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In Memoriam: Judith S. Kaye



Judge Kaye and the four original New York State Constitutions at the New York City Bar Association on the occasion of her delivery of the 41st Benjamin N. Cardozo Lecture on February 26, 1987. Reprinted with permission from Henry M. Greenberg.

A Tribute to Judge Kaye

Nicholas W. Allard[†]

Writing the introduction for the *Brooklyn Law Review* Volume 81, Issue 4, honoring the late Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye, is a unique, undeserved privilege that comes to me, I suppose, de facto and ex officio, simply by virtue of my position as Dean of our great law school. I am self-aware enough to know that there are legions in the profession, in Judge Kaye's family and among her dear friends, who could ably fulfill this role and whose own lives have been touched directly and enhanced immeasurably by Judith Kaye. Without any question she was by all accounts a great jurist, scholar, lawyer, leader, visionary, pioneer, and role model, not to mention an unforgettable woman, daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother.¹ Indeed, reading through a large sampling of the tributes celebrating Judge Kaye's life before and after her death in preparation for introducing this very special issue was an overwhelming, humbling, yet inspiring experience.²

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¹ Judith S. Kaye, the first woman Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals, served for a record 15 years in that position before retiring in 2008. Prior to joining the Court of Appeals upon appointment in 1983 by Governor Mario M. Cuomo, she was a litigation partner at Olwine Connelly. After retiring as Chief Judge, she worked for seven years as Of Counsel with the firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (Skadden Arps). Judith Kaye completed work on the essay that appears in this issue on December 7, 2015. She died on January 7, 2016, at the age of 77.

² Angela Burton, *Fritz Winfred Alexander, II*, HISTORICAL SOC'Y OF N.Y. COURTS, [http://www.nycourts.gov/history/legal-history-new-york/history-legal-bench-court-appeals.html? \[http://perma.cc/8G49-XQ9J\]](http://www.nycourts.gov/history/legal-history-new-york/history-legal-bench-court-appeals.html? [http://perma.cc/8G49-XQ9J]) (last visited July 20, 2016); Steven Krane, *Judith Smith Kaye*, HIST. SOC'Y OF N.Y. CTS., [http://www.nycourts.gov/history/legal-history-new-york/luminaries-court-appeals/kaye-judith.html \[http://perma.cc/W6TG-LFV7\]](http://www.nycourts.gov/history/legal-history-new-york/luminaries-court-appeals/kaye-judith.html [http://perma.cc/W6TG-LFV7]) (last visited July 20, 2016); Jeffrey Toobin, *Special Kaye*, NEW YORKER (Dec. 15, 2008), [http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2008/12/15/special-kaye \[http://perma.cc/W2CR-Z5DT\]](http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2008/12/15/special-kaye [http://perma.cc/W2CR-Z5DT]); David C. Singer, *Message from the Chair*, 9 N.Y. DISP. RESOL. LAW. 1 (2016); *Tribute to Chief Judge Kaye*, N.Y. ST. PERMANENT JUD. COMM'N ON JUST. FOR CHILD., [https://www.nycourts.gov/ip/justiceforchildren/tribute.shtml \[http://perma.cc/N9AQ-MP MH\]](https://www.nycourts.gov/ip/justiceforchildren/tribute.shtml [http://perma.cc/N9AQ-MP MH]) (last updated Jan. 25, 2016); Carmen Ciparick, *A Tribute to Judith Kaye*, HUNTER COLL., [http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/communications/pressroom/news/a-tribute-to-judith-kaye-by-hunter-alumna-carmen-ciparick-201963 \[http://perma.cc/J54K-5B48\]](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/communications/pressroom/news/a-tribute-to-judith-kaye-by-hunter-alumna-carmen-ciparick-201963 [http://perma.cc/J54K-5B48]) (last visited July 20, 2016); *Judith Kaye: A Tribute to a Fine Jurist—and Person*, OBSERVER (Jan. 7, 2016, 1:28 PM), [http://observer.com/2016/01/judith-kaye-a-tribute-to-a-fine-jurist-and-person/ \[http://perma.cc/XF7P-VLEL\]](http://observer.com/2016/01/judith-kaye-a-tribute-to-a-fine-jurist-and-person/ [http://perma.cc/XF7P-VLEL]); *LeGaL Remembers Former Chief Judge Kaye as Towering Figure in Our Profession and for Our Community*, LGBT BAR ASS'N, [1351](http://le-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Another reason why it is such an honor to participate in this issue is that it contains and will present and preserve for posterity what may be one of, if not in fact the last, published work of Judge Kaye: “Reflections on Opportunity in Life and Law.” Not only is her essay a compendium of lessons framed around her own autobiography, it also addresses a subject that had been for a very long time of great importance to Judge Kaye: the significance of state constitutions in general, and the New York State Constitution in particular. It will be apparent to any reader of Judge Kaye’s piece, written so near to her death, that she had very much in mind her own mortality and legacy. It is impossible not to be moved by the noble, fearless, clear-eyed way she uses her essay as a vehicle to pass on lessons, and in so doing, says goodbye to all in an extraordinary way.

Despite my qualms knowing full well that the Editor-in-Chief of the *Brooklyn Law Review* could find a more appropriate author to introduce the volume, in the end, Lillian (Lily) V. Smith’s invitation was irresistible—and not just because I personally find it so hard to say no to our remarkable students, who after all are our purpose and not merely our excuse for having a law school. First, as readers inevitably will notice, Judge Kaye’s essay speaks volumes about a direct, intense, and even loving mentoring relationship between Judge Kaye and, perhaps her final protégé, Lily. This revealing and mutually exemplary relationship is a vivid example of how much of an impact Judge Kaye had on countless people, and how all we other lawyers can and should strive to do the same. Second, because of their especially close working relationship on this project, I will choose to regard Lily’s request as conveying “per stirpes” Judge Kaye’s acceptance, notwithstanding my obvious shortcomings. What makes my task easier and worthwhile for me is how much Judge Kaye’s message concerns lessons about how to seize opportunity and to serve both the private and

gal.org/legal-remembers-former-chief-judge-kaye-as-towering-figure-in-our-profession-and-for-our-community/ [http://perma.cc/ZKD6-WMA9] (last visited July 20, 2016); Sam Roberts, *Judith S. Kaye, First Woman to Serve as New York’s Chief Judge, Dies at 77*, N.Y. TIMES (Jan. 7, 2016), <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/08/nyregion/judith-s-kaye-first-woman-to-serve-as-new-yorks-chief-judge-dies-at-77.html> [http://perma.cc/7FP4-SU87]; Paul Grondahl, *Judge Kaye Recalled as ‘A Singular Force,’* TIMES UNION (Jan. 8, 2016, 9:24AM), <http://www.timesunion.com/tuplus-local/article/Former-Chief-Judge-Judith-Kaye-dies-at-77-6742985.php> [http://perma.cc/Q2AH-JPRC]; Stephanie Francis Ward, *Trailblazing Former New York Judge Judith Kaye Dies at 77*, A.B.A. J. (Jan. 7, 2016, 1:40PM), http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/trailblazing_new_york_judge_judith_kaye_dies_at_77 [http://perma.cc/8YKP-W64C]; Joel Stashenko, *Judith Kaye, Pathbreaking Chief Judge, Dies at 77*, N.Y.L.J. (Jan. 8, 2016), <http://www.newyorklawjournal.com/id=1202746503847/Judith-Kaye-Pathbreaking-Chief-Judge-Dies-at-77?slreturn=20160615121554> [http://perma.cc/HD56-4MCF].

public roles of lawyers in our noble profession, as well as the importance of lawyers engaging in civic legal education, specifically in proposing an educational public conversation about the New York State Constitution and whether New Yorkers should vote in 2017 to convene a state constitutional convention. Judge Kaye, as all the many tributes to her within these pages and elsewhere acknowledge, was many things to many people, but indisputably she was a great teacher. Her wonderful contribution to this issue will be another significant, shining example of why her attributes as a teacher will be long remembered.

I frequently ask aspiring lawyers what motivated them to want to become lawyers. This is especially on my mind now because of Judge Kaye's essay, and because earlier this year news of Harper Lee's death transported me back, in a Proustian flash of childhood memory, to a muggy summer night, a long time ago. I remember looking up at the big movie screen at the Route 110 drive-in movie theater in Melville, New York, and sitting between my parents in my pajamas in the front seat of our Plymouth. With my younger siblings asleep in the back, I heard the unforgettable words: "Jean Louise, stand up, your father is passing." For me, and for many others, Reverend Sykes's gentle admonishment to Scout, in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, that she should show respect for her father, who had just unsuccessfully defended a black man wrongly accused of rape, provided a spark that ignited a lifelong passion for law. Of course, we have moved on from a time when the story of social and racial justice is told in stylized terms of a noble white savior of helpless blacks. Even my fictional Atticus Finch has evolved and, to put it mildly, is now portrayed in the sequel as more complex. But the point is, each of us have motivations and worthy purposes leading us to legal careers. Our motivation might have come from real life legal heroes like Abraham Lincoln, Mahatma Gandhi, Thurgood Marshall, Nelson Mandela, Sandra Day O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, or suffragette lawyers such as Brooklyn Law School 1906 graduate, Rosalie Gardner Jones, who was a major leader of the movement to enable women to vote, or Brooklyn lawyer Jim Donovan, heroically portrayed by Tom Hanks in the movie *Bridge of Spies*. Often the motivation came from parents, or family members like my own grandmother Edna, who bought me a spittoon from a dead lawyer's estate sale when I was very young because she thought, as the lawyer in her mind that I would surely be, I would need it, or from fictional heroes like my Atticus Finch, or Perry Mason, who Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote in her memoir inspired her to become a

lawyer. Justice Sotomayor was with us in Brooklyn this past April to meet with our students. She spoke about the critical role others have had in contributing to her success and in turn how she repays that help by her tireless, generous efforts to encourage and help others so that the investment her mentors made in her pays dividends to innumerable people. She also said, “We educated, privileged lawyers have a professional and moral duty to represent the underrepresented in our society, to ensure that justice exists for all, both legal and economic justice.” Her words continue to inspire our students’ dedication to do good as well as do well. Chief Judge Judith Kaye certainly was an inspiration to aspiring, rising, and practicing lawyers and so in a very real sense is a hero too.

Lily Smith met Judge Kaye at Skadden Arps, where Lily worked as a summer associate last year. Judge Kaye presided over the summer associates’ mock trial, which marked the culmination of a summer-long litigation training. Lily reported to me,

It was incredible to argue in front of her. When I conducted my direct examination, Judge Kaye watched me with such intensity that I just had to ask her about it afterwards. Judge Kaye said that although a judge might normally watch the witness, because she was there to help us learn about trial strategy, she preferred to watch our every move to get a sense of our confidence and ease with the case. The Judge said she could always tell when a lawyer wasn’t sure of her case or her witness.³

Thankfully, Lily seemed to have convinced her!

Judge Kaye was kind enough to invite the summer associates to her office after the mock trial, where she shared with the fledging lawyers many wonderful stories about her time on the bench and her public service work with New York City families and children, as well as the many treasures, from Supreme Court Justices and grandchildren alike, that adorned her office walls. She also addressed the entire summer class at the firm. Lily feels that “to hear her speak about her life and career was nothing short of life-changing.”⁴ She noted that “Judge Kaye has such a wonderful sense of humor and seemed to find great joy in her life and her work.”⁵ For Lily, “it was an inspiration to be around her,”⁶ and it was something she thought of often when she returned to school last fall.

³ Email from Lillian Smith, Editor-in-Chief, Brooklyn Law Review, to author (May 6, 2016, 9:55 PM) (on file with author).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.*

When Lily, as Editor-in-Chief, began work on Volume 81 of the *Brooklyn Law Review*, she wondered if Judge Kaye might entertain an offer to write something for their final issue of the year. Lily explained,

I had been thinking a lot about New York's upcoming vote on whether to hold a Constitutional Convention, and when I pitched the idea to Judge Kaye, she was beyond enthusiastic and happily agreed to write something. I can easily say that it was the honor of a lifetime not only that Judge Kaye accepted, but that she was open to discussing with me the content of the piece and allowing me to have some input. She would also answer my emails within moments of my sending them, which is such a testament to who she was. She made time for everyone, always.⁷

Judge Kaye sent in a final draft of her essay in early December of 2015. Lily said,

When I read the piece for the first time, I was immediately struck by the personal and emotional tenor of her words. I was simultaneously moved beyond words and absolutely mortified to see that she had written about me in the piece, and when I begged her to let me take it out, she flatly and kindly refused. I had no idea at the time that Judge Kaye was ill; I suppose there was no reason I would have known. But when I read the piece for the first time, I certainly felt as though she was saying more than just what she thought about New York's Constitutional Convention. When I learned of Judge Kaye's passing just a few weeks later, I suddenly understood how important this essay was—to me, to Judge Kaye, to New York, to an even broader audience. I was and continue to be so saddened by her death. The relationship I formed with her was so special to me, and I couldn't wait to get back to the firm to work with her for what I thought would be many more years. I count myself lucky that I got to know her even the little bit that I did, and words cannot express how much I value her contributions to the legal profession and her willingness to work with and get to know me. She was an incredible human being who lifted up everyone around her and who forged a path that will endure for generations. I have learned now that writing this essay was a great source of joy to her in her final weeks, and she relished it as a chance to share her closing thoughts on her life. The *Brooklyn Law Review* is tremendously honored to be able to publish her essay and the remarks of some of the people who knew and worked with her.⁸

Each of the other select tributes that appear in this issue are by people who, like Lily Smith, have a special, strong, and personal connection with the late Chief Judge Kaye. The Honorable Janet DiFiore, the current Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals, writes authoritatively about how exceptionally

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

well former Chief Judge Kaye fulfilled both of the demanding adjudicative and administrative roles of that esteemed position during her record setting long tenure.⁹ Judge DiFiore documents the basis for Judge Kaye's national reputation and in particular her standing as a respected proponent of dual constitutionalism. Yet the highlight of Judge DiFiore's reflections is her praise of Judge Kaye's qualities as a wonderful human being based on her own personal memories of a beloved colleague and friend. It is impossible not to be moved deeply by Judge Kaye's *beau geste* when our newest Chief Judge was sworn in. No "spoiler alert" here. It is a story best left for you to read in Janet DiFiore's own words.¹⁰

Barry H. Garfinkel of Skadden Arps reprises his elegy for the late Chief Judge that first appeared in the New York State Bar Association's newsletter.¹¹ What is apparent from Garfinkel's homage to Judith Kaye's success in private practice after so many years on the bench is that she was as graceful as she was excellent, as hardworking as she was astutely experienced, and that this potent combination helped her thrive. She carved out appropriate major roles in International Arbitration as well as the firm's Investigations practice. She also starred in multiple roles both outside and inside the firm and made many invaluable internal "off the clock" contributions, which surely Lily Smith's own experience corroborates.

Henry M. Greenberg writes from the perspective of one of Judge Kaye's earliest law clerks, a position that many regard to be one of the most intimate and mutually enriching professional relationships in the legal profession. Hank's detailed and straightforward article, "The Making of a Judge's Judge," written with the weathered eye of someone who himself has had a long and productive legal career in public service to the Empire State, is hardly sentimental or fawning.¹² He dispassionately describes a snapshot of a pivotal moment in Judith Kaye's professional life very early in her judicial career, a time when although already showing flashes of the multidimensional brilliance for which she became well known, she was only beginning to establish herself nationwide as a leading jurist, legal scholar, and opinion leader. She achieved this stature

⁹ Hon. Janet DiFiore, *A Tribute to Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye*, 81 BROOK. L. REV. 1377 (2016).

¹⁰ *See id.*

¹¹ Barry H. Garfinkel, *Judge Kaye Thrived at Skadden Arps in New York City*, 5 LEAVEWORTHY 3 (2016); Barry H. Garfinkel, *Judge Judith Kaye at Skadden, Arps*, 81 BROOK. L. REV. 1374 (2016).

¹² Henry M. Greenberg, *The Making of a Judge's Judge: Judith S. Kaye's 1987 Cardozo Lecture*, 81 BROOK. L. REV. 1363 (2016).

eventually through prodigious work, independent thinking, and discerning judgment. Justice Brennan had at the time already reminded the profession that “one of the strengths of the federal system is it provides a double source of protection for the rights of our citizens,” meaning, as Greenberg notes, a federal constitutional floor and a state constitutional ceiling.¹³ Yet it was principally Judge Kaye who, starting with her tour-de-force Cardozo lecture in 1987 and continuing to her very last days, took state constitutional law from a subject that was largely unfamiliar to bench and bar to where it is now—an integral part of modern American jurisprudence.

Our own incomparable Professor Susan Herman, who also serves as the President of the American Civil Liberties Union, picks up this thread in her “Portrait of a Judge: Judith S. Kaye, Dichotomies, and State Constitutional Law.”¹⁴ Professor Herman’s article originally appeared in the *Albany Law Review* and is, with our gratitude, reprinted here.¹⁵ In Judge Kaye’s own words, Professor Herman offers a gripping description of New York state constitutional law writings, culminating in her discussion of state courts as laboratories for new policies and models of rights nationally. She persuasively summarizes the theory of “dynamic dual constitutionalism” incorporated into the constitutional text itself through the Ninth Amendment.¹⁶ As Susan drolly notes, she has had the unusual pleasure, given the circumstances, of conveying her eulogy in tribute of Judge Kaye to her in person when she was alive.¹⁷ We all are fortunate to have another opportunity to read Susan’s piece again.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Susan N. Herman, *Portrait of a Judge: Judith S. Kaye, Dichotomies, and State Constitutional Law*, 75 ALB. L. REV. 1977 (2012).

¹⁵ *Id.*; Susan N. Herman, *For Judith S. Kaye*, 81 BROOK. L. REV. 1361 (2016).

¹⁶ Judith S. Kaye, *Reflections on Opportunity in Life and Law*, 81 BROOK. L. REV. 1379 (2016).

¹⁷ It has been said that obituaries and eulogies are the first draft of history. It sometimes happens that the “emissary for the hereafter” and the subject get to meet and discuss the memorial in advance. Professor Herman’s tribute delivered to the honoree in person, and Judge Kaye’s reaction, both of which appear in these pages, demonstrate that the experience was mutually gratifying. It brings to mind the wonderful story of Bette Davis who, like some celebrities, met with a reporter working on her advance obituary. CRAIG SILVERMAN, REGRET THE ERROR: HOW MEDIA MISTAKES POLLUTE THE PRESS AND IMPERIL FREE SPEECH 176 (2007); Janny Scott, *It Was a Dark and Stormy Life . . .*, N.Y. TIMES (July 8, 2001), <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/07/08/weekinreview/ideas-trends-it-was-a-dark-and-stormy-life.html> [<http://perma.cc/RVR8-MCMZ>]. The young journalist pretended to be working on an article about a small role the Hollywood icon played in a new made-for-television movie. Davis invited him to lunch at her home. She noticed that he was asking far too many questions than was warranted for the article and asked, “By any chance are you interviewing me for my obituary?” When he admitted that was so,

A final comment should be made about the timeliness and importance of Judge Kaye's last published work. She concludes with an unabashed call for civic legal education of the public, albeit in this case teaching centering on the New York state constitution and specifically a public discussion of the merits of a constitutional convention.¹⁸ At the conclusion of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin was asked, "What have you created?" "A republic, if you can keep it,"¹⁹ he answered.

Franklin's observation resonates with us today, 229 years later, as we find ourselves grappling with an extraordinary presidential campaign that is taking place against the backdrop of tumult and uncertainty in the United States and around the world. This is a time in our nation's history when we, once again, face front and center many of the essential questions the Founders grappled with: how we elect, how we govern, how we talk to each other, how we decide what we mean by "We, the people"—and more.

As Judge Kaye taught us by her example, we all have the responsibility to engage in one of the most important uses of legal education: the work by lawyers of civic education. For the rule of law to be respected and adhered to by the governed, it is the public who must agree to submit themselves to a system of legal rules fairly administered rather than the uncontrolled and cruel chaos of outcomes determined by power, force, and influence.

she replied, "In that case, why don't we get rid of this silly tea and have a drink," and they talked into the night over pitchers of martinis she mixed in her kitchen. *Id.*

¹⁸ Whether to vote in 2017 to convene a New York State Constitutional Convention is a question prompting significant debate. See, for example, a recent study by distinguished Brooklyn Law School Alumnus, former Assembly Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jerry Kremer (BLS '58), HON. ARTHUR J. KREMER ET AL., PATRONAGE, WASTE AND FAVORITISM—A DARK HISTORY OF CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS (2015). The study concludes, based on research about the four previous conventions, that New Yorkers would be ill-advised to approve another statewide convention in 2017. See also Joel Stashenko, *Benefits of Overhauling NY Constitution Is Focus of Judicial Task Force*, N.Y.L.J. (July 20, 2016), http://m.newyorklawjournal.com/?slreturn=20160720124454/#/article/1202763050510/Benefits-of-Overhauling-NY-Constitution-Is-Focus-of-Judicial-Task-Force?kw=Benefits%20of%20Overhauling%20NY%20Constitution%20Is%20Focus%20of%20Judicial%20Task%20Force&cn=20160720&pt=Personalized&src=EMC-Email&et=editorial&bu=New%20York%20Law%20Journal&_almReferrer [<http://perma.cc/ZV7T-CCZY>] (describing 15-member group assembled by Chief Judge DiFiore to study the New York State Constitution's Judiciary Article and "determine whether staging a constitutional convention would benefit the courts").

¹⁹ Richard R. Beeman, *Perspectives on the Constitution: A Republic, If You Can Keep It*, NAT'L CONST. CTR., <http://constitutioncenter.org/learn/educational-resources/historical-documents/perspectives-on-the-constitution-a-republic-if-you-can-keep-it> [<http://perma.cc/Q7A9-FS52>] (last visited July 20, 2016).

1. Access to justice must be available to the general public universally.
2. Access to the legal profession must be open to able and qualified people from all constituencies and circumstances.
3. The role and operation of the law must be understood and adherence to its mechanism an informed consensus choice by the body politic.

This last requirement for enjoying the benefits of the law might be the most important. Lawyers, faculty, and law students must do what we can to increase understanding of the legal system among all people: how it works, why it is critical to the smooth functioning of society, and our rights and responsibilities. Civic education is the key to a deeper understanding of that system, to ensure that every individual has the opportunity to live and thrive in peace and harmony with others while enjoying the blessings of liberty and the assurance of equal justice under the law.

Now, these lofty words sound great, but practically speaking, what does civic legal education look like? We have an excellent example in an initiative launched by the federal courts of the Second Circuit. The Justice for All Project, led by Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann, is a multifaceted initiative that calls on the legal community to demystify the workings of the courts, educate individuals about their rights, and inspire young people to consider a career in law.²⁰ Supported by all New York State law schools, the program includes teacher education about the U.S. Constitution, student mock trials, adult education on topics such as consumer law, reenactments of historic court proceedings, and civic ceremonies to celebrate the naturalization of new citizens. The National Center for State Courts online Civics Education Resource Guide provides many examples across the country.²¹ Many law schools are active on the civic education front as well. For example, Brooklyn Law School recently partnered with the New York State Bar Association to offer a Youth Law Day program to students from six high schools in Brooklyn. The program exposes young minority and economically less-advantaged students to the law and how it works. The day included presentations and discussions with law

²⁰ Hon. Ralph Gants & Hon. Lauri Zelon, *Justice for All Project Announcement*, NCSC (Feb. 1, 2016), <https://www.ncsc.org/~media/Microsites/Files/access/Justice%20for%20All%20Project%20Description%20Final.ashx> [http://perma.cc/RU8J-AV82].

²¹ *Civics Education Resource Guide*, NCSC, <http://www.ncsc.org/Education-and-Careers/Civics-Education/Resource-Guide.aspx> [http://perma.cc/BGL8-CN3D] (last visited July 20, 2016).

students, faculty, and graduates and a demonstration of a hypothetical case in which students played the roles of witnesses and jurors.

The Law School also partners with the Urban Assembly School of Law and Justice in Brooklyn to give our students an opportunity to mentor high school students interested in legal careers. This mentor relationship often continues long after the law students—and the high school students—have graduated. Many of these high school students will be the first in their families to go to college, so our students' mentorship does make a difference; sowing these seeds will bear fruit in the years to come, as these young high school students become informed, engaged citizens and, in some cases, pursue careers in law and related fields.

Franklin's fellow Founding Father (and now Broadway star) Alexander Hamilton wrote, "To all general purposes we have uniformly been one people, each individual citizen everywhere enjoying the same national rights, privileges, and protection."²² Robust civic education is the foundation of Hamilton's vision. We all have a stake in helping the republic Franklin and Hamilton worked to create to flourish and endure. Congratulations and thank you to all the authors contributing to this issue, and to the entire staff of the *Brooklyn Law Review*, who by advancing this cause in the following pages have composed such an impressive and fitting memorial to Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye.

²² THE FEDERALIST NO. 2 (Alexander Hamilton) (Project Gutenberg ed., 2013).