



**VOLUNTEER
LAWYERS
&
PROFESSIONALS**
for the arts

VOLUNTEER LAWYERS & PROFESSIONALS FOR THE ARTS OVERVIEW & TESTIMONIALS

Volunteer Lawyers & Professionals for the Arts (VLPA), a cornerstone program of the Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville, provides pro bono legal assistance and education to low-income artists of all disciplines, as well as legal and business services to emerging non-profit arts organizations.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Provided over **\$1,200,000 worth of pro bono legal services** to Nashville's creative community.
- **Helped low-income artists and nonprofit arts organizations with over 2,100 legal matters**, including copyright infringement, resolving gallery disputes, negotiating literary and music contracts, and all manner of nonprofit issues; and
- Built a roster of **250+ volunteer lawyers from 40 law firms**.

SAMPLE PROJECTS: Common legal matters VLPA assists clients with include:

- Drafting and reviewing all manner of arts and entertainment contracts
- Copyright registration or infringement
- First Amendment issues
- Labor/employment disputes
- Obtaining tax exempt status
- Trademark matters
- Resolving arts-related disputes

HEAR FROM PAST CLIENTS:

"Thanks to your help and expertise, we feel much more secure in revitalizing our organization and confident in moving forward. What an amazing resource you provide for the Tennessee arts community." – *Deidre Bacco, Middle Tennessee Suzuki Association*

"VLPA's help in directing me to a volunteer lawyer was a wonderful blessing. He graciously gave his time and energy in helping me resolve my royalty collection difficulties. With his assistance, I feel confident the matter is all taken care of." – *A.J. Yuill, Songwriter*

"As a small nonprofit organization, finding legal help can be very daunting. Thanks to our volunteer lawyer and VLPA, we were able to put to rest a concern that we otherwise would not have been able to address." – *Cathy Street, Street Theatre Company*

"When I was named in a spurious lawsuit, I had no idea how to respond. Being a creative writer, I didn't understand the legal jargon. Being a starving writer, I had no money to hire a lawyer. Thankfully, VLPA found a lawyer who sorted through the issues and made sure I wouldn't become an incarcerated writer!" – *Sammy Conner, Novelist*

"The legal issues of an independent film maker are innumerable. It is only through the constant effort of VLPA that my project, a feature length film, will surface intact from the sea of legal issues that surround it. VLPA has been there to help at every stage of production, from copyright to formation of an LLC for my production company. VLPA has given me the legitimacy to seek distribution throughout the world." – *Andy Duensing, Limerent Pictures LLC, Filmmaker of "Make-Out with Violence"*