



# Kirkland & Ellis hosts H.S. Debates

Published on March 13, 2017



**Adeline Ortiz, J.D.** | [Follow](#)

Marketing Associate at World Financial Group (WFG), a Transameri...



On Thursday, March 9, 2017, several talented attorneys from the global law firm of Kirkland & Ellis took time from their busy schedules to preside over the competitions of ten high school Debate Teams.



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spectacular Manhattan views, as they poured out of the elevators on the 50th floor of the firm's posh New York offices.

After a warm welcome and dinner provided by Kirkland & Ellis, the teams divided into 5 conference rooms to battle for the scholarships being offered by the firm, enabling the winning teams to travel next year to tournaments at Harvard, Princeton, Yale and other colleges. The attorneys were amazed as all 10 teams showcased their skills, arguing the pros and cons of whether the United States should continue to pressure Israel into a 2-State solution with Palestine. The evening ended with scholarships awarded to all 10 teams!!

Top performing students received a gavel engraved with the firm's name. Two of those students, Cristian and Arianna Pina (above) dispensed with their sibling rivalry to represent World View High School, located in the Bronx. On March 25th and 26th, they will join over 200 NYC high school debate teams to continue the battle and begin the elimination process, as they look forward to the statewide tournaments in April.

A huge thank you to Kirkland & Ellis for providing these students with such a memorable experience and extraordinary opportunity! Another thank you to Erik Fogel, Executive Director of the NYC Urban Debate League, for his tireless efforts to cultivate these young leaders! Finally, much gratitude to Mr. Martin Hernandez, Principal of World View High School, for his innovative leadership.



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**Adeline Ortiz, J.D.**

Marketing Associate at World Financial Group (WFG), a Transamerica Company

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