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L'honorable Brian W. Lennox
former Chief Justice of the
Ontario Court of Justice
Ancien juge en chef de
La Cour de justice de l'Ontario

November 2, 2010

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

The Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN) is pleased to partner with the Black Female Lawyers Network (BFLN) to offer *Sistahs-in-Law: Paving the Way*, a day-long educational opportunity for high school aged girls on Thursday November 11, 2010.

Students will be matched with a "big sistah", a Black woman, currently working in law who will act as their mentor for the day, introducing them to other "sistahs in law" while answering questions and providing support throughout the program. Students will attend a special session called Tune In - Know your Value, here they will identify their core values and brainstorm how they can demonstrate those values in their everyday experiences. Next, students will attend an inspirational session specifically designed for the high school aged audience entitled My Journey to Law, where lawyers from a variety of legal practices will share their experiences with the students and answer their questions about being a Black woman in law. After re-joining their big sistahs for lunch, students will participate in an interactive session, facilitated to reflect on the days' experience. Finally our lil' sistahs will accompany their big sistahs and network, building the skills needed for their future professional life. The program has been made possible thanks to sponsorship by individual justice sector professionals.

OJEN is a non-profit, charitable organization that brings together leading institutions and individuals from the legal and education sectors to collaborate on initiatives designed to foster public understanding of the justice system. With the commitment of hundreds of volunteers, including judges from all levels of the courts, members of the bar, the Crown Attorney's office, court staff, legal aid clinics, law schools, teachers, and community representatives, OJEN reaches thousands of youth across the province each year.

BFLN is an organization dedicated to providing an opportunity for students and practitioners in the field to convene, share and learn from one another. In 2006, the annual retreat, *Sistahs-in-Law*, began as an intimate gathering of colleagues and friends has blossomed into a full-day event that has attracted close to two hundred attendees from all over Canada. Proceeds from *Sistahs-in-Law* go to supporting two very important law school scholarships which recognize the contributions of aboriginal and black law students.

This is a program for high school aged girls; sponsorship is not available for teachers or youth workers although they are welcome to attend by purchasing a ticket through BFLN at a cost of \$80.00. OJEN will provide supervision at a ratio of 1:10. Supervisors will accompany students to each event throughout the day. **Please note that students are responsible for their own transportation to and from this event and that OJEN is unable to provide transportation subsidies for those wishing to attend. Supervision of youth will begin once students register at the venue and will continue until approximately 4:00pm, at which point students will be responsible for their own transportation home.**

To coordinate the participation of your child, please return the attached registration package to OJEN by faxing it to (416) 947-5248. General registration will occur on a first come, first serve basis. Only complete registration forms will be accepted. Your child's school may require an additional permission form.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact OJEN at (416) 947-5273 or info@ojen.ca.

Warm regards,

Mara Clarke
Director of Strategic Initiatives

*A civil society through education and dialogue.
L'éducation et le dialogue pour une société civile.*



Sistahs-in-Law: Paving the Way REGISTRATION PACKAGE

Participant's Information

Name: _____ Grade/Class: _____

Student's Email: _____

Student Telephone (if applicable, for day of event): _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Organization/ School Contact's Name: _____ Email: _____

Contact's Phone Number: _____

Organization/ School Name: _____

Address: _____

Please answer the following question:

On Novemberth 2010 I will be 18 years old or older (parent/guardian permission forms are mandatory for students under 18)

Yes No

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Media Release

I consent to allow OJEN and BFLN (collectively: Event Organizers) and/or media present at the *Sistahs-in-Law: Paving the Way* program to reproduce, and/or publish, and/or broadcast the film and/or digital images, and/or video footage of me, or my child/ward taken during these events on **Thursday November 11, 2010**.

I release and discharge, these media outlets, Event Organizers and their officers and employees from any claims, obligations or liability of every kind, including those arising from use of these images and video footage.

This release shall be binding on my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns. I have read the above information and fully understand the contents. I hereby give the Event Organizers permission to use the aforementioned items and I authorize their use or reproduction by the Event Organizers or anyone authorized by them. I hereby also waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto.

Print Name: _____

Signature Name: _____

For Participants under 18 yrs

Parent or Guardian's Name: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

Parent or Guardian's Email Address: _____

Parent or Guardian's Contact Number: _____



Parent or Guardian Permission Form

I/we give permission for my/our child/ward (name), _____, to participate in ***Sistahs-in-Law: Paving the Way*** a day-long educational event presented by the Ontario Justice Education Network on Thursday November 11, 2010

Emergency Contact: _____ Emergency Telephone: _____

I/we understand my child is responsible for her own transportation to and from this event and that supervision of my child will begin once she registers at 9:00 am and will continue until approximately 4:00pm, at which point students will be responsible for their own transportation home.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Is there any medical information that OJEN should be aware of that may lead your child to require special medical attention during this event? _____

Should it become necessary for my/our child/ward to have medical care, I/we hereby give the supervisor permission to use her best judgment in obtaining the best of such service my/our child/ward. I/we understand that any cost will be my/our responsibility. I/we also understand that in the event of illness or accident, I/we will be notified as soon as possible.

Name of Parent/Guardian (please print): _____

Signature of Parent/ Guardian (or student, if 18 years or older): _____

For students 18 years or older, it is strongly recommended that the parent/guardian also sign this form.

Today's Date: _____



TO REGISTER, please return this COMPLETE package (participant's information, media release and permission form if required) to OJEN by faxing it to (416) 947-5248.



General registration is on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS.

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Schools may require additional permission forms.