

# Trinity Scholar Empowers Domestic Violence Survivors

At the age of 16, Rosalia Abreu, Trinity Posse 5, discovered her passion for social justice and law when two public interest lawyers visited her classroom and talked about domestic violence. Inspired by their presentation and the prospect of having a positive impact on her community, Rosalia has worked to develop her advocacy skills in order to help victims and survivors of domestic violence.

## scholar highlight

Rosalia Abreu, Trinity Posse 5



Rosalia Abreu.

This past summer, Rosalia worked as a legal advocate with CONNECT, a nonprofit organization in New York City that is dedicated to the prevention and elimination of family and gender violence. She was one of 34 Scholars awarded funding for a summer internship

through the Posse Summer Leadership Awards program.

During her internship, Rosalia assisted clients who were survivors of

domestic violence by providing them with support and legal advocacy. “I loved knowing that I could make a difference, however small, in the lives of these men, women, and their families,” she says. “I saw how the power of law could help them find relief from traumatic and dangerous situations.”

**I LOVED KNOWING THAT I COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THESE MEN AND WOMEN**

At Trinity, Rosalia spent three years as assistant to the director of the Women and Gender Resource Action Center where she planned events that raised awareness about issues related to sexual assault and rape. As a state certified counselor, she

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# Public Relations Executive Commits to Leadership Development

Ethan Riegelhaupt is the senior vice president of Corporate and Public Affairs at Edelman, a leading global public relations firm. When he was first introduced to Posse by Bob Herbert, a former colleague at *The New York Times* and husband of Posse President and Founder Deborah Bial, Ethan was particularly enthusiastic about the Foundation’s emphasis on leadership.

## board member highlight

Ethan Riegelhaupt  
 Posse New York Advisory Board



Edelman Senior Vice President for Corporate and Public Affairs Ethan Riegelhaupt.

“Every year, Posse is graduating a new cohort of terrific leaders who have the potential to play a profound role in our society,” he says, “and it’s great to see them embrace their future and go on to do important things in so many different areas.”

In his previous position as vice

president of speechwriting and internal communications at The New York Times Company, Ethan became increasingly interested in youth and education. He provided leadership development as a

mentor for high school students in both the company’s summer internship and scholarship programs.

**EVERY YEAR POSSE GRADUATES TERRIFIC LEADERS WITH THE POTENTIAL TO PLAY A PROFOUND ROLE IN OUR SOCIETY**

Since joining the New York Advisory Board in 2004, Ethan has been instrumental in helping Posse to establish a partnership with The New York Times Company, which for the last two years has donated its spectacular space to host Posse’s National Alumni Leadership Conference. Ethan also helped Posse organize an education conference—College Access: Who Gets It?—in 2008. Both events have brought together hundreds of Alumni, education professionals and national leaders, including Harold

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# Alumni Come Together for Posse's Annual Holiday Party



FROM LEFT: Posse Alumni Shanita Gopie, Wheaton Posse 4; Alex Hill, Vanderbilt Posse 15; Gerloni Cotton, Michigan Posse 1 (Los Angeles); William Fong, Colby Posse 3; and Engy Lamour, Brandeis Posse 6.

On December 21, Posse New York Alumni brought their holiday spirit to the annual party at The Stumble Inn in Manhattan. Alumni came together to take a well-deserved holiday break and celebrate their accomplishments. The event boosted Alumni giving, and the 130 Alumni in attendance represented the largest turnout for the event to date.

The night was filled with socializing, tasty appetizers and good music. "Every year I look forward to this gathering," says Wheaton Posse 4 Alumna Shanita Gopie. "This event gives me the opportunity to reconnect with old Posse friends, make new ones and simultaneously expand my Alumni network."

Posse President and Founder Deborah Bial, Posse New York Director Dena Wallerson and New York Posse National Alumni Advisory Council representative Carlos Salcedo, Brandeis Posse 4 Alumnus, thanked Alumni for their support and highlighted their connection to an exciting community of over 600 Posse Alumni locally, and more than 1,200 nationwide.

The annual holiday event was a wonderful conclusion to 2010. Posse New York looks forward to continuing to support its dynamic and determined young leaders in the workforce who are laying the groundwork for a vibrant professional leadership network.\*

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has worked at the Sexual Assault Crisis Service in Hartford, Connecticut, as well as with the Coalition Against Domestic Violence during her junior study abroad program in Trinidad and Tobago.

Currently a senior, Rosalia is completing a degree in women, gender, and sexuality and applying to law school. "I am excited to develop the skills I will need to be an effective lawyer serving the public interest and begin the career I once dreamed of as a 16-year-old girl," she says.\*

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Ford Jr. and the Honorable David Dinkins, who are both members of Posse's national board.

Ethan was born in Queens, New York. After receiving his undergraduate degree in history from Colgate University and J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, he embarked on a career that moved from politics to public relations. His experiences include working in the administration of New York governor Mario Cuomo, being a member of newly elected Governor Andrew Cuomo's transition team and serving as president of EMR & Associates, a media

relations and public affairs firm.

As exemplified in his own professional journey and leadership experiences, Ethan encourages Scholars to envision where they want to go as they begin their careers. "I would advise them to learn from the people they admire, and learn how to emulate their success," he says.

Ethan and his wife Candace live in Rye, New York, and enjoy spending time with their children Loren, Rebecca and Lexi, daughter-in-law Kathleen, and grandkids Clementine and Atticus.\*

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