

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts  
presents

## Counseling Fashion & Film Clients

This workshop addresses the common issues and many differences between film and fashion from the perspective of those seeking to represent and counsel artists in those fields. Artist working in those fields may also benefit from the class, as it will provide an overview of the legal and business issues. Some of the topics covered will include considerations in business organization and financing, and the creation, distribution and protection of business assets; industry-specific issues related to intellectual property; and common contracts for filmmakers/producers and artists working in fashion, apparel and design, modeling, photography and jewelry.

**PROGRAM DATE & TIME:** Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 4 - 6pm

**LOCATION:** VLA's Lobby Auditorium, 1 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (at Fifth Avenue), New York NY 10022

**CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION CREDIT:** Attorneys attending this workshop may be eligible for 1.5 CLE credit hours (1.5 Professional Practice). This program is "transitional," thus newly admitted attorneys are also qualified to receive CLE.

**FEE (all fees are nonrefundable):** Individuals/Orgs: \$20 for VLA members; \$45 for non-members  
Attorneys: \$50 for YAMS; \$100 for VLA members; \$150 for non-members

**TO REGISTER:** Complete the information below and **mail, fax, or email this form to Joni Todd** at [jtodd@vlany.org](mailto:jtodd@vlany.org) Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, 1 East 53rd Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022.  
**Fax: 212.752.6575.** Please call **Joni Todd** at **212.319.2787 x10** with any questions.

Your Name (Ms., Mr., Mrs.): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm or Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

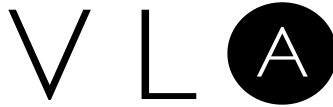
**Enclose Your Fee:** We take cash (in person only), check, money order, or credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, or American Express). Please make checks or money orders payable to "Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts" and list your check number directly below:  
If paying by credit card, please list your card number AND expiration date, and include your signature, directly below:

Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number or Money Order Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**VLA 1 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Sixth Floor, NY, NY 10022 Phone: 212.319.2787 Fax: 212.752.6575**



# Counseling the Fashion & Film Client

## Presenter Bio

### **Elena M. Paul, Esq.**

Elena M. Paul is the Executive Director of Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA). Established in 1969, VLA, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation, is the pioneer in arts-related legal aid and educational programming. VLA believes that individual artists and arts organizations deserve access to dedicated legal representation and advocacy to ensure that their voices are heard and that their interests are protected. To achieve these goals, VLA provides pro bono legal representation to low-income artists and nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and many other legal and business services to the entire arts community. In addition to being VLA's Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Paul represents clients at VLA on a pro bono basis, acting as general counsel and a legal advisor to arts and cultural organizations and individual artists, specializing in nonprofit governance and corporate matters, strategic planning and risk-management, transactional work and intellectual property, and the management of legal matters placed with outside counsel. She also serves as development consultant for various cultural, entertainment and arts projects and productions with a focus on dance, film and fashion. In her tenure, VLA has enjoyed record growth, program improvement and expansion, and productivity. Ms. Paul creates many of its original programs and develops the curriculum for many educational programs as well as teaching and making presentations at national conferences and educational institutions, including South by Southwest Conference & Festivals (SXSW), The School of Visual Arts, Fashion Institute of Technology, The College Art Association, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the New Art Dealers Alliance's Miami Art Fair, Columbia Law School, and Harvard Law School. Ms. Paul is an Adjunct Professor at Fordham Law School in the Fashion Law Institute, Brooklyn Law School and the New York Film Academy.

Prior to joining VLA, Ms. Paul was the Executive Director of Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts (WALA). Ms. Paul also represented clients at WALA, specializing in corporate and contract matters. She restructured WALA's client services into a clinical format and expanded the law student internship program to include client representation, legal research and writing opportunities. Ms. Paul led the creation of a National Coalition of Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts which now meets annually. Before joining WALA in August 1998, Ms. Paul acted as University Counsel in the Office of the President at the University of Maryland, College Park. In that position, Ms. Paul was responsible for the legal aspects of all of the University's major transactions, contracts, construction, and real estate projects, including handling the largest procurement to date in the State of Maryland (\$750 million). Prior to this position, Ms. Paul served as an attorney at two major national law firms in DC, Patton Boggs and Bryan Cave, where she practiced corporate and real estate law.

Ms. Paul grew up in Gainesville, Florida and graduated from the Gainesville Public High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Davidson College, *phi beta kappa*, and her Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. Ms. Paul is a Wasserstein Public Interest Fellow at Harvard Law School; serves on the Board of Directors of the Friends of the French Culinary Institute that raises funds for scholarships; act as a mentor for The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in its Arts in Crisis Program; is a Legal Mentor at SXSW 2010; and is a member of the Art Collection Advisory Committee for Davidson College.