

Rosie's Theater Kids – Inspiring and Inspired

December 2015

In December 2015, Rosie's Theater Kids (RTKids) visited Proskauer's New York office, bringing with them an extraordinary wave of energy and excitement. Twenty-five high school students who are part of the group arrived for a round of speed mentoring from Proskauer professionals, and then dazzled everyone with a musical performance. RTKids, a nonprofit founded by entertainer Rosie O'Donnell and director Lori Klinger, aims to positively change the lives of children in New York's inner-city public schools through classes in music, dance and drama; thoughtful mentoring; and structured academic guidance.

Corporate partner Frank Lopez, who serves on the RTKids board of directors and helped organize the event, said, "This is an impressive group of kids who have taken advantage of the opportunity the program provides to shine in the arts, but more importantly to develop academically and create a path to college. RTKids currently has a 100% college placement rate."

Fresh off of an appearance at the White House to receive a National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award from Michelle Obama, a group of children in true Broadway spirit sang and danced their way through a medley of songs written by famous graduates of New York public schools.

The event was hosted by Proskauer's Corporate Social Responsibility initiative as part of its focus on education among underserved populations. "Having RTKids here is a great example of the firm's commitment to education," said Wendy Dessy, manager of Corporate Social Responsibility. "RTK is making a huge difference in the lives of these kids, and we're thrilled to be a part of it."