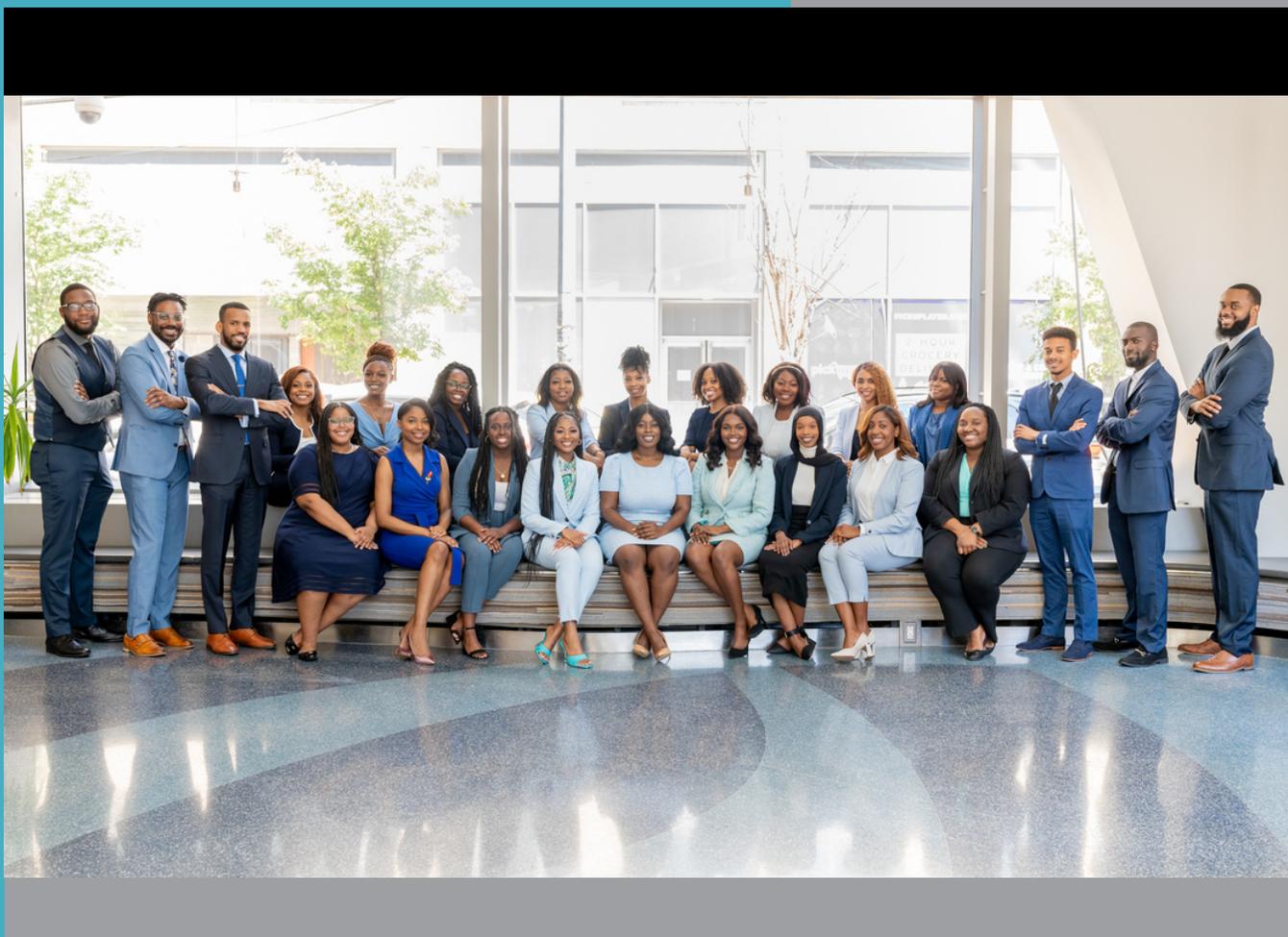


# NEBLSA YEAR IN REVIEW



# THANK YOU

## Notable & Noteworthy!



Dear NEBSA Friends, Family, & Sponsors,

To formally introduce myself, my name is Patrice Oseni, the elected Chair to the Northeast Region of the National Black Law Student Association (NEBSA). NEBSA is an organization formed to serve the needs and goals of Black law students and effectuate change in the legal community.

As you may know, in the legal profession, only 4.5% of attorneys are Black, and this number continues to decrease. As Chair, my mission is to support and help Black law students and pre-law students who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community.

Each step we take in life makes impressions on people we meet like footprints in the sand. But unlike footprints, the mark we leave can last forever. I am very proud of what NEBSA has accomplished in 2022-2023 term. NEBSA has always been a region committed to ensuring that the mission of NBSA stays alive, and this year has been no different. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, NEBSA has continued to strive to emulate excellence, which was possible through consistent outreach, transparency, and recognition of the needs of Black pre-law and current students, as well as our alumni. Through meticulous planning and continuous improvement, we have helped to close the achievement and opportunity gap for minorities and our communities under the theme of "Defying All Odds: Our Stories, Our Truth, Our Legacy."

NEBSA's ability to provide its members with academic, professional, and social success greatly depends on the participation of our sponsors, members, and friends like you! Without you, we cannot effectively serve our mission or promote the needs of our Black pre-law and Black law students.

Thank you for all your support, and hope you enjoy our Year in Review.

In Solidarity,

*Patrice Oseni*

Patrice Oseni  
55th NEBSA Chair



# WE STRONGLY BELIEVE IN SUCCESS

*"Success is when practice aligns with values, when our members' needs match what we offer."*

*-Founder AJ Cooper*

From the first day of our term, we have asked our members for feedback which has consistency served as our drive to implement programming for the 2022-2023 year. We listened to our members and have hosted in-person sub-regional academic retreats, we've offer virtual options for almost all programming, and we have collaborated with local community leaders and sponsors.





# OUR STORY

## ... SO FAR

*"To increase the number of culturally responsible Black and minority attorneys who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community"*

In 1968, Algernon Johnson ("A.J.") Cooper founded the Black American Law Students Association on the campus of New York University School of Law in order to promote the interests of Black and minority law students entering the legal profession. The organization renamed the National Black Law Students Association ("NBLSA"), was established as a not-for-profit organization on December 19, 1969. Today NBLSA is a nationally recognized 501(c)(3) organization, and the largest student-run organization in the country with 210 local chapters in six regions, and a reach of over 15,000 law student members and alumni.

The mission of NBLSA is to increase the number of culturally responsible Black and minority attorneys who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community. NEBLSA works to advance this mission throughout the Northeast Region, as an advocate for diversity in legal education and in the legal profession.

### Cultural Awareness



We host a number of informative panels on legal and culturally relevant topics. This year, panel topics have been chosen by sponsors, board leadership, and even direct suggestions from students!

### Community Service



We work together to uplift our community via organized efforts such as food drives, civic engagement events, VITA Training, legal workshops, and other service projects.

### Academic Retreats



In furtherance of NEBLSA's mission to be an advocate for diversity and success within legal education, we've held a number of academic retreats.

During these retreats, students are given helpful tips on how to manage the stress and workload they may encounter during law school.

### Career and Professional Development



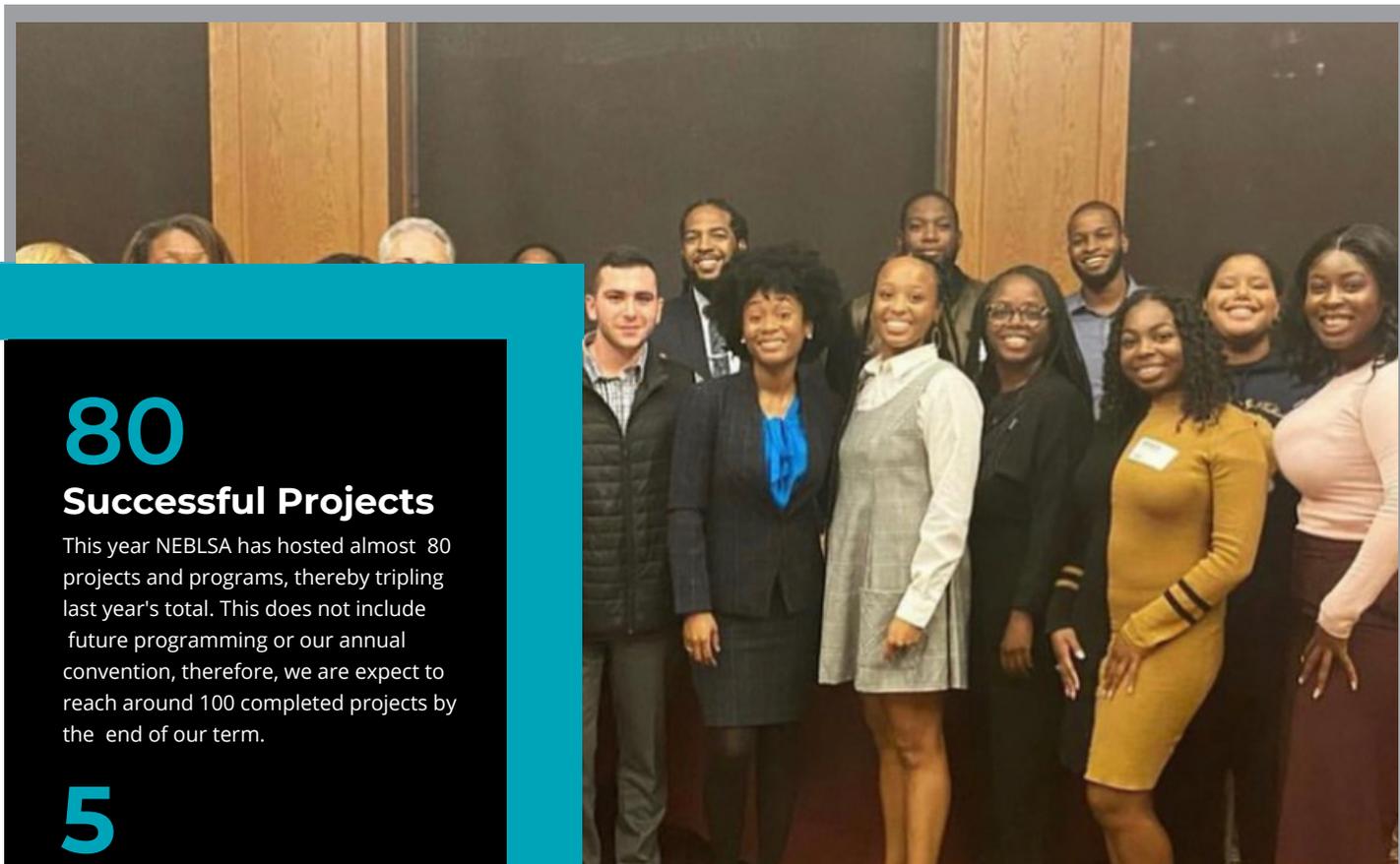
NEBLSA aims to promote both professional and personal relationships among Black and minority law students. We actively engage our alumni and foster lifelong bonds by hosting social events including brunches and monthly membership mixers. Each year, BLSA students from across the nation who are interested in practicing in the Northeast region attend NEBLSA's annual career fairs.

The event attracts dozens of law firms, non-profits, and government agencies interested in recruiting unique, diverse talent.



# SIMPLE FACTS

## Our 2022-2023 Year



# 80

### Successful Projects

This year NEBSA has hosted almost 80 projects and programs, thereby tripling last year's total. This does not include future programming or our annual convention, therefore, we are expect to reach around 100 completed projects by the end of our term.

# 5

### Sub-Regions

NEBSA hosted several in-person events in each of our five sub-regions, which includes New York Metro, New Jersey, Upstate New York, Combined Northern New England, and Connecticut.

# 40

### Collaborative Programs

From our Week of Service to Law Firm Sponsorship, we have highlighted and prioritize collaboration with several organizations to help promote our mission and values.



### WE ARE FULLY CHARGE

In the 2022-2023 term, we have surpass almost all the goals!

# Academic Affairs

In law school, the first year can be the most critical. From the curriculum and teaching methods to the large classes and the intimidating lectures. 1L grades may sometimes be a key factor in determining summer positions, future job opportunities, eligibility for law review, and transfer applications. It's safe to say 1L year is a high-pressure setting – like the legal practice itself. Therefore, NEBSA ensures to offer a wide range of programs and initiatives to help our members succeed academically.



CNNE Academic Retreat Sponsored by Weil, Gotshal, & Manges



## Vision Boards

Vision boards give you a clear direction for where you want to go in several areas of your life. They allow you to visualize what goals you want to achieve. When you create a physical vision board, you can even touch what represents your vision. When law school becomes overwhelming, our members can vert backto their Vision boards and remind themselves of their priorities.



## Mental Health and Awareness

96% of law students suffer from significant stress. Research suggests that law students are among the most dissatisfied, demoralized, and depressed of any graduate student population. NEBSA has hosted several sessions to help our members stay grounded, set schedules, develop boundaries, and be good to themselves.



## Personal Branding

NEBSA offer series to our members on navigating this dynamic and powerful but admittedly less traditional method of cultivating connections while building a professional brand.



## Navigating Law School

It's no secret that law school is a big commitment. Imagine entering into such a commitment as a first generation student. NEBSA has offer session in collaboration with our sponsors to discuss what our members need to know and do while in law school to be a more competitive job seeker, LLM applicants, and overall student.



## MPRE and Bar Prep

Presented by the top Bar prep programs in the nation, NEBSA have collaborated to offer practice questions, outlines, and study guides to help you prep for the MPRE.



## Panel Discussions

Highlighting and buildingour networks with a diverse panel of Attorneys who will share their varied experiences in the areas of civil litigation, corporate counsel, debt finance, federal prosecution, and state government.

# Academic Affairs

## How To Do Law School | New Jersey

We understand that at this stage in the game 1Ls are likely feeling overwhelmed. NEBSA is here to provide our members with all of the resources that you need to achieve academic success! This was an interactive session with Haley Meade, Director of the Academic Skills Department at CUNY School of Law. During the session she went over outlining, essay writing, test taking tips, time management skills, and other academic tips and tricks.

## Bar Talk Session | New Jersey

Our Bar Talk session was completely dedicated to all things Bar prep. The session featured a detailed presentation from Mitch Mcfee, a Helix Bar Review representative who discussed the ins and outs of the road to the bar. The session also featured Aminah Ali, a Kaplan representative who will provide an overview of their bar prep program. At the end of the session NEBSA raffled off 2 free Kaplan Bar prep programs. This was a chance to win \$2,199 in Bar prep savings.

## Remembering Your Why | New Jersey

An event capturing our individual attention to identify the spark that started our journey into the law school experience for each of our members. We focused on something significant before law school, and holding on to that memory to encourage us to persevere and strive for academic success.

## Are you good? The importance of Mental Health | New Jersey

Attendees learned more about mental health resources and how to check in with yourself during law school and beyond. We also offered mental health resources in our attendee packet.

## Sister-2-Sister | New Jersey & Boston

This panel was a candid discussion about society's negative stereotypes and labels imposed on educated professional Black women. Panelists provided suggestions for navigating the inevitable misconceptions, achieving a positive self-image, and celebrating the strength of being a successful Black woman.

## Brother-2-Brother | New Jersey & Boston

Informal dialogue between male attorneys and male law students. Panelists introduce themselves and share their perspectives on balancing their professional life with their personal life. The audience asked questions of the panelists throughout the panel, but the moderator remained in control and had sample questions to ask as well.

## 2L, 3L, & 4L : Encouraged, Engaged, Equipped | New Jersey

Attendees reviewed and made recommendations for initiating short- and long-term actions to achieve goals for each priority area for upper level classes. This program is a great opportunity to network, attend panels focused on helping you succeed in law school, get tips on how to improve your legal research and writing skills, but most of all it is a great time to fellowship with other future attorneys in the Northeast Region.



# Academic Affairs

## Academic Workshop for 2Ls, 3Ls, and 4Ls | Boston

Workshops are geared to 2Ls, 3Ls, and 4Ls with discuss topics include outlining, close reading to develop issue spotting, study strategies, and more.

## The Importance of the Reality Check | Zoom

A presentation on what a reality check looks like and the most efficient and effective steps in using this document to prepare for final exams.

## Legal research, Outlining, Networking | Zoom

Panel on drafting exam outlines, practice exam strategies and more. 2L and 3L NEBSA board members joined to speak about the particularities and approaches of different courses.

## If I Knew Then What I Know Now | Boston

Attendees will hear advice from 3L and recent graduated regarding tip for law school and graduation.

## How are you watering yourself? Are you tending to your garden? | Connecticut & New Jersey

Important mental health discussion and check in. Learn more about mental health resources and how to check in with yourself.

## Being Woke in Law School: How to Navigate Social Trauma and Maintain Mental Stability | Connecticut

Discussion on how to be a Black law Student and combat institutional racism present in your classroom, campus, and community. This was an open discussion on the many obstacles to any progress toward racial and ethnic diversity.

## Academic Workshop for 1Ls | New Jersey

Session offered insights into a practical session on what it means to "think like a lawyer," spot issues on a law school exam, write up legal analysis, and more exam-taking strategies. In this half-day event, we provide students with a law school "survival kit", essential save-the-dates, academic success handouts (e.g., case briefing, outlining, exam study tips), and invaluable panel discussions with 2Ls and 3Ls on how they navigated 1L year.



# THE PIPELINE

## PRE-LAW & ALUMNI

*"To increase diversity in the legal profession, NEBSA realizes that its start with our pre-law members, and continues with our alumni. During our term, we've hosted targeted sessions to ensure both our pre-law and alumni members feel ready, willing, and capable to embark on their perspective journeys."*



### Bar Association Events

In partnership with the Brooklyn Law School BLSA and the Boston Bar Association, we brought together several Bar Associations through their representatives to speak with members about the importance of getting involved in local bar associations.



### Panels featuring Potential Clients

Starting your own solo law practice is not easy! That's why NEBSA in collaboration with NALA host session to discussion specific practice areas, and offer lawyers a way to meet potential clients.



### Mixers & Coffee Breaks

Throughout the term, NEBSA has hosted several mixers, bowling event, and even coffee break specifically focused on opportunities to fellowship in an informal setting and get to know each other better. We event have a virtual paint and sip in the works!



### Wealth Management

it's in everyone's best interest to have some basic knowledge of one of the most important aspects of business finance - budgeting. In this course, you'll learn to identify the characteristics of an effective budget, the stages in planning one, and how to distinguish between budgets types. You'll also explore budgeting concepts and techniques such as historical and zero-based budgeting, variance analysis, capital budgeting, and performing budgeting calculations.



### Mock LSATs

We recognized that taking practice tests help test taker build the skills and confidence to do their best work on test day. That's why we offered four hybrid session to get our member a sense of the exam, and help determine their LSAT score range.



### Young Debaters Programs

NEBSA has collaborated with Young Debaters Programs to introduce debate and public speaking at a young age in an effort to increase the number of students, particularly of color, to grow interest in and pursue legal careers. By expanding our view on what constitutes as "pre-law" students, we are able to engage with future lawyers while they are still in middle school!

# Alumni & Pre-Law

## Grad Vibes Only | Alumni Event | New York City

Graduation is a major accomplishment for many law students. Whether it signifies the next step of or academic accomplishments, these achievement are worth celebrating. At this event, we celebrate the Class of 2022 through fellowship.

## So you want to go to law school? | Pre-Law Event | Zoom

This event offer insights and advice to undergraduate pre-law students as they begin their law school application process.

## NY Metro Bar Association Panel | Alumni Event | New York City

In partnership with the Brooklyn Law School BLSA, we brought together five New York City Bar Associations where a representative spoke with members about the importance of getting involved in local bar associations. The local bar associations that participated were the Association of Black Women Attorneys, Macon B. Allen Bar Association, The Metropolitan Black Bar Association, Brooklyn Bar and New York State Bar.

## Suit & Scrubs | Alumni Event| New York City

Suits and Scrubs reference to the outfits worn by the two respective professions (Lawyers and Doctors). Suits and Scrubs intends to strengthen inter-faculty relations and advance a sense of community with the broader cohort and recent alumni. The "Suits and Scrub" event is a collaborative event with Region IX and VII of SMNA. The bowling event was geared toward Alumni Networking with over 20 in attendance.

## Intro to the LSAT| Pre-Law Event | Zoom

This workshop was led by NBLSA partner, Blueprint. Blueprint shared with students not only about what their company has to offer, but also provided general advice on how to study. Specifically, they discussed how long one should study and the differences between the different studying methods

## Alumni Mixer | Alumni Event | Connecticut

Evening of networking with alumni and students at Jazzy's Cabaret. This opportunity was to share or increase career knowledge and grow members professional network.

## Coffee Break | Alumni Event | Albany, New York

This event involves a personal exchange and informal chit-chat between Alumni. We created a space to allow new and older alum the chance to know each other better. The event also served as place to after the Tyre Nichols video was released.

## Getting to Know Your Bar Associations | Alumni Event| Boston

In partnership with the Boston Bar Association, we brought together five Boston Bar Associations where a representative spoke with members about the importance of getting involved in local bar associations.

## Immigration Panel |Alumni Event |Zoom

A brief overview of the various laws and regulations that govern immigration and naturalization, introduction of various federal administrative agencies responsible for administering these laws and regulations, and general information about the criteria and procedures for obtaining admission to the United States, as well the grounds and procedures for removal. This was open the public to allow lawyers to connect and meet with potential clients.



# Alumni & Pre-Law

## Mock LSAT Sessions | Pre-Law | Hybrid

NEBSA in collaboration with CUNY Law's Pipeline to Justice offered free, full-length, realistic practice LSAT to anyone that registered.

## Becoming the Main Character of Your Law School Application | Pre-law | Zoom

During this session, we taught the participants about the components of the application component as well workshopped how to approach it. Specifically, we covered, the importance of telling a narrative story in your application, how to build leadership skills and provided information on how to start a nebsa chapter

## How to Effectively Navigate the Law School Admission Process | Pre-law

During this fireside chat with the Dean of Admissions at Seton Hall, we provided students with an opportunity to unlock the black box that is law school admissions. Participants learned about how to choose recommenders, the importance of the lsat, and when to write an addendum. Several participants also had a chance to ask questions about their unique circumstance.

## Black Attorney Panel: The Many Ways One Can Use Their JD | Pre-Law

During this panel, we were joined by two Black women attorneys who represent both the private and public sector. Participants learned about the struggles of being a Black lawyer, how to navigate rejections and received advice how to identify your passion

## Mock Law School Class | Pre-law

This Mock class will be lead by a skills professor at CUNY Law School. The purpose of this mock class is to give students a taste of what it might be like to cold called and sit in a real law school classroom.

## LSAT Workshop | Pre-Law

During this event, we will have an instructor teach how to approach logic games. The purpose of this section is to introduce students to logic games, but also give them a tangible skill that they can go home and practice with.

## Picking the Law School for You | Pre-Law

This panel will be moderated by Access Lex. During this panel they will discuss the factors one should consider when choosing a law school, where one can find information about schools and how to manage potential debt

## Pipeline Programs Panel | Pre-Law

The goal of this panel is to inform students about the difference prelaw programs available to assist students in their journey to law school. We will have panelists represent at least 4 different prep program.

## Personal Statement Workshop | Pre-Law

The purpose of this workshop is to teach participants how to write a personal statement and to walk away with an outline of their own. In particular, we will discuss how to brainstorm a topic, common mistakes, and how to write about traumatic events.

# Serving Our Community

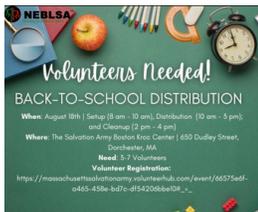
## Build - Serve - Advocate

We believe strongly in giving back and being good community citizens. Social responsibility is not a buzzword for us; it's what drives our values. We strive to be role models and contribute positively toward improving the communities we inhabit.



### NEBLSA's Week of Service

In celebration of our 55th anniversary, we encouraged our members to volunteer their time and expertise to support our communities and lend a helping hand. We also worked with over 10 community organizations to allow our members to volunteer. These include, but are not limited to: Public Libraries, Food Pantries, Letter Writing, and more!



### Back to School Drives

Positive academic experiences are essential to the confidence and potential of children. You can help build these bridges to success for students in our communities by donating much needed school supplies. This year NEBLSA helped pack and distribute donated supplies, giving children the tools they need to succeed in the classroom!



### Service Component to our Academic Retreat

The year marked the return of our in-person academic retreats. Kicking it off or ending the series of events with a community service activity promoted our mission and actively engaged with the communities we entered law school to help!



### Voter Phonebank

NEBLSA members made calls to ensure voters have a plan to get to the polls. As a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, our tax status allows us to advocate and educate only on policy issues, not candidates.

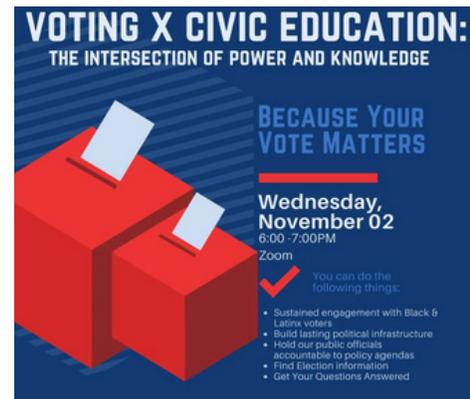
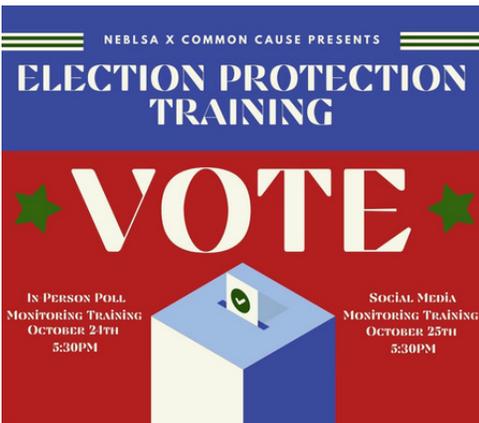


### VITA Training

NEBLSA team up with several partners to bring the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program to our communities. VITA utilizes IRS-trained volunteers to provide free tax preparation to individuals and families earning \$55,000 or less each year.

# Advocacy & External Relations

Advocacy originates from *advocare*, 'call to one's aid' or to speak out on behalf of someone. It is through the organized efforts by NEBSA members that we hope to influence the formulation and implementation of public policies, laws, regulations, programs, distribution of resources and other decisions that affect the community by persuading and state authorities and other powerful actors.



# Social Action & Community Service

## [Legal Observing Training | Zoom](#)

NEBLSA hosted a Legal Observer Training conducted by National Lawyers Guild New York City Chapter. Those who attended the training were prepared to go into the field and observe police (mis)conduct (and thus help deter unconstitutional behavior) at various demonstrations, protests, and events that take place throughout the year.

## [Back to School Drive| Boston](#)

Back to School Drive with the Massachusetts Salvation Army. There were a total of 3000 backpacks and over 1000 new coats given away.

## [Voter Registration Phonebank \(2 Sessions\) | Zoom](#)

A phone bank session to call voters to encourage them to vote in an important upcoming election.

## [Student Organizing Summit Info Session| Zoom](#)

Meeting with members to discuss improving the black law student experience and diversifying the profession.

## [Dome Donation Day| Upstate New York](#)

It's more than just a game! This year NEBLSA teamed up with the Salvation Army of Syracuse for a food drive and fundraiser as part of their Food Insecurity Awareness at one of Syracuse Football games.

## [Baking in Bias: How AI & Surveillance Threaten Civil Rights | New Jersey](#)

S.T.O.P. empowers communities targeted by discriminatory surveillance. Our privacy trainings educate the public on how they can protect their communities from surveillance. Discussion focused on the tool and resources to understanding how to protect our right to privacy.

## [Political Grounding and Reparations| New Jersey](#)

A presentation on reparations and the political frameworks geared toward law students which also highlights the work of the Law for Black Lives organization.

## [Lesson from 2022 Voter Protection Results: Building for Success with Reforms and Engagement| Upstate New York](#)

The expert panel reviewed the issues identified by the NYDLC Voter Protection efforts in New York State, discuss voting/election reforms most appropriate to pass and defend now in the State Legislature and how communities can engage to inspire a better coordinated voter base.

# Social Action & Community Service

## Pre-Academic Retreat Service Event| New Jersey

The Pre-Academic Retreat was centered around service. NEBLSA partnered with the Grand Central Food program to prep and serve meals to folks who participate in the program.

## Voting X Civic Education: The Intersection of Power and Knowledge in collaboration with. National Latina/o Law Students Association (NLLSA) | Zoom

Discuss the national voting landscape, Voting Rights Bill, and strategies as voters move into a post-Roe world. We engaged with our Black and Brown lawyers, trendsetters, policymakers, organizers, and those committed to transforming the law and building the power of organizing to defend, protect and advance Black Liberation across the nation.

## Juneteenth Weekend| Several Locations

This year NEBLSA collaborated with four organizations across the northeast to offer an opportunity to enjoy a vibrant weekend of activities for everyone from volunteering with Freedom March NYC and elementary school students to engaging in the future of Juneteenth. 4 events, 4 locations, 1 weekend.

## NEBLSA X Boston Food Bank | Boston

Volunteer were tasks with focusing on high need/critical projects like their CSFP and Brown Bag boxes for seniors and additional food sorting projects.

## NEBLSA x Common Cause| Zoom

Training to help voter navigate the voting process and cast their votes without obstruction, confusion, or intimidation. In-Person Poll Monitor or Social Media Monitoring: monitor polling places, report problems and assist voters. Shifts during the weekends of Early Voting and on Election Day.

## NEBLSA X Letters Against Isolation| Connecticut

Through handwritten messages of love, hope, and joy, our volunteer community brings seniors connection and improves their mental and physical health. heartfelt, friendly, nonpartisan letters about voting.

## NEBLSA X Project Hope| Boston

Packet Personal Care Life Tool Kits: Pads, Tampons, Toothbrush, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Lip balm, Razors, Lotion.

## NEBLSA X Boston Public Library

Volunteers worked with a small group of two to four looking to improve their conversational English for ESL learners. Other volunteers work with an individual helping them to improve basic literacy skills for employment.

## VITA Training| New York City

As a VITA volunteers, we will join a team of passionate, supportive, and diverse preparers to gain knowledge about basic tax law and earn IRS certification to serve. We help families with low to moderate incomes each year so that they keep every penny of their refund.

# Social Action & Community Service

## NEBLSA X Brooklyn Public Library

NEBLSA helped children ages 5-11 years old, expand their vocabulary and strengthen their comprehension skills, so they may become strong confident readers.

## NEBLSA X NYDLC | Zoom

NYDLC and NEBLSA helpline volunteers worked to answer voting questions. All we needed was a computer, a reliable WIFI connection, and the time to commit to two 3-hour shifts. Bilingual and multilingual individuals were strongly encouraged to volunteer on our helpline to assist non-English speaking voters.

## NEBLSA X My Sister's Place | Remote

We encouraged chapters to purchase items directly from My Sisters' Place's wish-list on Amazon. All items purchased on Amazon are shipped directly to My Sisters' Place.

## NEBLSA X Vote Forward | Remote

Heartfelt, friendly, nonpartisan letters about voting. Handwritten letters are one of the most effective ways to generate excitement about voting. NEBLSA wrote and encourage chapter to write more than five letters. worked with vote forward regarding postage.

## NEBLSA X ARM Mobile Showering | New Jersey

Collected travel size hygiene products for houseless guests to use when visiting ARM's mobile showering units. Toothbrush, toothpaste, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, bodywash, deodorant. Contacted ARM to organize pick-up and drop off of donations.

## NEBLSA X American Red Cross Blood Drive | New Jersey

Blood is vital, precious, and in short supply. Unless medical technology vastly improves, the only way to get the much-needed blood is through an heroic donor. During our annual convention, we hosted a blood drive where all community members, resort employees, and general vacationers can give blood.

## NEBLSA X Clothes Closet

Dressing appropriately for an interview, career fair, or networking event is key to boosting your confidence and helping you make a great first impression. NEBLSA hosted a donation during convention which will in turn provide free, professional clothing for students.

## NEBLSA X Young Debaters Program | New York City

NEBLSA worked with the Young Debaters Program and offered many dedicated volunteers the opportunity to serve as a Judge at one or more of their competitions for middle school and high school students. All materials were provided to Judges in advance of the competition as well as on the competition day.

## Reframing the Conversation:

# Cultural Awareness

### "Black" Law Students and what that means

"Black is not a monolith. To consider those words is to consider the full breadth of the human experience. Black people don't move as one, but rather move in all directions, toward and away from each other. Despite the vast array of cultural/ethnic backgrounds and lived experiences in the African diaspora, each Black person is united by how their brown skin is interpreted in America. And while they are often crammed into a box constructed by society, Black people are not a monolith, nor is the way they navigate the world."



#### Addressing Racial Equity in the LGBTQ Community

The session discussed the racial inequities within the legal community as a whole, as well as the challenges specific to Black people in the LGBTQ+ legal community. The panelists, importantly, discuss techniques we can all implement or advocate for within our schools and workplaces to make a tangible impact in dismantling biased systems.



#### Working with a range of organizations like the Nigerian American Lawyers Association and National Latino/a Law Students Association

We team up with other affinity groups and organization to tackle immigration panels and other open discussion on the sustained engagement with Black voters and communities by building lasting political infrastructure and holding our public officials accountable to policy agendas.



#### Courageous Conversations

NEBSA continues to host events incorporating Courageous conversations. These are generally conversations in which we initiate to discuss the issues that you would rather avoid. They often take the most courage and require you to speak candidly and listen openly, and are often the ones that make the biggest impact.





# Cultural Awareness

## We Outside - Hiking | New Jersey & Connecticut

Empowering, educating and reengaging black people to the outdoors, the "We Outside Series" aims to combat hurtful stereotypes through wellness campaigns, health advocacy and community based activities. We hosted several hiking events throughout states of New Jersey and Connecticut.

## We Outside - Kayaking | New York City

Downtown Boathouse hosted NEBLSA members to participate in their free kayaking program. NEBLSA members spent 30-45 minutes on the water and had the opportunity to sit through the Downtown Boathouse volunteer training program. Space was limited.

## Voting X Civic Education: The Intersection of Power and Knowledge in collaboration with National Latina/o Law Students Association (NLLSA) | Zoom

Discuss the national voting landscape, Voting Rights Bill, and strategies as voters move into a post-Roe world. We engaged with our Black and Brown lawyers, trendsetters, policymakers, organizers, and those committed to transforming the law and building the power of organizing to defend, protect and advance Black Liberation across the nation.

## Pan Africanism: Combating Brain Drain in the Law and Policy | Hybrid - Upstate New York

Discussion on the legal and racial implications of professionals migrating from the African continent at high volumes in collaboration with Albany Law BLSA

## We Outside - Ski Day

Empowering, educating and reengaging black people to the outdoors, the "We Outside Series" aims to combat hurtful stereotypes through wellness campaigns, health advocacy and community based activities. Attendees had the option of tubing, or taking lessons in snowboarding/skiing.

## Unpacking Mental Health & Disability Accommodations

Unpacking our minds and sharing our stories around mental health safely reduces stigma and feelings of disconnectedness. This event was focused on unpacking baggage to help improve our lives by reducing stress and helping to move past issues. This includes asking for help in any form, especially accommodations.





# Cultural Awareness

## [Black, Male, and Educated: The Struggles of Black Men in the Legal Field | Several Locations](#)

Informal panel discussion with Black men lawyers and students at different stages in their legal journey. They discussed all things law school, lifestyle, post-graduation, and more.

## [Black, Female, and Educated: The Struggles of Black Women in the Legal Field | Several Locations](#)

Attendees gained powerful insights to help them in their professional and personal lives from Black women.

## [Kwanzaa Crawl | May 25th, 2022 | Brooklyn, NY](#)

One-day event where people of the African diaspora join together to support Black-owned bars in their neighborhoods, specifically, Brooklyn.

## [Addressing Black Intersectionalities within the Legal Profession | Zoom](#)

Discussion the intersectionalities within the legal community as a whole, as well as the challenges specific to the Black LGBTQ+ legal community. The panelists also, importantly, discussed techniques we can all implement or advocate for within our schools and workplaces to make a tangible impact in dismantling systemic racism, implicit biases and microaggressions.

## [Shades of Black | Boston](#)

The Black Law Students Associations in Boston seek to acknowledge and celebrate the various identities which make our community unique by creating a space that encourages students to express what Black means to them through food, art, and community.

## [Monthly Health & Wellness Check-ins | Several Dates | Zoom](#)

Wellness takes shape in many forms. As you can imagine, mental health is high on that list, but there are additional dimensions to well-being that can help ensure our member meet their individual needs. Each month we hosted a check-in to provide our members the space to connect and "tap in."

# Career and Professional Development



NEBSA is creating and fostering an environment of inclusiveness for our members. Our group has offered a platform for Black law students and pre-law students to cultivate their professional development and build the core competencies necessary to effectively navigate the legal landscape.





# Career & Professional Development

## On Campus Interviewing, Writing Sample/Workshops| Zoom

The interview workshop included tips and tricks for success in virtual interviews. The discussion was led by a partner at the firm who provided advice on favorable camera angles, lighting, posture, and presence.

## Establishing & Protecting Black Wealth or Power of the Black Dollar with Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP

Session offered insights into financial literacy, how to manage paying off loans, homeownership, investing, and much more.

## Your Lawyer Image-Becoming A Lawyer with Carmondy Torrance Sandak & Hennessey, LLP

Creating a strong personal brand is crucial to career success. Self-advocacy isn't something which is taught at law school. This session discussed conscious and intentional efforts to promote yourself in your legal career.

## NEBLSA Job Fair

The NEBLSA Job Fair provides an opportunity for employers to interact with diverse students from across the nation. This allows organizations to take a proactive approach towards diversity and to meet exceptional students who strive for excellence in their varying prospective fields.

## Industry Talk: Entertainment Law|New Jersey

Entertainment law/media law, is legal services provided to the entertainment industry. These services in entertainment law overlap with intellectual property law. Intellectual property has many moving parts that include trademarks, copyright, and the "Right of Publicity". Dynamic panel focused on entering the industry, representation of major brands/clients, and advise.

## Industry Talk: Litigation |New Jersey|

Discussion with experienced trial attorneys and litigators in the areas of complex state and federal criminal defense, civil rights actions, Title IX Investigations, and contractual disputes.

## Industry Talk: Cannabis Law |New Jersey|

The Cannabis Law and Policy Committee are professionals across the country from all legal disciplines who are applying their skills to the continually expanding state cannabis laws and federal hemp laws. We share our experiences and resources with each other, and work together to produce leading educational programming and informative publications. Our members are involved in effecting change to state and federal policies.

## Bridging the Racial Wealth Gap |New Jersey|

Contrary to what many want to believe, the racial wealth gap is currently widening rather than shrinking, most significantly between Black and White populations. One of the greatest obstacles to racial wealth equity is the myth that changes in individual behavior can solve a problem that is systemic in nature. This panel focused on the what the law can/what a legal degree can to close the gap.

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## Industry Talk: Privacy Law |New Jersey

Data privacy is one of the fastest growing fields. With the introduction of new data privacy laws in California, Virginia, Colorado, Utah, and Connecticut plus the internationally known GDPR, data privacy attorneys, in-house and at big law firms, have their hands full. Learn more about data privacy, what a privacy counsel does, and more about this fascinating field by attending the Data Privacy Panel.

## Industry Talk: In-House Panel |New Jersey

Perspectives From In-House Counsel, discussion focusing on becoming In-house counsel, a guide for law students and recent graduates.

## Industry Talk: Labor & Employment |New Jersey

Labor and employment law deals with a broad area of law that governs the rights and duties between employers and workers. Many of the governing laws are designed to keep workers safe and ensure they are treated fairly, although laws also protect employers' interests. Discussion focused on day in the life of a L&E attorney, the type of work, and experiences.

## Personal Branding Workshop |New Jersey

Personal branding is the conscious and intentional effort to create and influence public perception of an individual by positioning them as an authority in their industry, elevating their credibility, and differentiating themselves from the competition, to ultimately advance their career.

## Judicial Law Clerk Panel |New Jersey

Virtual program with Black Judicial Law Clerks and Court Attorneys who will share their experiences with students. According to the Jeh Johnson's report, African Americans are severely unrepresented within the unified court system, and we want to create a panel raising awareness and promoting the current positions for current law students and post-graduates. This program would also allow students to engage with current Law Clerks and Court Attorneys and ask questions.

## What 1Ls Should Do Now with Allen & Overy LLP |Boston and New York

During the session, you will have the chance to connect with Partners and Associates regarding ways to advance your career plans effectively and provide helpful tips for networking, engaging with employees, seeking out opportunities, and thinking ahead.

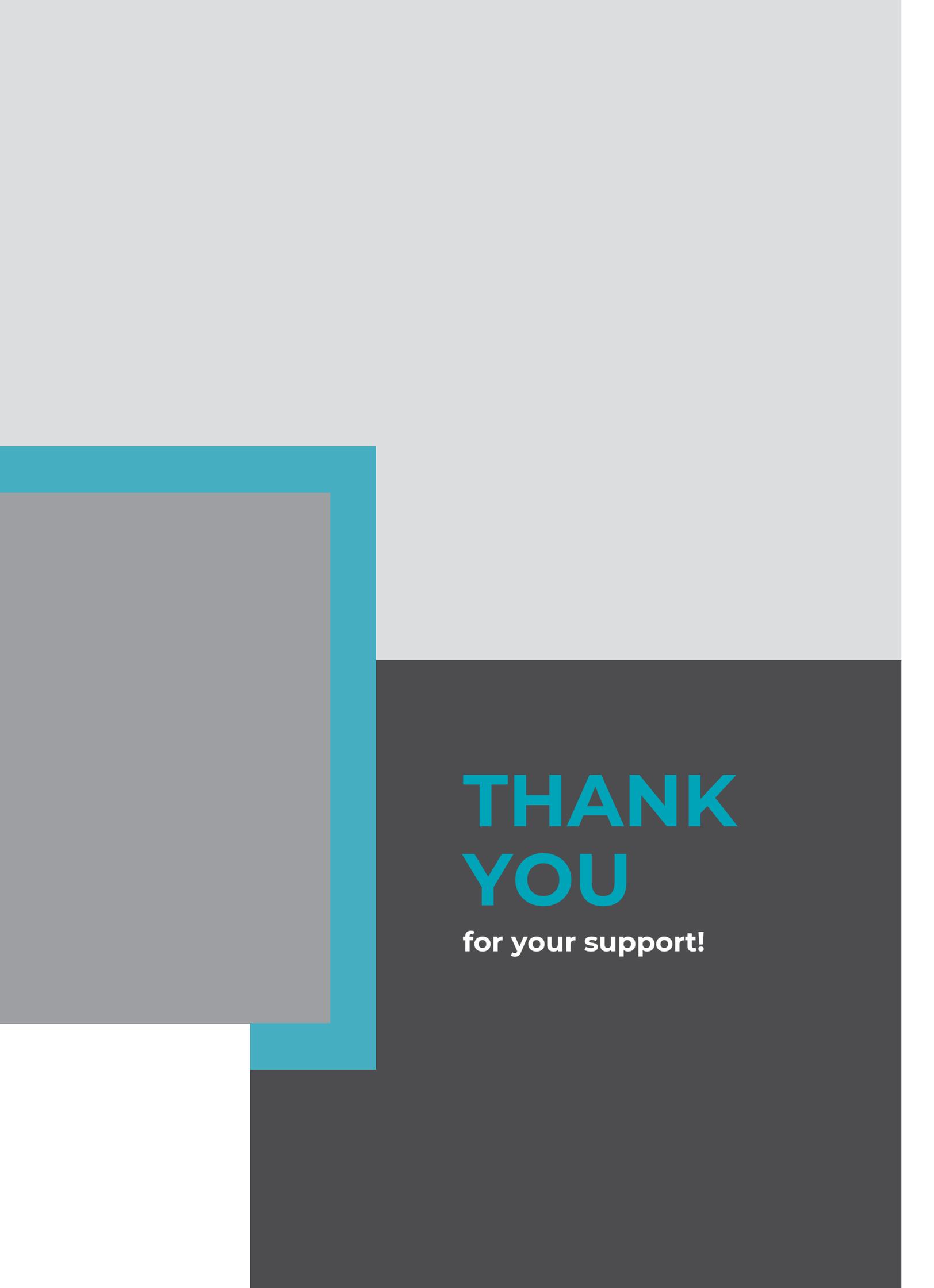
## NEBLSA Convention Job Fair |New Jersey

The NEBLSA Job Fair provides an opportunity for employers to interact with diverse students from across the nation. Our convention job fair specifically highlights public interest careers and more. We also open the event to our convention sponsors.

## Industry Talk: Private Equity|New Jersey

Private equity is a dynamic industry, and our practice grows and evolves to keep pace. Our lawyers assist private equity firms through the full life-cycle of a fund, from formation and fundraising through growth equity transactions, leveraged buyouts, going-private transactions, and recapitalizations, to dispositions and exits.





**THANK  
YOU**

**for your support!**