MARY BONAUTO '87

Mary Bonauto has served as the Civil Rights Project Director at Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) since 1990. Her practice concentrates on impact litigation for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, as well as people living with HIV or AIDS. She has litigated widely in the state and federal courts and agencies of the six New England states since 1990 on issues of employment discrimination, custody, free speech and civil rights. In 1999, she and two Vermont co-counsel successfully argued in Baker v. State of Vermont that same-sex couples are entitled to all of the benefits and protections of civil marriage. This ruling prompted the Vermont legislature to enact the nation's first “civil union” law for same-sex couples. Mary was lead counsel in Goodridge v. Department of Public Health, which resulted in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court’s landmark decision declaring that same-sex couples have the right to marry. She is currently leading GLAD’s federal challenge to the constitutionality of Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

Mary serves as a co-chair of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee of the American Bar Association's Individual Rights and Responsibilities Section.

JUDITH OLANS BROWN

Professor Emerita Judith Brown was a member of the faculty at Northeastern University School of Law for 30 years. She has taught and written extensively about constitutional law, employment discrimination and feminist legal issues. She is a past board member of several pro bono organizations, including the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and the Women's Bar Association. Now retired, Judy teaches at Dartmouth College and at the University of Arizona.

HONORABLE DANA FABE ’76

Justice Dana Fabe has served on the Alaska Supreme Court since 1996. In addition to being the first woman to serve on the court, she was elected to two, three-year terms as chief justice. Previously, Dana served as Chief Public Defender for Alaska and as a member of the Anchorage District Court. She serves on the Advisory Council of the American Judicature Society and is chair of its Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee. Dana also chairs the Alaska Supreme Court’s Civil Rules Committee, the Fairness, Diversity, and Equality Committee, and the Alaska Court System’s Law Day Steering Committee. She has served as co-chair of the Alaska Bar Association’s Gender Equality Section, is past-president of the National Association of Women Judges, and is a Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

COURTNEY HUNT ’89

After graduating with an MFA in film from Columbia University in 1994, Courtney Hunt began work on her first film, “Frozen River,” chronicling the lives of two working-class women who smuggle illegal immigrants in the trunk of a car from Canada to the United States to make ends meet. The film was funded by investments from business associates of Hunt’s husband, Donald Harwood ’81. “Frozen River” premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2008, where it was awarded the Grand Jury Prize. The movie received two Academy Award® nominations: Courtney was nominated for writing and the lead actress, Melissa Leo, was nominated for Best Actress. The film went on to earn numerous honors, including the Gotham Independent Film Award for best documentary picture and the Stockholm Film Festival’s prize for Best Director and Best First Screenplay. Since the success of her film, Courtney has directed several episodes of “Law & Order: SVU” and “Crime Scene Investigation (CSI)” as well as three episodes of the HBO series “In Treatment.” She is currently working on a four projects: a period piece set in New York in 1904, a comedy starring Reese Witherspoon, a thriller set in present-day New York City, and a film about the airline industry selling out its innovation to China.

REGINE THEODAT ’09

Regine Theodat is a human rights lawyer who serves as a Project Director for Vincentian Family Worldwide in Haiti. Her goals are to nurture, develop and create projects for groups in Haiti that respond to one or more of the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals attempting to eradicate poverty, promote rule of law and provide sustainable livelihoods for all. Regine seeks and develops, directs and implements projects in Haiti that impact sustainable development, particularly in the realms of education, social business, human development and microfinance. Before joining the Vincentian Family, Regine focused on Cite Soleil, a slum of Port-au-Prince, where she worked with the Lamp for Haiti Foundation. There, she ran a human rights program, conducted a legal needs assessment in the community, responded to the community’s immediate legal needs, lead human rights investigations, and produced human rights reports. Prior to moving to Haiti, Regine practiced complex criminal and civil law with a medium-sized law firm in Boston.