Thank you to all who joined us on Friday, April 28th, to honor Serena Stonick of Cullen and Dykman LLP and 30,000 Degrees: College Readiness for a Stronger Staten Island. Over 150 guests came together at the Hilton Garden Inn to support SILS and our efforts to fight discrimination and help achieve equal opportunity and justice for all Staten Islanders.

Missed the luncheon? Click here for pictures of the event.

Our Honorees

Serena M. Stonick is an associate with Cullen and Dykman LLP in their Banking, Real Estate and Lending departments. Ms. Stonick represents the firm's institutional clients primarily in commercial real estate lending matters.

Serena has been a practicing attorney for the past 14 years having worked primarily in the areas of real estate law, banking law, corporate law and estate law. She has also been a court appointed Guardian Ad Litem, a court appointed Referee, and has donated numerous hours to pro bono clients and community service matters. Serena has received numerous recognitions for her pro bono and volunteer work including New York State Bar Association President's Pro Bono Service Award (2010), Legal Services NYC's Pro Bono Leadership award (2011), and YMCA of Greater New York Volunteer of the Year Award (2013).

30,000 Degrees: College Readiness for a Stronger Staten Island is a cross-cultural, borough-wide initiative created by the College of Staten Island, St. John's University, and Wagner College. This collaboration brings together leaders and institutions in the community from the Kindergarten through College pipeline, nonprofit organizations, faith-based organizations, the business sector, and local government to form the Staten Island Educational Partnership (SIEP). The SIEP aims to increase the Staten Island community's access to, and graduation from a 4-year institution of higher education.

By leveraging existing college readiness efforts and developing new strategies, 30,000 Degrees seeks to achieve a measurable goal of an additional 30,000 baccalaureate degrees or higher on the Island by 2025.

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