rest of this article, please CLICK HERE.

Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles and WLALA Foundation Survey

We want to hear from you. Please take a few minutes to complete a survey to share what you care about and hope to see from your involvement in WLALA and the WLALA Foundation. All feedback is welcomed & is anonymous.

It can be completed on your phone or desktop via https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/BUybSK.

Thank you.

2019-2020 WLALA Scholarship Deadline Has Been Extended

The 2019-2020 WLALA Scholarship deadline has been extended to May 31, 2020. If you, or anyone, is interested in applying you can obtain the application HERE.

Applications for 2020-2021 WLALA Board Members are Now Open!

WLALA is accepting board applications for the 2020-2021 year. If you are interested in applying, please CLICK HERE.

Applications are due May 31, 2020.

Request for Attorney Mentors for WLALA Law Student Mentor Program

Over 100 mentorship opportunities now available! Has a mentor impacted your career?

Now is the time to pay it forward! WLALA has over 100 women law students seeking a mentor like you.

CLICK HERE to show your interest and share how much time you’d be willing to commit, no amount is too small and the rewards are unlimited!
Save the Date for CEB’s Business of Law webinar series

Upcoming webinars

- April 1: Speak with Impact (Register)
- April 16: How Did Yoda Get His First Lead? Digital Branding Basics for Lawyers (Register)

5 Guidebooks from prior programs part of the series

- Guidebook 1: Finding Clients and Getting Paid! Jen Grondahl Lee
- Guidebook 2: Building a Brand Jo-Anna Nieves
- Guidebook 3: Building a Sustainable, Community-Based, Solo Law Practice Maria Hall and N. Micheli Quadros
- Guidebook 4: Soloing by Trial and Error Mujdah Rahim
- Guidebook 5: How to Communicate Persuasively—in Court and on Social Media Mitch Jackson

iDepo will make a donation to WLALA if you schedule a court reporting or videotaped deposition with them as follows:

- $20 donation to WLALA for each court reporting services of at least 100 pages per day.
- $50 donation to WLALA for each videotaped deposition with at least 100 pages per day.

When scheduling, please email or call and mention Code WLALA. Email to Calendar@DepoReporters.com or call at 323-393-3768.

iDepo will send donations to WLALA within 90 days after receipt of payment of invoices.

Member News

WLALA Board Member Virginia Milstead was promoted to partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Congrats, Virginia!

If you are a member of WLALA and would like to share some news, please email info@wlala.org.

WLALA Networking Facebook Page

We are excited to announce that WLALA has created a Facebook page for members called WLALA Networking where you can connect with other members of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles. You can join HERE. Please note that you must be a member to join. Before posting, please be sure to read the Rules and Guidelines here:
WLALA Auto Renewal Memberships

WLALA is now offering an automatic annual dues renewal program to provide members with an easy and convenient way to pay their membership dues. When it’s time to renew your membership you can select the autopay membership as an option. Instead of receiving a renewal notice, WLALA will send you a reminder notice 21 days before your credit card is charged. Your membership will then automatically renew on the day it is set for expire.

View our Auto Renewal Guidelines

Upcoming Local Bar Events and News

Womxn of Color Collective is having their 10th Anniversary Gala 'Bridge to the Stars' on Friday, August 28, 2020. To register, please CLICK HERE. To view their sponsorship packet, please CLICK HERE.

To view the rest of the local bar events and news, please CLICK HERE.

New Members

Rachel Albert, Maxwell Benjamin-Herrera, Brooke Brooks (Wright), Nicole Bryant, Maria Callahan, Maria Fernanda H. Cantu, Nathalie E. Corral, Caitlyn R. Dillon (Carbone), Victoria M. Fennessy, Nicole Fukuoka, Rebekah Guyon (Strawn), Patricia A. Herrera, Sydnee Hertle, Angela M. Hwang, Lucy C. Jackson, Phoebe King, Angela D. Koerber (Robinson), Rachael C. Kogen, Sheri Lalehzarian, Erin LaMere, Angela Machala, Sophie Mangan, Savannah McGinnis, Mia Munro, Yvette Ochoa, Ani Oganesian, Kathy Pham, Rebbecca G. Powell, Ashely Price, Maria V. Primushko, Julie Rattray, Diane Reyes, Margo Rocconi, Alexandra Roje, Lindsay Ryan (Lindsay O’Hair), Paul Schmeltzer, Danielle Shehadeh, Muge Spooner, Emily T. Stewart, Christine Tran, Egle Urbonaite, Charron Varona, Tiffany M. Wagner, Amanda J. Waters-Luttrell, Allison Westfahl Kong, Sandy Yu.

WLALA Job Bank

Did you know that your WLALA membership allows you to access the WLALA Job Bank? The Job Bank has employment opportunities from different non-profit organizations and law firms.

Fisher Phillips LLP has openings in our Los Angeles office for a senior employment litigation associate and in our new Woodland Hills office for a mid-level employment litigation associate. For more information, please CLICK HERE.

Nelson Hardiman, a leading Los Angeles healthcare law firm, seeks an associate attorney with 3+ years recent healthcare experience to focus on regulatory compliance work for healthcare and life science providers. For more information, please CLICK HERE.

Ameren is hiring for a Director & Assistant General Counsel (Litigation & Claims). For more information, please CLICK HERE.

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP is seeking a highly qualified associate with four to six years of consumer financial services regulatory experience to join our consumer financial services practice. For more information,
Fox Rothschild LLP has an opening in the Los Angeles office for a litigation associate. For more information, please CLICK HERE.

The Power Group Section in the Department of Water & Power Division has an immediate opening for a power group attorney. For more information, please CLICK HERE.

You must be a current member and logged into the website to view job postings. If you need help obtaining your username and password, please email info@wlala.org. To view the WLALA Job Bank, please CLICK HERE and click on the Search Openings link in the upper left corner of the page.

The Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles ("WLALA") promotes the full participation in the legal profession of women lawyers and judges from diverse perspectives and racial and ethnic backgrounds, maintains the integrity of our legal system by advocating principles of fairness and equality, and improves the status of women by supporting their exercise of equal rights, equal representation, and reproductive choice.

- WLALA Mission Statement

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