

**THE RENSSELAER COUNTY
BAR ASSOCIATION**



PO BOX 395
TROY, NEW YORK 12181

www.renscobar.org

**Courthouse Artwork
Restoration Committee**

Anne Reynolds Copps, Esq.
Hon. Edward O. Spain
Co-Chairs

Jessica L. Whyte
Executive Director
RCBA

July 19, 2024

**2024 ARTWORK RESTORATION COMMITTEE GALA DINNER
HONORARY COMMITTEE INVITATION**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As co-chairs of the **Courthouse Artwork Restoration Committee** of the Rensselaer County Bar Association, it is our pleasure to invite you to join the Honorary Committee for this year's Jones Award Dinner, our Annual Fall Gala. Each year, this event honors the memory of the late E. Stewart Jones, Sr., Troy's legendary criminal defense and personal injury trial attorney. The event will be held again at **Franklin Plaza** in downtown Troy, on **Thursday, October 10, 2024**.

This year, we will honor **Hon. Henry F. Zwack**, retired judge of the NYS Court of Claims and acting Supreme Court Justice here in Rensselaer County. While serving as the Rensselaer County Executive (1995 to 2001), Judge Zwack was instrumental in taking the lead role in the planning and the execution of the spectacular restoration and historic preservation of the interior of the courthouse. He has served the bar and his community in various private and public service roles throughout his distinguished career. We will also be honoring **Stacy Pomeroy Draper** who recently retired as curator of the Hart Cluett Museum after 43 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the museum and the entire Rensselaer County community. She was the key advisor to our artwork restoration project from its inception, providing historical perspective and valuable insight into the preservation of each of the pieces in our collection. The stories related to Ms. Draper's pivotal role in getting this project underway, her valuable assistance up until the time of her retirement and Judge Zwack's significant leadership in the restoration of the courthouse should provide an interesting evening for those who attend.

As in the past, proceeds from the dinner will provide the necessary funds to continue our efforts to repair and preserve the remaining historic portraits in the collection. With funds previously raised, we have been able to return 25 pieces from the total collection of 32. This year the portrait of **Hon. Lewis Griffith**, who served as Rensselaer County Court Judge in the 1890s, will be restored. While serving in County Court, Judge Griffith was appointed and then elected to the Supreme Court bench.

Notably, this Rensselaer County Bar Association project was awarded the prestigious Bar Leaders Innovation Award in 2019 from the New York State Bar Association. We are extremely grateful for the support given to this continuing project, especially the support we receive each year from the local legal community.

Please mark your calendars and join us on **Thursday, October 10, 2024** for what is expected to be a most memorable event as we give well deserved recognition to Hon. Henry Zwack and Stacy Pomeroy Draper.

We invite you to become a member of this year's **Honorary Committee** at one of the following levels:

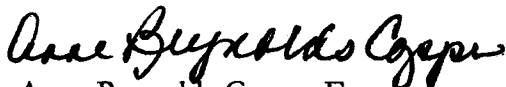
Senior Counsel - \$500. (two dinner tickets)

Partner - \$300. (one dinner ticket)

Associate - \$175. (one dinner ticket)

Kindly make your check payable to "The Community Foundation – RCBA Jones Fund" (see footnote No. 1) and forward it to the Bar Association at the above address. Please respond no later than **Friday, August 30, 2024**, to ensure that your name is included on the invitation and program, and please indicate how you would like to be listed as a member of the Honorary Committee.

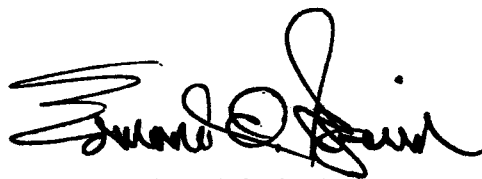
Very truly yours,



Anne Reynolds Copps, Esq.

Co-chair

Artwork Restoration Committee



Hon. Edward O. Spain

Co-chair

Artwork Restoration Committee

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The Jones Fund is a component fund of The Community Foundation of the Greater Capital Region. A copy of The Community Foundation's latest Annual Report may be obtained, upon request, by contacting The Community Foundation, Two Tower Place, Albany, New York 12203 or from the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway -- 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10271.