



Contact:
Rita Klein, CMBA Marketing & PR Director
216-539-3713 (direct)
216-696-3525 x5000
216-509-8075 (mobile)
rklein@clemetrobar.org

Rock the Foundation to Honor Chris Connor with Inaugural Pogue Award

Bar Foundation Signature Event Moves to Music Box Supper Club

CLEVELAND – January 13, 2016 – The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation (CMBF) will host its 11th Rock the Foundation special event on Saturday, February 13 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the exciting Music Box Supper Club on the West Bank of the Flats.

This year, the Bar Foundation will present the first ever “Richard W. Pogue Award for Excellence in Community Leadership and Engagement” to Christopher M. Connor, executive chairman of The Sherwin-Williams Company.

“This event is the perfect opportunity to honor Chris for his steadfast commitment and leadership,” said Hugh McKay, president of the CMBF. “His passion for and service to Cleveland make him worthy of this award and should inspire others to give back. We are also honored to have Dick Pogue joining us to bestow this inaugural award in his name.”

Rock the Foundation is open to the public and celebrates the positive difference the Bar Foundation and its funded programs have made in the community, and raise additional funds for those award-winning programs.

“Last year we took the event to a new level and are excited to continue that energy,” continued McKay. “We just can’t wait to share our love for the Bar Foundation with guests on Valentine’s weekend again this year.”

General admission tickets are \$150 and offers a photo op welcome, live dance music from The No Name Band, contemporary piano entertainment from George Foley, fabulous food stations, premium open bar, 50/50 Raffle, and other great prizes! “Rocktail” attire is recommended so you can mingle, eat, drink and dance to live music on the bank of the Cuyahoga. Tickets for the VIP pre-party reception are \$250 and include 6:00 p.m. admittance, live jazz music from Transportation Boulevard, hors d’oeuvres, premium open bar. Call 216-696-3525 or visit www.CleMetroBar.org/RocktheFoundation for more information.

Rock the Foundation has generated nearly \$1 million in its first 10 years for the many Bar Foundation-funded programs and initiatives that serve the Cleveland community and promote pro bono legal assistance and public law-related education, including The 3Rs (teaching and counseling more than 25,000 students in Cleveland and East Cleveland schools over the past 10 years), the Cleveland Homeless Legal Assistance program (counseling more than 350 people every year), and high school mock trial competitions (bringing the law home to 900 students each year).

*Sponsors for this year’s event include: **Signature Sponsor:** FirstMerit PrivateBank; **Platinum Sponsors:** Jones Day; The Sherwin-Williams Company; **Gold Sponsors:** BakerHostetler LLP; KeyBank National Association; Ulmer & Berne LLP; **Silver Sponsors:** Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP; First National Bank; Medical Mutual; Ohio Savings Bank, a Division of New York Community Bank; Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP; Reminger Co., L.P.A.; RPM International Inc.; Siegel Jennings Co., LPA; Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP; Thompson Hine; Tucker Ellis LLP; Veritext Legal Solutions; Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP; **Bronze Sponsors:** Ancora Inverness; Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP; Case Western Reserve University, School of Law; Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.; Climaco, Wilcox, Peca, Tarantino & Garofoli LLC; Diebold, Inc.; Eaton Corporation; First Federal of Lakewood Savings & Loans; Grant Thornton LLP; Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP; Mansour Gavin LPA; McDonald Hopkins LLC; Northern

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**Sponsor list current at time of release distribution.*

For more information regarding the event, tickets or sponsorship, visit www.CleMetroBar.org/RocktheFoundation.

About the CMBF

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation is the charitable arm and partner of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. It raises funds to support the important public outreach activities of the Association, which are organized primarily under the Justice For All umbrella. These activities include a variety of pro bono legal service, law-related education, tutoring and mentoring programs. Additionally, the CMBF assists the Association's diversity and inclusion initiatives aimed at improving the pipeline of minority students entering the legal profession. www.clemetrobar.org/foundation.

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