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Esther Animalu Fordham University School of Law



I am Esther Animalu, a full-time second-year law student at Fordham University School of Law in New York City and a proud native of Queens, New York. Before law school, I worked as an associate producer at Fox News and as a broadcast associate for *CBS Mornings* at CBS News, where I earned an Emmy nomination for my contributions. I've also interned with leading media and tech companies, including Verizon Media, MSNBC, Inside Edition, CNN, TMZ, Amazon, and Max (formerly known as HBO Max). I hold a Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science from the University of Miami and a Master of Science in Journalism from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. This past summer, I interned with NBCUniversal's Corporate Legal Affairs and News Group Legal teams in New York. Currently, I serve as DEI Chair for Fordham Law's Media and Entertainment Law Society, I am an Intellectual Property Law Section Fellow with the New York State Bar Association, and a member of the Next Generation Committee of the Media Law Resource Center.

Kayleigh Thomas University of Florida Levin College of Law



Kayleigh Thomas is a second-year law student at the University of Florida Levin College of Law, with a focus on music law. Her passion for the music industry began in high school when she attended the Recording Academy's Grammy Camp, and she has since built a strong foundation in the field. During her undergraduate years, Kayleigh interned at Primary Wave Music Publishing, Foundations Music Management, and Atlas Touring, where she toured with bands such as Flipturn and Hotel Fiction. She also completed the Country Music Association's Education and Leadership Program. In addition to internships, She held several leadership roles, including President of UF's student-run record label, "Swamp Records," President of the Gator Music Industry Club, and lead talent buyer for Heartwood Soundstage. Kayleigh also served on the Executive Board of Student Government Productions, overseeing artist relations and event production for large-scale concerts. Kayleigh currently serves as the President of the UF Entertainment, Art, and Sports Law Society and as a staff editor for the Entertainment and Sports Law Review. This past summer, she gained valuable experience in intellectual property and litigation while clerking at McGlinchey Stafford in Nashville. Outside of law, Kayleigh is an avid fan of indie-folk music and the Jacksonville Jaguars.



Jordan Craig University of Miami School of Law



Jordan Craig is a Texas native, former Broadway actor, and third-year student at the University of Miami School of Law. He is currently enrolled in Miami Law's J.D./LL.M. dual-degree program in entertainment, arts, & sports law with a focus on entertainment. Jordan has a strong passion for IP litigation, artificial intelligence, and music law.

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Drake Watkins University of Tennessee College of Law



Drake Christopher Watkins is a 2L at the University of Tennessee College of Law, where he serves as Treasurer of the Moot Court Board and Secretary of the Privacy, Intellectual Property, and Technology Law Board. He competes on the National Trial Team, Villanova Baseball Negotiation Team, and Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Team. He is a former college soccer player with a B.S. in Microbiology from BYU. Drake previously worked as a research associate at Harvard Medical School and the University of Utah Medical School. He is currently a licensed FIFA Agent.



Victoria Edgar University of Southern California Gould School of Law



Victoria is a 2L at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. A San Francisco native, she brings her music business education from Belmont University and five years in Nashville back to her home state where she plans to continue pursuing entertainment in Los Angeles, both as a songwriter-artist and legal advocate. She currently serves as an editor on the board of USC's Spotlight Entertainment Journal and is competing in an intellectual property-focused moot court competition. Victoria honed her contract drafting and negotiation skills at Buchalter's Nashville office in their music-specialty IP group last summer and looks forward to continuing to represent creatives and media companies throughout her career.

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Danielle Mikaelian Harvard Law School



Danielle Mikaelian is a graduate of Columbia University with a BA in English Literature. She currently is a 3L at Harvard Law School. At Harvard, Danielle has served as Chief of Staff for the Harvard Association for Law and Business, Co-Managing Print Editor for the Journal of Sports and Entertainment Law, and Co-President of the Armenian Law Students Association. She also has worked pro bono with clients in the entertainment industry as a student in Harvard's Cyberlaw Clinic and the Harvard Entrepreneurship Project. Beyond this, Danielle has occupied board positions within the Harvard West Coast Club and the Committee on Sports and Entertainment Law. She spent her 1L summer at Schulte, Roth & Zabel (SRZ) in New York and was a 2L Summer Associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett in New York. Danielle is a recipient of the Dean's Scholar Prize at Harvard and is a 2024 Ms. JD Fellow.



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Johanna Li Cornell Law School



Johanna Li Horan is a journalist-turned-JD candidate embarking on her 2L year at Cornell Law School after nearly a decade in the news industry. Johanna's media expertise spans television production, digital media strategy, written profiles, and long-form reporting. She currently serves as Media Director for the Cornell Law Students' Association, an elected position doubly acting as a representative and liaison on behalf of the student body.

Johanna launched her career in journalism with a legacy media company based between New York City and Los Angeles, first covering national breaking news to producing special projects viewed by millions on digital and streaming platforms. She also has vast experience in corporate communications, having taken on private clients ranging from science nonprofits, multi-national corporations, financial institutions and environmental companies. At Cornell Law School, Johanna holds elected leadership positions including Vice President of NALSA (Native American Law Students Association), Vice President of LPE (Land & Political Economy), and co-President of ACLU at Cornell Law School. In her free time, Johanna enjoys brainstorming her media empire with the perfect Old Fashioned in hand.

Rachel Farrar Fordham University School of Law



Rachel is an ambitious second-career evening student at Fordham University School of Law, following a more than 15 year career as a professional singer and actor, and proud member of SAG-AFTRA. With her substantial background in entertainment and the arts, she brings a unique perspective to her legal studies, combining her creative talents with a passion for labor and employment law and intellectual property. During the current academic year, she is working as a legal intern at Schwartz Perry & Heller, LLP, a plaintiff-side employment law firm. And in 2025, she will join Pryor Cashman, LLP as a Summer Associate. She is on track to complete her J.D. coursework one semester early, in December 2025. She is an active member at Saint Bartholomew's Church in New York City, where she sings in the professional choir and serves as a member of the vestry, the governing board of the parish. She lives in Harlem with her husband, Graham, an architect.



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Mira Metry Duke University School of Law



Mira Metry is a 3L at the Duke University School of Law. Growing up in Burbank, CA, the entertainment industry was in her backyard, and she was fortunate to get involved with internships at Warner Bros. and BBC. She received her B.A. in Integrated Marketing from Pepperdine University, and prior to law school, she was an Associate Director at a market research consulting firm. Today, she is Co-Director of Duke Street Law and will be joining a big law firm in Los Angeles upon graduation.

Sydney Brazile University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law



Sydney is a third-year JD/MBA student at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, focusing on intellectual property and transactional law in the entertainment industry. She serves as Vice President of Entertainment for the Sports & Entertainment Law Society, 3L Governor for the Student Bar Association, and Treasurer of the Women's Law Student Association.

During her first year of law school, she served as a summer associate at Cohen, Cooper, Estep & Allen and interned with Morin Legal's Copyright and Music Publishing (CAMP) clinic in Atlanta, Georgia. She worked as a legal & publishing assistant for Uncharted Records, a start-up record label in Austin, Texas. In the summer of her second year, she interned with the Business & Legal Affairs department at Sony Music Masterworks in New York City, where she currently works remotely as a clerk. She went to undergrad at the University of Georgia.