

INDIVIDUAL HONOREE



ALIYA SANDERS,

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Trusted intellectual property lawyer enables nonprofits to offer broader programs and services

Aliya Sanders is an associate at Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP with a practice focusing on Intellectual Property. She received her A.B. from Princeton University in 2007, her J.D. from Columbia Law School in 2013, and an M.P.H. from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, also in 2013.

Ms. Sanders helped **Heritage of Pride d/b/a NYC Pride** negotiate a contract to hold the 2019 WorldPride Opening Ceremony Concert at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn in June. David Correa, NYC Pride's Associate Director of Events, calls Ms. Sanders "a tremendous help," and adds, "For an organization like ours, having the support, knowledge, and expertise of someone like Aliya was invaluable." With Ms. Sanders' assistance, NYC Pride was able to host a successful, star-studded concert, which celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising and raised money for local LGBTQ charities.

Ms. Sanders reviewed and revised the photo release form used by **Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow (OBT)**, a job training and placement program in Brooklyn. According to Vice President, Administration Janet Tsakos, Ms. Sanders was "so helpful, very, very patient, listened to what we were looking for, and got the work done for us very quickly." With Ms. Sanders' help, OBT can use photographs of its program participants to promote its services, while ensuring that the participants' privacy is protected.

Along with colleagues at Gunderson Dettmer, Ms. Sanders assisted **Brooklyn Children's Theater (BCT)** with securing its intellectual property rights in several original theater works for children. Amy Graves, BCT's Executive Director, says that Ms. Sanders was "wonderful," and that she not only drafted all of the necessary contracts, but explained the legal issues surrounding copyrights in a clear and accessible way. With this assistance, BCT can perform and license the works in its Muslim Voices Productions series, allowing these plays to be seen by a broader audience.

Ms. Sanders' other pro bono clients have included **The Character Connection Initiative, The Financial Clinic,** and **Gehl Inc.**

Says Ms. Sanders, "Lawyers Alliance is a great source of opportunities for me to use my commercial contracts experience for a variety of nonprofit organizations. Giving back to the community is incredibly rewarding, and ensuring that everyone has access to legal services, regardless of financial status, has always been important to me. I am grateful to these organizations for placing their trust in me and look forward to continuing to work with them through Lawyers Alliance in the future."