

KEREN G. RAZ

NYU School of Law
Juris Doctorate, May 2010



Keren Raz is committed to providing the legal expertise, building the infrastructure, and establishing the legal foundations that social entrepreneurs need to implement their pattern-breaking visions.

As a second year law student, Keren founded NYU's Law and Social Entrepreneurship Association, one of the first law student groups in the country to explore the intersection of law and social entrepreneurship. In its first six months, the club grew to include 13 board members and 250 general members. The club also launched its first major event with close to 200 attendees, its continuing "Inside the Social Entrepreneurs Studio" feature, and its website. In her quest to develop an expertise in the nascent social entrepreneurial law,

Keren worked after her second year as a law clerk for Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin. After her first year of law school, Keren worked as a summer intern at Lawyers Alliance, a nonprofit law firm that provides business and transactional legal services to nonprofits.

Keren graduated from the University of Arizona in 2005, where she majored with honors in English and political science and minored in Chinese and Spanish. For her leadership in public service, the Arizona Daily Star named her one of the "Top Ten Up-and-Coming Tucsonans Under 25 to Watch." She also received the Honors College Dean's Award for Excellence. While in college, Keren co-founded the Magna Mentoring Project, a nonprofit organization that runs a college and scholarship mentoring program at a low-income high school in Tucson. The first cohort of Magna Scholars graduated from high school with scholarships ensuring the affordability of their undergraduate education. Over the course of four years, Keren spent most of her time mentoring students and managing 15 additional college and high school mentees.

Keren also designed the strategy and developed the implementation and sustainability plan for the program. The curriculum recently won the University of Arizona's top club programming award, and the mentor club and leadership club have doubled in size since their inception. In the summer of 2004, Keren launched a literacy campaign at a school for the mentally handicapped and the deaf in Puno, Peru and secured internet access at the local university for deaf students. With a grant from the Foundation for Sustainable Development, she established the school's first library and helped the families of the students build critically needed home libraries.

Prior to law school, Keren worked as a biotechnology writer at the Flinn Foundation, a philanthropic organization, which awards grants to nonprofit organizations in Arizona that improve the competitiveness of the state's biomedical research enterprise. She then worked as Director of Programs for Youth Re:Action Corps, now New Global Citizens. Youth Re:Action Corp's mission was to educate, empower, and invest in young people to change the world. As the first staff member hired to support the Executive Director/Founder, Keren designed a year-long program that guided high school students through the process of sustainably solving problems in their communities. She also engaged in the organization's strategic planning and oversaw program implementation in 12 schools in two states.

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin

Law Clerk, Summer 2009

- Worked as the sole summer associate in the business department.
- Drafted business legal documents.
- Analyzed merger agreements.

NYU General Counsel

Intern, September 2008-February 2009

- Conducted document review.
- Researched case law and drafted memos for litigation attorneys.
- Drafted letters to opposing counsel.
- Analyzed university policies and advised attorneys negotiating contracts.

Lawyers Alliance for New York, New York, NY

Summer Associate, May – Aug. 2008

Youth Re:Action Corps (New Global Citizens), Phoenix, AZ

Director of Programs, July 2006 – July 2007

- Managed the program as it expanded to 12 schools in two states, serving more than 200 students
- Designed the organization's strategy for training youth how to identify problems in their communities and take action to address them
- Co-led strategic planning sessions and drafted the program's first three year strategic plan
- Drafted the content for and co-designed two publications that provided students with steps and resources for identifying and implementing social change projects
- Spearheaded the establishment of a student steering committee and an intern program
- Co-planned six conferences

Flinn Foundation, Phoenix, AZ

Biotechnology Writer, July 2005 – July 2006

- Drafted all content for monthly newsletter
- Participated in brainstorming sessions as part of a state-wide collaborative effort to build a bioscience industry
- Researched and wrote in-depth article on science and education that inspired a statewide effort to promote biotechnology programs in schools

Magna Mentoring Project, Tucson, AZ

Co-founder, President, Jan. 2003 – May 2005

- Established college and scholarship mentoring program for low-income high school students
- Helped establish high school's first leadership class. Mentored four students. Managed 15 mentors and students
- Developed and executed all program components, including the curriculum, mentor training, sustainability plan, and accountability measures

Arizona Daily Wildcat, Tucson, AZ

News Reporter, News Editor, Columnist, Aug. 2002 – May 2005

- Won reporter of the year award
- Won manager of the year award
- Established the first Wildcat-sponsored debate for student government presidential candidates

- News articles published in New York Times online and other media outlets
- Named a national finalist for best column writing by the Society of Professional Journalists

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

NYU Law & Social Entrepreneurship Association (LSEA), New York, NY

Co-Founder & President, Aug. 2008 – Present

- Recruited and managed 13 founding board members.
- Co-drafted the organization's constitutions, bylaws, and job description.
- Oversaw the club's visioning and strategic planning process.
- Oversaw the planning of the club's launch, attended by close to 200 people.
- Co-developed the club's "Inside the Social Entrepreneurs" feature.
- Fostered a culture of collaboration, innovation, and creativity.

GO Project, New York, NY

Oct. 2007 – May 2008

- Tutor second grader in reading, writing, and math

Kearny Alliance, Asia

June – Aug. 2004

- Assisted Executive Director in developing communications strategy for economic development venture

La Escuela Especial Chanu Chanu, Puno, Peru

June – Aug. 2003

- Coordinated a literacy campaign for school established for mentally handicapped and deaf children
- Formed a partnership between the school and university computer center to provide students with access to the web
- Established the school's first library
- Ran a workshop to train students how to secure grants and funding for school projects
- Organized parent roundtable to discuss literacy issues

NYU Law OM Yoga, New York, NY

Member, Treasurer, Aug. 2007 - Present

- Help ensure that law students have access to free yoga classes

Steel drumlines, Arizona

Member, Aug. 2001 – 2007

- Performed at a variety of gigs
- Jammed for fun

EDUCATION

New York University, School of Law, New York, NY

Candidate for Juris Doctorate, May 2010

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Bachelor of Arts, May 2005

Majors: English Honors and Political Science Honors

Minors: Chinese and Spanish

Senior Theses:

- The Development of the Federal Role in Education
- The Third Generation (creative nonfiction account of my grandfather's Holocaust story)

DISTINCTIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Anthony G. Amsterdam Teaching Assistant
- NYU Reynolds Graduate Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship, 2008
- NYU Law Root-Tilden-Kern Jacobson Scholarship, 2006
- University of Arizona graduation summa cum laude
- Phi Beta Kappa, 2004
- University of Arizona Honors College Dean's Award for Excellence, 2005
- Arizona Daily Star's Top 10 Up and Coming Tucsonans Under 25 to Watch – recognized for leadership in public service, 2005
- USA Today All-Academic Second Team, 2005
- Flinn Foundation Scholarship, 2001