
VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

The continued success of VLA depends upon the generous commitment of time and effort made by volunteer attorneys. VLA provides not only an invaluable resource for artists and arts organizations in the New York City area but also an exciting opportunity for attorneys to interact with artists in the community and contribute meaningfully to their work. There are four ways in which attorneys can volunteer with VLA:

- **Legal Services**
Attorneys can pick up cases for pro bono representation from our bi-monthly case list. Attorneys can volunteer at our legal clinic appointments which are half hour, in-person consultations (scheduled in advance with adverse parties identified) with VLA members.
- **Mediation**
VLA's MediateArt Program provides an opportunity for attorneys to assist artists and arts organizations in resolving their arts-related disputes by acting as a volunteer mediator. Additional opportunities also exist for attorneys to serve as volunteer mediators for VLA clients interested in amicable contractual negotiations.
- **Advocacy**
On occasion, VLA seeks representation for itself by volunteer attorneys on matters where VLA is acting as an advocate on behalf of the arts community. In these cases, the volunteer attorney typically prepares amicus briefs affecting the arts community or helps VLA make recommendations about pending legislation.
- **Writing Opportunities**
At VLA's specific request, volunteer attorneys can prepare issue-specific articles on legal issues tailored to the needs of individual artists, arts organizations, arts councils and other arts service organizations and their constituents. Some issue-specific articles subject to your firm's expertise, whether it is real estate or art theft, can also be created for newsletters and the VLA website. Those opportunities are typically arranged in advance in consultation with VLA's Executive Director.

For more information on ways to volunteer, please contact Benjamin Brandow at 212.319.2787, ext. 14.