

XI. STUDENT AWARDS AND HONORARY SOCIETIES



Each year the Law School is pleased to present a number of awards to students who excel in their academic efforts or in service to the law school community. The following listing does not include scholarships awarded to entering first-year students based on financial need and scholastic achievement.

A. Student Awards

Dean's Medallion. This engraved medallion is presented each May to the graduate with the highest cumulative GPA.

President's Honor Roll. Each semester all students with a GPR of 4.0 for at least 12 graded hours within that semester are recognized.

Dean's List. Each semester all students with a GPR of 3.5 or greater for at least 12 graded hours within that semester are recognized.

CALI. A CALI certificate may be awarded to the student who earns the highest grade in each section of a law school course.

Cy Young Award. Awarded to the third year student with the highest cumulative average at the time of the award. Mr. Young graduated from the School of Law in 1927, practiced law in Greenwood, South Carolina, was attorney for the United States Senate Banking & Currency Committee, a member of the Federal Judicial Council, and Greenwood city and county attorney.

Coleman Karesh Award. Awarded to the second year student with the highest cumulative average at the time of the award. Professor Karesh taught at the School of Law from 1937 to 1972, and was a leading authority in Property Law and Trusts and Estates.

Richard J. Foster Award. Awarded to the first year student with the highest average in his or her first semester in Law School. Mr. Foster graduated from the School of Law in 1937, practiced law in Greenville, South Carolina and was the founder of the South Carolina Lawyers' Association.

Arthur B. Custy Tax Award. Given each year to the best student in taxation, as selected by the tax faculty. This award honors Professor Arthur B. Custy who devoted his life to legal scholarship and who taught at the School of Law until his untimely death in 1986.

Irving Steinberg Award. Presented to the student who achieves the best grade in Workers' Compensation Law. This award honors the memory of Mr. Irving Steinberg, a native of Charleston, who graduated from the School of Law with honors, was instrumental in the passage of the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Act in 1936, practiced in that field for 55 years, and died in 1980.

Robert McCormick Figg, Jr. Trial Advocacy Award. Presented to a student who has demonstrated excellence in trial advocacy skills and professional demeanor as demonstrated in the classroom or in trial competitions. The award was created by the South Carolina Fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers and is named in honor of the late Dean Figg, who was a distinguished member of the South Carolina trial bar, the dean of the law school during the 1960s, and a founder of the S.C. Chapter of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

D. Reece Williams, III Trial Advocacy Award. Awarded to the members of the winning team in the Fall Mock Trial Competition. The award is presented by the South Carolina Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates and is named in honor of a distinguished Columbia lawyer known for his professional demeanor and exemplary skills in the courtroom.

Mark Blickle Scholarship Award. Presented annually to the student who presents the best oral argument at the J. Woodrow Lewis Moot Court Competition. The award was created by friends and family in memory of Mark Blickle, a member of the Class of 1981.

Robert T. Bockman Award. Awarded to a student who has advanced the goals of the University of South Carolina's Moot Court Bar and who exemplifies the attributes of a skilled appellate advocate.

Luther Lee Scholarship. Awarded to a third-year student with a primary interest in trial practice. The Scholarship was established in honor of Luther Lee, a legendary trial practitioner in Columbia and a pioneer of personal injury trial practice.

John O. McDougall Family Law Award. Awarded to the third-year student with the highest grade in Family Law. The award honors John O. McDougall, a 1971 graduate of the School of Law, who served as president of the South Carolina Bar, the South Carolina Bar Foundation, and the South Carolina Association for Justice, as well as in numerous leadership roles in community and professional organizations.

I.M. Goldberg South Carolina Bar Foundation Scholarship. Awarded each year to a student who has demonstrated a commitment to family law. The Goldberg Scholarship was created by the South Carolina Bar Foundation in honor of I. M. Goldberg, a prominent Charleston attorney who specialized in family law.

South Carolina Association of Corporate Counsel Award. Awarded to a third-year student with a demonstrated interest in business and corporate law, as chosen by the law school business faculty.

Knox Haynsworth Scholarship. Awarded to a student who excels in Labor Law or Employment Law. The Knox Haynsworth Scholarship was established in honor of well-respected Greenville attorney Knox L. Haynsworth, Jr.

Albert C. Todd, III, Estate Planning Award. Given to a third-year student selected by the estate planning faculty, who exhibits an interest and ability in estate planning and who possesses the personal qualities Al Todd exemplified, such as academic aptitude, integrity, industry, leadership, and interpersonal skills. The award was created in memory of Al Todd, a respected Columbia attorney and USC Law School graduate, who was well known for his national reputation as an estate planning and ethics expert.

Sherod H. Eadon Scholarship Award. Presented to a student who exhibits an interest and ability in trial advocacy and who possesses those personal qualities representative of Sherod Eadon, such as academic excellence, integrity, leadership, and interpersonal skills. The award was endowed by the family of Lynwood Hightower to honor Sherod Eadon, a 1979 USC law graduate, a great South Carolina lawyer, and an outstanding man.

Robert W. Foster, Sr. Alternative Dispute Resolution Writing Competition Award. Presented to the student who writes the best research paper on an ADR topic. The award was established in 2008 by the former dean of the School of Law, Robert W. Foster.

Victor Michalewitz Award. Presented to the second-year student who writes the best comment or note for the South Carolina Law Review. Mr. Michalewitz was a law student and a member of our Law Review, who died in August 1979 before beginning his final year of Law School.

Roberts Senior Class Writing Award. Presented to the third-year student who submits the best research paper as determined by the academic dean. This award was established by Edward C. Roberts, who graduated from the School of Law in 1962, for outstanding writing by a law student.

American Bar Association Scholarships. The American Bar Association's Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Journal may award a scholarship to a student who writes an outstanding student note or case.

Clinical Program Professionalism Award. This award is presented annually by the Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough Center on Professionalism to the student selected by the clinical faculty as demonstrating the highest commitment to standards of professionalism of the South Carolina Bar through representation of clients in a Law School clinical course.

Joe McNulty Memorial Scholarship. Awarded to a law student who demonstrates the same characteristics of caring, civility, and kindness as Joe McNulty, a member of the law class of 2015, who had fought cancer before entering law school, and whose determination to study law never wavered even as his health began to fail towards the end of his first semester. The award was created by friends and family of Joe McNulty to honor his remarkable dedication to his calling, his excellence as a student, his kindness to his fellow students, and his unwavering vision of law as a public service.

John Holland Scholarship. Presented to a rising third-year student who demonstrates a commitment to leadership and extracurricular activities. The award is given in memory of John Holland, who graduated from the Law School in 1980 and was later tragically killed in an automobile accident.

Claud N. Sapp Award. Presented to the third-year student who is chosen by his or her classmates as possessing the best combination of scholarship, leadership, and industry. This award is a memorial to Claude N. Sapp, Esq., of the Columbia Bar, who graduated from the School of Law in 1911, was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives and United States Attorney.

Compleat Lawyer Award. Bronze engraved medallions are presented to three third year students who by their performance in law school and relationships with their fellow students and professors exhibit qualities indicating that they will meet their responsibilities as lawyers in an exemplary manner.

G.G. Dowling Award. Presented to a student who typifies outstanding qualities of integrity, concern for others, and legal scholarship. Mr. Dowling was a 1938 graduate of the School of Law.

Karen Lee Scholarship. Given to a rising third year student who best combines dedication to academic pursuits with a genuine concern for the welfare of fellow classmates. The award was created in honor of Karen Lee, a law student known for her caring attitude toward other students, who was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1982.

Joseph O. Rogers, Jr. Scholarship. Awarded to a rising third-year student who exemplifies the highest ideals of the legal profession as evidenced by adherence to strict ethical standards; diligent preparation; decent, civil, and courteous conduct, and fidelity and loyalty to fellow students and the legal profession. The award was established by the Rogers family in memory of Joseph O. Rogers, Jr., a 1951 graduate of the USC School of Law.

Senator Burnet Maybank Scholarship. Awarded to a South Carolina resident who demonstrates commitment to public service, scholastic achievement and high moral character. The award was established in 1984 by the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity to honor Senator and former Governor Burnet R. Maybank.

Susan McCrary Volunteer of the Year Award. Presented by the Law School's Women in Law Association to a student who is active in Women in Law-sponsored pro bono projects, pushes others to do their best, unselfishly gives to others and tirelessly works to help others. This award honors the memory of Susan McCrary, a member of the Class of 2000, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident in 1998.

Susan McCrary Scholarship Award. Presented to a rising third year student who has actively participated while in Law School in student volunteer organizations such as the Pro Bono Board, the Public Interest Law Society, the Guardian Ad Litem program, or other law school activities. This scholarship honors the memory of Susan McCrary, a member of the Class of 2000, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident in 1998.

Stanley H. Kohn Memorial Scholarship. Presented to a rising second- or third-year student who demonstrates scholastic achievement, high moral character, and financial need.

Outstanding Pro Bono Service Awards. These awards are presented to students who demonstrate their commitment to public service through the activities of the Law School Pro Bono Program.

Student Bar Association Service Award. This award is presented by the Student Bar Association to a law student who exemplifies leadership, support, and continued service to the SBA, as determined by the Executive Council.

Student Bar Association Committed Student Award. Recognizes a student who exemplifies the SBA's commitment to service to law students, the law school community, and the legal profession. The award was established in 2012 by the Student Bar Association. The recipient is chosen by a panel of former SBA officers.

Hugh L. Willcox Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award. Given to a student who has actively participated in the Pro Bono program and who not only demonstrates a dedication to public service and volunteerism but manages to balance their volunteer activities with a commitment to the Law School and their legal education. This award was established by the family of Hugh L. Willcox in his memory. Mr. Willcox joined the South Carolina Bar in 1930 and actively practiced law until his death in February of 1994.

Benjamin M. Mabry. Given to a rising third year student who is interested in the practice of employment and labor law. The award was established by the South Carolina Bar in 2015 in memory of Benjamin M. Mabry, whose 31-year career was dedicated to representing individuals in employment law.

B. Honorary Societies

Order of the Coif. The Order of the Coif is a national legal honor society, which recognizes outstanding academic achievement. Students in the top 10% of their graduating class are eligible for membership.

Order of the Wig and Robe. Organized in 1935 as a local legal scholastic organization, the Wig and Robe recognizes students with the most outstanding scholastic records. Second-year students are admitted after attaining a ranking in the top 10% of their class. Third-year students are admitted after attaining a ranking in the top 15% of their class. The third-year student with the highest grade point average is named Chief Justice; the third-year student with the second highest average is named Clerk of Court; and the second-year student with the highest average is named Associate Justice.