



LEGAL RESOURCES

LEGAL BASICS FOR ARTISTS

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

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Professional Development workshop sponsored by the New York State Bar Association's Entertainment, Arts, and Sports Law Section (EASL), and presented by Brooklyn Arts Council (BAC).

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LEGAL SERVICES

THE INDIE FILM CLINIC

The Indie Film Clinic is a not for profit clinical program, run by the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, that provides free legal services

to filmmakers producing independent, documentary, and student films and to artists providing services in independent and documentary films.

The Indie Film Clinic accepts submissions on a rolling basis. You can submit a project for consideration by email at indiefilm@yu.edu. cardozo.yu.edu/indiefilmclinic

LAWYERS ALLIANCE

The Lawyers Alliance provides legal counsel on corporate structure and governance, tax, real estate, employment, intellectual property, and other business and transactional law issues critical nonprofits that make visual, musical, cultural, and performing arts an integral part of life in low-income communities. lany.org/index.php

COPYRIGHT ADVISORY OFFICE

Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office assists with drafting and filing complaints for copyright infringement. Please visit copyright.columbia.edu/copyright to determine what is necessary in order for the University to take any action on the basis of your notice.

PRO BONO TRIAL SERVICE – THE COPYRIGHT ALLIANCE AND CRAVATH, SWAINE AND MOORE LLP

The Copyright Alliance has partnered with the New York based law firm of Cravath, Swaine and Moore LLP, and Columbia Law School, to create an externship program that provides pro-bono legal representation to individuals and small businesses in lawsuits involving cutting edge copyright issues.

copyrightalliance.org/content/pro_bono_trial_services_0

LEGAL RESEARCH

STANFORD LAW LIBRARY COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE INDEX

The Stanford Copyright & Fair Use site includes primary case law, statutes, regulations, as well as current feeds of newly filed copyright lawsuits, pending legislation, regulations, copyright office news, scholarly articles, blog and twitter feeds from practicing attorneys and law professors. fairuse.stanford.edu/

GEORGETOWN LAW LIBRARY

Georgetown Law Library provides an introduction to notable resources for conducting art law research. Given the breadth and interdisciplinary nature of the field, this guide is selective and focuses primarily on U.S. law and sources, but it also necessarily includes some foreign and international law since art law is international in scope. law.georgetown.edu/library/research/guides/artlaw.cfm

LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE

Legal Information Institute (LII)'s "Wex Legal Encyclopedia" includes hundreds of definitions and explanations of legal topics. The "LII Supreme Court Bulletin" keeps readers apprised of all pending Supreme Court cases and alerts subscribers with the decisions as soon as they are available. "LII Announce" is the blog that lets readers know about what's new at the LII and in the world of legal information and research.

law.cornell.edu/wex/wex_subjects#intellectual%20property

KERNOCHAN CENTER FOR LAW, MEDIA AND THE ARTS

The Kernochan Center for Law, Media and the Arts at Columbia Law School was established to contribute to a broader understanding of the legal aspects of creative works of authorship, including their dissemination and use. The Kernochan Center's website provides a wealth of information and resources for researching copyright law.

web.law.columbia.edu/kernochan/ip-resources

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

NEW YORK SMALL CLAIMS COURT

If your case is scheduled to be heard by a judge but you are still interested in trying to resolve your dispute through mediation, inform

the Clerk in person in the courtroom in which your case is scheduled to be heard. Mediation is free, voluntary and confidential service that

helps people who have a dispute reach their own settlement, instead of asking a judge to make a decision in court. Mediation services

are sponsored by Civil Court of the City of New York and provided by approved professionally trained mediators and local law school

mediation programs. For more information, contact Eddy Valdez, Mediation Services Coordinator for the New York City Civil Court,

at mediationcivil@courts.state.ny.us or 646.386.5417.

VLA MEDIATEART

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts (VLA)'s MediateArt is a program that offers mediation, contract negotiation, and negotiation counseling, to all members of the arts community, regardless of income or operating budget, at a nominal cost. For more information on this program, please email Valentina Rubio Dumornay at registrations@vlany.org or call at 212.319.2787

NEW YORK PEACE INSTITUTE

The New York Peace Institute is a not-for-profit agency that provides mediation services free of charge to New York City residents in Brooklyn and Manhattan. Call for more information.

Brooklyn location: 718.834-6671; Manhattan location: 212.577.1740

INSTITUTE FOR MEDIATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The Institute for Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Inc. (IMCR) is the oldest and most established Community Dispute Resolution Center in New York City. Their staff and pool of volunteer mediators and professional arbitrators have extensive experience in all areas

of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), and IMCR's arbitration and mediation services are free to Bronx County and beyond.

To request a mediation at the Bronx location, contact the IMCR at 718.585.1190.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND UNIONS

PUBLIC PATENT FOUNDATION

The Public Patent Foundation at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (PUBPAT) is a not-for-profit legal services organization whose mission

is to protect freedom in the patent system by offering: re-examinations

of patents, pre-litigation counseling, representation and negotiation, representing defendants in patent litigation to economically disadvantaged businesses (including sole proprietors, partnerships, corporations or other entities) accused of infringing dubious patents. Clients are expected to pay costs, but normally not attorney fees.

The Public Patent Foundation does not handle patent applications, prosecution, or anything related to trademarks.

For more information on PUBAT please contact executive director Dan Ravicher at 917-843-3425 or email at dan@pubpat.org. pubpat.org

ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION

Actors' Equity Association ("AEA" or "Equity"), a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions, is the labor union that represents more than 49,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, while seeking to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans, for its members. actorsequity.org

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS OF THE US AND CANADA

The American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada (AFM in the US) is the largest organization in the world representing the interests of professional musicians. They accomplish this by negotiating fair agreements, protecting ownership of recorded music, securing benefits such as health care and pension, and lobbying legislators. afm.org

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS

The Association of American Publishers (AAP) is the national trade association of the American book publishing industry with more than 300 members, ranging from most of the major commercial publishers in the United States, to smaller and non-profit publishers, including university presses and scholarly societies. AAP represents the industry's priorities on policy, legislative and regulatory issues regionally, nationally and worldwide, including the protection of intellectual property rights and worldwide copyright enforcement, digital and new technology issues, funding for education and libraries, tax and trade, censorship and literacy. For more information or for general inquiries, please email at info@publishers.org. publishers.org

ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY

Artists Rights Society, founded in 1987, is the preeminent copyright, licensing, and monitoring organization for visual artists in the United States. ARS represents the intellectual property rights interests of over 60,000 visual artists and the estates of visual artists from around the world (painters, sculptors, architects, photographers and others), acting to streamline the process for reviewing requests for reproduction by furnishing member artists with as much information as possible to facilitate a decision to grant or withhold permission to reproduce their work, and/or suggest specific terms or conditions of use. For more information on ARS please call 212-420-9160 or email at info@arsny.com. Or visit arsny.com/index.html

Performing Rights Societies

ASCAP

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), is the only US performing rights organization created and controlled by composers, songwriters and music publishers, with a Board of Directors elected by and from our membership of more than 500,000. ASCAP protects the rights of ASCAP members by licensing and distributing royalties for the non-dramatic public performances of their copyrighted works. ASCAP makes giving and obtaining permission to perform music simple for both creators and music users. www.ascap.com

BMI

BMI supports its songwriters, composers and publishers by taking care of an important aspect of their careers – getting paid. BMI also supports businesses and organizations that play music publicly by offering blanket music licenses that permit them to play more than 8.5 million musical works. www.bmi.com

SESAC

SESAC is a performing rights organization that represents songwriters and publishers and their right to be compensated for public performance of their work. With an international reach and a vast repertory that spans virtually every genre of music, SESAC is the fastest growing and most technologically adept of the nation's performing rights companies. sesac.com

Various Theatrical Unions and Guilds

UNITED SCENIC ARTISTS

United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, is a labor union and professional association organized to protect craft standards, working conditions and wages of Designers, Artists, and Craftspeople, many who are world famous for their work in film, theatre, opera, ballet, television, industrial shows, commercials and exhibitions. usa829.org

STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY

SDC is the theatrical union of professional Stage Directors and Choreographers throughout the United States. Their mission is to

foster a national community of professional stage Directors and Choreographers by protecting the rights, health and livelihoods of all

their Members. To facilitate the exchange of ideas, information and opportunities, while educating the current and future generations about the role of Directors and Choreographers and providing effective administration, negotiations and contractual support. sdcweb.org

THE DRAMATISTS GUILD

The Dramatists Guild of America is a professional organization for playwrights, composers, and lyricists working in the U.S. theatre market. Membership as an Associate Member is open to any person having written at least one stage play. Active Members are playwrights who have had at least one play produced in a Broadway, Off-Broadway, or LORT theatre. Student membership is also available for those enrolled in dramatic writing courses. The Dramatists Guild works to negotiate better contracts for playwrights in professional markets and offers recommendations for contracts in other markets. The Business Affairs division assists playwrights by reviewing contracts for productions and maintains a set of contracts for Guild members to use when licensing their work. dramatistsguild.com

WEBSITES

KEEP YOUR COPYRIGHT

Keep Your Copyright is written and maintained by students at Columbia Law School. It is designed to help creators hold on to their copyrights, to license their rights on author-friendly terms, and in general to encourage creators to take a more active role in managing the life of their creative work. web.law.columbia.edu/keep-your-copyrights

COPYRIGHT WEBSITE

This government website allows filing for a copyright certificate and provides general information about copyrights and intellectual property law. copyright.gov

BLOGS

ART LAW BLOG

Written by Donn Zaretsky, this blog provides a refreshing, insightful and often humorous take on current legal issues and developments in the law pertaining to the entertainment field. theartlawblog.blogspot.com

ART LAW GALLERY BLOG

Provides news and updates on legal issues facing the art world. Written by attorneys at the law firm of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, a global 100 law firm and an industry leader in art law, this blog is a wonderful resource for those who wish to stay up to date on legal developments in art law and gain insight from leading professionals at the cutting edge of the art law discipline. artlawgallery.com

COPYHYPE BLOG

Provides news and information on current developments relating to copyright law, the media industries, and the digital economy. Dedicated to the law and legal issues that relate to the arts and the artists who create the works that enrich our world, it cuts through the hype to bring reasoned discussion aimed at both legal and non-legal audiences. copyhype.com/

ENTERTAINMENT LAW DIGEST

A compendium of the latest legal news in the entertainment world. Updated daily, the website covers rulings, new complaints, settlements, and updates from sources around the web. entlawdigest.com/

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS AND SPORTS LAW BLOG

Acts as a new informational resource on topics of interest in the entertainment discipline, including the latest EASL Section programs and Initiatives, as well as provides a forum for debate and discussion. nysbar.com/blogs/EASL.

ROBERT A. CELESTIN BLOG

Every month The Law Offices of Robert A. Celestin (RAC) puts out an industry focused article, written in laymen's terms and designed for musicians. The RAC blog covers the absolute basics of copyright law and is helpful for anyone involved in the music industry who wishes to understand an artist's basic rights.

raclawfirm.com/blog

JOURNALS

CARDOZO ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW JOURNAL

For nearly three decades, Cardozo Arts and Entertainment Law Journal (AELJ) has been recognized by legal scholars, academics, practitioners, and the judiciary both in the United States and abroad for its scholarly impact, publishing topical legal analysis on arts, entertainment, intellectual property, First Amendment, sports, cyberlaw, and media and telecommunications law. AELJ publishes three student-edited issues annually. cardozoaelj.com/

FORDHAM INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW JOURNAL

The Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal is one of the leading scholarly law journals dedicated to the publication of Articles, Essays, Comments, Addresses, and Notes in all areas of intellectual property law. In 2014, according to surveys compiled by Washington & Lee University, the IPLJ was the number one ranked entertainment, arts and sports law journal, and the number fourth ranked intellectual property law journal. IPLJ articles have been read into the Congressional Record, as well as cited in the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and in amicus briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court. iplj.net/blog/

JOURNAL OF THE COPYRIGHT SOCIETY OF THE USA

The peer-reviewed quarterly Journal of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A. is the leading U.S. law review exclusively devoted to the subject of copyright law, including articles that are chosen by an Editorial Board comprised of the leading professors and practitioners in the field, including judges and government officials. csusa.org/?page=Journal

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION ENTERTAINMENT ART AND SPORTS LAW JOURNAL

The Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law (EASL) Journal provides comprehensive overviews of both large issues that affect a majority of

the EASL Section membership and analyses of more specific issues that affect only a few. In addition to contributions from practicing attorneys, the EASL Journal accepts articles from laypersons involved with issues that affect many in the EASL fields. nysba.org/CustomTemplates/SecondaryStandardPubs.aspx?id=32587

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