

Champion of Justice Award Recipient



Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP is an international law firm with 32 major practice areas, 13 offices, and 2,000 lawyers worldwide. Since its founding in 1884, Simpson Thacher has maintained its core values of collegiality, respect, creativity, and collaboration – reflected in the firm’s commitment to public service.

Pro bono work is engrained in Simpson Thacher’s professional ethos, and Simpson Thacher attorneys believe in using their skills and passions to serve all communities, fight against injustice, and preserve access to the courts.

Each year, the firm devotes tens of thousands of hours to pro bono projects that include advocating on behalf of low-income clients, small businesses and the nonprofits that serve them. The firm also pursues projects to advance civil and human rights, adequate education, protection of the First Amendment, and the preservation of the environment. Simpson Thacher’s pro bono work is often cited by its attorneys as among their proudest moments and most important accomplishments.

Access Justice Brooklyn and Simpson Thacher began our pro bono partnership in 2024, after realizing the alignment between Simpson Thacher’s Urban Education Initiative and AJB’s financial literacy curricula for young adults. Exemplifying both the purpose of AJB’s pro bono model and Simpson Thacher’s commitment to community service, this partnership has positioned AJB’s financial literacy program for further growth while engaging a range of community and educational partners across Brooklyn, made possible with the generosity of Simpson Thacher’s pro bono team and associates.

Under the leadership of **Harlene Katzman** and **Nadine Mompremier**, Simpson Thacher has worked with AJB over the past year to deliver presentations to high school audiences, refine financial literacy materials, and engage new partners for this initiative. Thus far, the program has resulted in workshops for over 225 students as part of the firm’s Urban Education Initiative, the Brooklyn District Attorney Office’s Annual Youth Summit, and a growing partnership with YWCA Brooklyn to benefit not only high school students, but also residents of YWCA’s downtown Brooklyn location – providing essential, practical financial education that benefits people at all stages of life.