ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Moving Forward

Advancing Women in Transportation
Greater New York Chapter
2014 was a year of tremendous growth and progress for the WTS-GNY chapter. The newly elected Board launched a wide range of programs and networking events that were critical to the chapter’s success. The Board focused on:

- Offering opportunities for career and leadership development
- Providing smaller forums for sharing of career and personal insight
- Delivering programs and events for professionals at all stages of their careers
- Visiting industry firms and agencies to introduce WTS to employees
- Demonstrating the value of membership

The chapter concentrated on expanding and improving our Mentoring program, and the Transportation YOU Committee’s efforts. We hosted dozens of participants at our annual meeting in January and sent a contingent to the annual summit in Washington, D.C. in June.

Our annual meeting honored members’ contributions to the chapter, and to diversity and innovation in the workplace. Polly Trottenberg, the newly appointed NYCDOT commissioner was the featured speaker. Attendance has been steadily increasing at this event, in part due to the M/WBE Expo which gives our small businesses the chance to showcase their talents and capabilities.

To boost our membership and retain current members, we held several “appreciation” events in recent years. The most talked about event of this summer was the fourth annual “Take Us Out to the Ballgame,” which brought together members and guests at Yankee Stadium. It was a big hit. The December party was a festive affair in Lower Manhattan just before the holiday rush began.

We also initiated the new member-exclusive “Learn from a Leader” program over the summer, comprising weekly roundtable discussions for 15 to 20 professionals, led by successful women leaders. The forum provided unique chances for members to network, hear first-hand lessons, and garner insight from industry peers, in a comfortable environment. The series was a huge success.

My first year as president of the GNY chapter has been a wonderful experience, full of challenges and opportunities. I am privileged to work with a high-energy and motivated Board of Directors, whose intelligence and dedication is unmatched. I look forward to year two of my term and to continuing to move the chapter forward.

Sincerely,
Beth P. DeAngelo
President 2014-2015

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**GNY Chapter’s 2014–2015 Corporate Partners**

**CHAIRMAN**
AECOM
Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.
HAKS
HNTB
Jacobs
Parsons Brinckerhoff
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

**EXECUTIVE**
Cubic Transportation Systems, Inc.
General Contractors Association of New York
STV

**PRESIDENT**
AKRF
Arup
CH2M Hill
Dewberry
HDR
Parsons
TransCore

**ASSOCIATE**
Cambridge Systematics
Gannett Fleming
Gilbert Tweed Associates
Michael Baker
NY Building Congress
Sam Schwartz Engineering
Stantec
URS
Weidlinger Associates, Inc.

**W/M/DBE**
Armand Corporation
Arora Associates
B. Thayer Associates
Ellana Inc.
Envision Consultants, Ltd.
Marine Tiger Technologies
Malick & Scherer
M & J Engineering
Stellar Services
Studio L’Image

The Greater New York Chapter would like to take this opportunity to thank all the companies, agencies and individuals who have generously contributed to WTS-GNY and supported our programs and services. We look forward to your continued support in 2015.

**COVER ART:** Laura Azze-Singh, Linda Travis and Amy Geller
**AWARDS**

**Woman of the Year**

Veronique ("Ronnie") Hakim was appointed executive director of NJ Transit (NJT) on March 3, 2014. As executive director, Hakim leads the nation’s largest statewide public transportation system which provides more than 895,000 weekday trips on 261 bus routes, three light-rail lines, 12 commuter rail lines, as well as through the Access Link paratransit service. NJT has a combined operating and capital budget that exceeds $3 billion and is the third largest transit system in the United States with 165 rail stations, 62 light-rail stations and over 19,000 bus stops linking major points in New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia.

Prior to joining NJT, Hakim served for nearly four years as executive director of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA). While at NJTA, she successfully spearheaded effective cost-cutting initiatives while maintaining the agency’s high performance levels. These savings and efficiencies include trimming $10 million from NJTA’s operating budget; continuing funding of the agency’s ambitious $7 billion capital program at a lower capital cost; and bringing a greater level of transparency and accountability to NJTA.

Hakim also served in leadership roles over a 23-year career with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) in New York City. This included service as Special Counsel at MTA New York City Transit and later as executive vice president and general counsel for Capital Construction at MTA Capital Construction. In that position, she provided senior management with policy and legal advice on numerous large-scale projects, including the Second Avenue Subway, the LIRR East Side Access and the No. 7 Subway Extension.

Executive Director Hakim holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Rochester and a J.D. from the Pace University School of Law.

**Member of the Year**

Stephanie Camay has served as the board secretary for the WTS-GNY chapter for since 2011. In this capacity, she oversees chapter communications, including the website, monthly Community Buzz, and other publications; takes the official minutes of the board meetings; generates correspondence including invitations to events; and ensures that the chapter remains current with its communication strategy.

Camay is a lead planner at Parsons Brinckerhoff with over 10 years of experience, serving as a transportation planner and task manager on a variety of assignments including alternative analyses for bus rapid transit corridors; neighborhood transportation studies; transit feasibility studies; EIS documentation; and stakeholder and public participation strategy development and implementation. In addition to planning, she has developed a strong communications background through project work, as well as her involvement in various transportation organizations.

Aside from WTS, Camay is active in the Transportation Research Board (TRB) as a member of the Visualization, Public Involvement, and Ferry committees, Committee Communications Coordinators Council, and Young Member Council—Planning & Environment Subcommittee. She has served on TRB’s cooperative research panels, delivered numerous presentations, and her work has been published in the Transportation Review.

**Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award**

Leslie Mesnick-Uretsky has been an active advocate for young women and minorities in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). For several years, she has periodically volunteered at New York City public middle schools to teach students about environmental issues. Mesnick-Uretsky was subsequently selected as a volunteer guest lecturer at Motorola Foundation’s Camp GOALS at the Intrepid Sea, Air, & Space Museum. The mission of Camp GOALS is to help inner-city middle-school girls to build proficiency in math and science, while drawing on resources from the Intrepid Museum exhibits, visits with partner educational institutions and meetings with female scientists and professionals from the STEM fields.

In 2013, Mesnick-Uretsky became a founding participant of the NYC Dept. of Education’s (NYCDOE) STEM Matters Career Day, which is now an annual event. Volunteers were asked to open their office doors to City public high school students to share insights and benefits of STEM careers and explore the educational and career paths needed to attain such jobs. Inner-city students were able to visit two locations for 75-minute sessions. She engaged a variety of professionals at AKRF, Inc. and designed an interactive presentation that highlighted the interdisciplinary nature of the transportation field. She also continued on page 9
The programs in 2014 focused on the transportation industry’s need to adapt to a changing world and to confront the major problems facing the nation: a transportation funding shortfall, the lingering impacts of the recession, population growth, traffic congestion, global warming and hardening of infrastructure against future natural disasters. Sustainability was a recurrent theme. Also, to meet members’ needs, WTS-GNY offered several jobs skills and entrepreneurial workshops.

WTS-GNY also continued its efforts to increase its New Jersey presence by holding several meetings in the state.

The following is a summary of the variety of topics and fascinating speakers at our 2014 programs.

### JANUARY

*34th Annual Awards Program and 17th Annual M/W/DBE Expo*

**Keynote Speaker**

Thomas Prendergast, MTA, Chairman and CEO

### MARCH

*Behind-The-Scenes Tour of Grand Central Terminal*

Transportation YOU Meet-and-Greet with NYCT President Carmen Bianco

Transportation YOU Staten Island Ferry Tour

### APRIL

*TransConOpps Session at TransAction Conference*

**Speakers**

Denise Berger, PANYNJ Assistant Chief Engineer/Operations
Rob Fischer, NJ Turnpike Authority Chief Engineer
Joe Resta, Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission Executive Director
Tracy Borda, Philadelphia International Airport Assistant Director of Aviation
Michael Venuto, Delaware River Port Authority/PATCO Director of Engineering, Chief Engineer
Veronique “Ronnie” Hakim, NJ Transit Executive Director

Technical Tour of NYCT Rail Control Center

From left: WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo; Debra Allee, founder of AKRF, the 2014 Employer of the Year; and VHB Principal Terri Elkowitz.

WTS-GNY Membership Committee member Emily Gallo accepted the Innovative Transport Solutions Award on behalf of the Taxi & Limousine Commission.

From left: MTA Bus Chief Darrell Irick; Mayer Horn, Greenman-Pedersen; Harris Schectman, Sam Schwartz Engineering at the Annual Meeting.

From left: Taylor Reiss Gouge, NYCDOT; WTS-GNY Advisory Board member Felice Farber; and Harry Tom, Jacobs at the Annual Meeting.

In March, WTS members were thrilled to get an insider’s tour of Grand Central Terminal, the sixth-most visited tourist attraction.

Photocredit: Marc A. Hermann/MTA New York City Transit

From left: 2014 TransConOpps program participants: Amanda Schumacher, Susan Boone, Joe Resta, Denise Berger, Carol Rose, Leslie Black, Megan Syrnick, Michael Venuto, Tracy Borda, Ronnie Hakim, WTS-GNY Vice President (NJ) Polina Knaster, WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo, and Rob Fischer.

Photo courtesy of Stokes Creative Group
April Dinner Program
Keynote Speaker
Polly Trottenberg, NYCDOT Commissioner

May
Technical Tour of NJ Transit’s Newark Light Rail and Grove Street Station
Speakers
Sandra Check, NJT Senior Director of Employee Engagement
Neal Fitzsimmons, NJT Director of Light Rail Service Planning
Greg Woods, NJT Deputy General Manager of Newark Light Rail

Transportation YOU Professional Development Workshop

June
Technical Tour of NYCT Rail Control Center
3rd Annual Summer Solstice Happy Hour
Transportation YOU D.C. Summit

July
4th Annual “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” Membership Appreciation Night
Learn From A Leader Program
Keynote Speaker
Laine Rankin, NJDOT

August
Learn From a Leader Program
Keynote Speaker
Rebecca Reyes Alicea, FRA NEC Project Manager/NEC FUTURE Program Manager

Membership Recruitment Event

NYCDOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg served as the keynote speaker at the April Dinner Program.

From left: WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff); 2013 Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award winner Leslie Mesnick-Uretsky (AKRF); WTS-GNY NY Programs Committee Chair Alexa Gangemi (CH2M Hill) at the April Dinner Program.

NJT Director of Light Rail Service Planning Neil Fitzsimmons explains the Newark Light Rail to WTS members on a tour in May.

“Take Me Out to the Ball Game” event in July. From left: Catherine Corless, NYCT (seated); Mavis Mai, MTA; WTS-GNY Advisor Board Member Marcia Shapiro (Marine Tiger Technologies); WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff); and Debbie Chin, NYCT.

Summer Solstice Happy Hour in June. Standing from left: WTS-GNY NJ Programs Committee Chair Kerri Tyerman (Dewberry); WTS-GNY Vice President (NJ) Polina Knaster (HDR); Nancy Liu (NJDOT); Tam Sillick, Parsons Brinckerhoff. Seated from left: Deborah Rose, NJ Transit; Naomi Barnes, NJDOT; WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Chrissy Barnes, Stokes Creative Group; Patty Egan, Stokes Creative Group; Yelena Shayer, Gannett Fleming.

The lucky raffle winners at the August Membership Recruitment event.
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER
Technical Tour of the Brooklyn Bridge & the Borough’s Iconic Landmarks

Speakers
Dan Wagner, NYCDOT Pedestrian Unit
Alex Rothberg, Sam Schwartz Engineering

OCTOBER
Annual Gala Cocktail Reception

Learn From A Leader Webinar: “Motivating Yourself and Others”

Keynote Speakers
Toni Pavlovich, Symantec Corporation
Linda Newborn, Unity Point Health

NOVEMBER
PANY&NJ Projects: Moving the Region Forward

Speakers
Patrick Foye, PANY&NJ Executive Director
Stephanie Dawson, PANY&NJ COO and WTS International Board Member

“A Discussion of Future of New Jersey Transportation”

Speakers
Jamie Fox, NJDOT Commissioner
Tina Lado, PANY&NJ Director of NJ Government & Community Relations

DECEMBER
Learn From A Leader Webinar: “Energize Your Women’s Initiative”

Keynote Speakers
Christina Roberts, Siemens
Heather Howell, IBM

Holiday Party at Trinity Place in Lower Manhattan

Tour guides discussing the Brooklyn Bridge in September.

Learn From a Leader webinar in October. From left: Pamela Lewis, Eliza Haburay-Herrling, Debleena Anand, Sutapa Bhattacharjee all from NJTPA; Elisa, Iribarne, HDR; Colleen Connolly, Malick & Scherer; Yetunde Adelekan, HDR.

From left: PANY&NJ COO and WTS International Board member Stephanie Dawson; WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Marcia Shapiro, Marine Tiger Technologies at the fall dinner program.

From left: WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff); WTS-GNY Vice President (NJ) Polina Knaster (HDR); Tina Lado, PANY&NJ director, NJ Government & Community Relations; NJDOT Commissioner Jamie Fox; WTS-GNY NJ Programs Committee Chair Kerri Tyerman (Dewberry) at the November program.

From left: WTS-GNY Transportation YOU Co-Chair Taylor Reiss Gouge (NYCDOT); Wandy Chang, Brooklyn Polytechnic; Transportation YOU Rising Recognition Award winner Alejandra Juarez; WTS-GNY Transportation YOU Co-Chair Emmanuelle Humblet (VHB) at the fall dinner program.

Women from left: WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo; WTS-GNY Co-Chair Taylor Reiss Gouge (NYCDOT); WTS-GNY Transportation YOU Co-Chair Emmanuelle Humblet (VHB); Transportation YOU Rising Recognition Award winner Alejandra Juarez; WTS-GNY Transportation YOU Co-Chair Wandy Chang (Brooklyn Polytechnic) at the November program.

Holiday Party in December. From left: Malinda Foy (MTA Bridges & Tunnels); Lois Goldman (NJTPA); Nina Harvey (Arup).

Holiday Party in December. Bottom row, left to right: WTS-GNY Advisory Board member Mary K. Murphy (NJTPA); WTS-GNY Director-At-Large Linda Travis (NY Life). Top row, left to right: WTS-GNY Communications Chair Amy Kaufman (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Deborah Hyman (NYCT); WTS-GNY Special Events Committee Co-Chair Ani Toncheva (Wilson Ihrig & Associates); WTS-GNY Vice President (NJ) Polina Knaster (HDR).
Battery Park in Lower Manhattan, a vibrant area that is but one thread woven into the rich tapestry of New York City’s history, served as the setting for WTS-GNY’s Annual Gala on Oct. 7th. New York-New Jersey transportation leaders gathered at the elegant Battery Gardens Restaurant to pay homage to one among them who has risen to the top through hard work and diligence, and is continuously striving to make the industry better.

With breathtaking views of New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty and Governors Island to feast their eyes upon, members and non-members came to honor NJ Transit (NJT) Executive Director Veronique “Ronnie” Hakim as the 2014 Woman of the Year and the chapter’s six scholarship winners.

WTS-GNY was pleased to welcome NYSDOT Commissioner Joan McDonald, who was the 2011 Woman of the Year, and NYCDOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg as special guest speakers. NJT Board Member Flora Castillo presented the Woman of the Year Award to Hakim. MTA Chairman Thomas Prendergast, MTA Capital Construction President

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Mentoring Program

The 2014 WTS-GNY Mentor program began with the submission of applications for eight apprentice positions and concluded with graduation on December 8th at ARUP. This year’s graduation speaker was 2014 Woman of the Year Ronnie Hakim, NJ Transit executive director of. This was our first year where the program’s apprentices and mentors were all women.

During the 10-month program, the apprentices had set and tracked three goals; made presentations to the group; and participated in open discussions with women who have reached the top and succeeded in what has traditionally been a male-dominated environment. The apprentices found their mentors through a speed-matching exercise, allowing them to get to know, and learn from, each of the mentors. Throughout the year, these women shared job updates, personal struggles and career challenges. They also participated in workshops focused on such topics as the use of social media in the professional world; successful job transitions by other WTS members; and work/life balance.

WTS-GNY has now graduated over 100 apprentices who are strengthening the transportation community in Greater New York. Congratulations to this year’s apprentices and deep thanks to those who have so generously mentored.

If you are interested in learning more about the mentoring program, please contact Sarah Steib (sarah.steib@jacobs.com) or Nicole Bucich (Bucichna@pbworld.com).

2014 Mentoring Program

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apprentices</th>
<th>Mentors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Justine Johnson</td>
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<td>Alyssa Pichardo</td>
<td>Deborah Chin</td>
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<td>Susan Poliwka</td>
<td>Julia D’Orazio</td>
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<td>Kathryn Sargent</td>
<td>Victoria Kelly</td>
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<td>Erica Swansen</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Thompson</td>
<td>Rahul Rios</td>
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<td>Juliet Williams</td>
<td>Ruby Siegel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrienne Zicklin Kanter</td>
<td>Cathy Sweeney</td>
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Young Professionals

In 2014, the Young Professionals Committee continued its role as a gateway for women new to, or transitioning into, careers in transportation. The committee hosted a series of events focusing on networking and exposure to timely transportation planning and development projects in greater New York.

The fifth annual “Transportation Trivia Night,” hosted in partnership with the American Planning Association and the Young Professionals in Transportation, was once again was resounding success that challenged over 80 of the region’s top transit enthusiasts with domestic and international planning, engineering and policy questions. To commemorate the chapter’s history and look towards the future, a “Pop-Talk Kick-Off Event” featured current and former board members, President Beth DeAngelo, Immediate Past President Mary K. Murphy and Ruby Siegel (AECOM). Each panelist highlighted the role WTS played in her career development and provided advice before breaking for informal networking with the group. The committee’s final event of the year was a guided walking tour, highlighting the technical and historical development of the Brooklyn Bridge and surrounding downtown neighborhood.

The Young Professionals Committee will continue to position itself as a resource for access to mid-level career women, while grooming young professionals for leadership roles in transportation.

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee would like to take the opportunity to shed the spotlight on this year’s winners. It is rewarding for WTS to see that our scholarship awards are providing the financial support to advance women in transportation.

Leonard Braun Memorial Graduate Scholarship

Wei Zou is a Ph.D. student in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, specializing in transportation and statistics. She received her Master of Science from UC Davis and Bachelor of Science from the University of Hong Kong.

Leadership Legacy Graduate Scholarship

Quanquan Chen is a second year Transportation Ph.D. candidate in the Civil Engineering department at the City College of New York. She obtained a M.S. in Logistics Engineering from Southwest Jiaotong University, China, and a B.S. in Transportation Management from Central South University, China.

Susan Miszkowicz Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship

Kaitlin Lang is a Civil Engineering major at Manhattan College. She has completed internship programs at Skanska USA Civil and at Bungalow Design & Engineering PC.
Molitoris Leadership Undergraduate Scholarship

Judith Zhao is an undergraduate student in the Civil and Urban Engineering Department at the New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering. She will be receiving her B.S. in Civil Engineering as well as minors in Sustainable Urban Environments, Construction Management, and Financial and Risk Engineering.

Technical and Trade School Scholarship

Maria Kezadri is enrolled at Vaughn College of Aeronautics. She is pursuing an Airframe and Powerplant license and intends to further her studies in Aviation Maintenance and Aviation Safety.

Transportation YOU High School Scholarship

Gabrielle Kempski is a senior at Hendrick Hudson High School, with a concentration in Marine Engineering. She was accepted to the SUNY Maritime College, where she will pursue a degree in Marine Engineering. Along with her bachelor’s degree, she intends to earn her U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner’s License.

With over 200 employees in five offices, the firm has expanded over its 30-year history, but still has kept its “family” feel and devotion to its employees. As a company, it also participates in a wide variety of community service activities throughout the year.

As a loyal corporate sponsor for many years, AKRF supports the WTS mission and has demonstrated consistent member involvement at events and participation on committees. In a traditionally male-dominated industry, AKRF’s team is 42 percent female with the same level of representation in the senior management ranks. In fact, AKRF was founded by a woman. The firm prides itself on its staff diversity, with employees speaking more than 25 different languages and coming from over 20 countries. Although AKRF does not have a formal internship program, it does have a long record of hiring both graduate and undergraduate students in various technical groups company-wide. It has longstanding relationships with university co-op programs and graduate schools, which provide students on an as-needed basis. Over the years, many female students have had the opportunity to participate in this way, with internships often leading to employment.

2014 ANNUAL GALA
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Michael Horodniceanu, MTA Bridges & Tunnels President Jim Ferrara, Metro-North Railroad President Joseph Giulietti and LIRR President Patrick Nowakowski were on hand to help the chapter bestow this honor. Meanwhile, WTS International President Marcia Ferranto also extended her congratulations to Hakim. In addition, Ferranto wanted to show her support for all of the chapter’s initiatives, which set a high bar as it strives to further the organization’s goal of advancing woman in transportation.

A special Book of Memoirs was presented to Nigel Margetson, the husband of WTS-GNY Special Events Committee member Stephanie Margetson, who passed away earlier this year.
2014 saw a jump in revenues stemming largely from an emphasis on bolstering the WTS-GNY corporate partnership program. Our corporate partnership participation increased by more than $30,000 from 2013 to 2014, affording us the opportunity to replenish our decreasing scholarship fund balance during the fiscal year. We have always leaned heavily on our corporate partners, who enable us to deliver the kind of programming and networking events that greatly enhance the value of a WTS-GNY membership. With each passing year, our appreciation grows for the unstinting support provided by these dedicated companies.

Another important initiative was a push to grow – and retain – our membership. This summer, we held a successful membership recruitment drive at The Park in Chelsea, and we honored our current members with a membership appreciation event at Yankee Stadium. The chapter also focused on boosting attendance at our spring and fall dinner programs this year, which contributed to our overall increase in revenue and further supported our goal of broadening the reach of WTS-GNY in the greater New York region. We will continue all of these efforts in 2015.

### Revenues

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### Expenses

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<td>Total Expenses including Deposit to Scholarship Account</td>
<td>122,043.80</td>
<td>117,714.12</td>
<td>123,706.08</td>
<td>132,962.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Revenue After Distributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$7,419.10</td>
<td>$17,636.77</td>
<td>$9,138.73</td>
<td>$38,333.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*includes diversity and professional development programming

Note: Board Expenses include food at board meetings, conference call line, communications tools, and supplies
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PANYa(NJ)
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