



**For Immediate Release**

Pejay Ryan  
Media Contact  
Broward College Foundation  
Office 954-201-7414  
Cell 954-249-8588  
pejayryan@aol.com

### **LEADING LAW FIRM MEMORIALIZES PARTNER WITH GIFT**

**RRA Creates Melissa Britt Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund at Broward College**

*Fort Lauderdale, Fla., August 28, 2009-* Melissa Britt Lewis dropped out of high school, yet went on to become a partner at one of Broward County's leading law firms, Rothstein Rosenfeldt Adler. When her life tragically ended in early 2008, the Broward College Foundation created a scholarship in her memory. At Broward College's board of trustees meeting on Aug. 25, Stuart Rosenfeldt turned that scholarship into the "Melissa Britt Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund" with a \$20,000 endowment. The resulting scholarships will be awarded to students like Melissa, who earn their GED and wish to pursue a college education.



Melissa Britt Lewis

An example of the power of education and commitment to community, Melissa Britt Lewis took an unusual path to career success. For 10 years, she worked during the day and aided by student loans, took community college classes at night. While attending law school at Nova Southeastern University, she interned with Rothstein and was hired after graduating. A successful labor and employment attorney, Lewis made partner in December 2007. A member of Leadership Broward, she was also a member of the Broward County Human Rights Board and Broward County Victim's Rights Board where she fought for the rights of victims of violent crimes and victims of employment and housing discrimination.

"Melissa Britt Lewis is a compelling role model. She recognized the value of a college education, and worked very hard to attain one," said Nancy Botero, executive director of the Broward College Foundation. "This generous endowment from Rothstein Rosenfeldt Adler honors Melissa's life by contributing to the community she served and by helping other non-traditional students realize their dream of a higher education."

Also in attendance was the recipient of the first Melissa Britt Lewis Memorial Scholarship, Mr. Juan Carlos Portela.



Left to Right: Broward College Trustees Phillip Harlow, Paul Tanner, Lourdes Garrido, Stuart Rosenfeldt of Rothstein Rosenfeldt Adler, Juan "Carlos" Portela, recipient of the Melissa Britt Lewis Memorial Scholarship, Broward College Trustee Levi Williams, Georgette Sosa Douglass and Sean Guerin, Broward College President J.David Armstrong, Jr.

### *About the Broward College Foundation*

The Broward College Foundation awards more than \$2 million in scholarships annually to Broward College students and supports academic programs and awards for outstanding faculty. While the State of Florida funds approximately 62 percent of Broward College's operating budget, the balance must be raised from individuals, corporations and institutions. The mission of the Broward College Foundation is to support the college by providing community awareness, advocacy and financial support to the college, its students, faculty and staff.

Led by its Board of Directors, the foundation raises funds, conducts programs and practices stewardship that increases the effectiveness of the college in meeting community, student, faculty and staff needs.

The mission of Broward College is to achieve student success by developing informed and creative students capable of contributing to a knowledge- and service-based global society. As a public community college accredited to offer associate degrees, selected baccalaureate degrees, and certificate programs, the institution and its District Board of Trustees are

committed to fostering a learning-centered community that celebrates diversity and inclusion by empowering and engaging students, faculty, and staff.

Rothstein Rosenfeldt Adler, Attorneys at Law (RRA) is one of the fastest growing law firms in South Florida with over 90 attorneys and 26 practice groups. RRA's main office is located at Las Olas City Center, 401 East Las Olas Blvd., Suite 1650 in downtown Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in the heart of the legal community. The firm also has offices in Miami, Boca Raton, Palm Beach, Tallahassee, New York Los Angeles and Caracas, Venezuela. RRA expects to open offices in Washington D.C.; London; Switzerland; Boston and Providence before the end of 2009. For more information about Rothstein Rosenfeldt Adler, Attorneys at Law, please call 954.522.3456 or visit [www.rra-law.com](http://www.rra-law.com).

For more information or to make a contribution to the Melissa Britt Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund, please call the Broward College Foundation at 954-201-7414 or visit [www.broward.edu/foundation](http://www.broward.edu/foundation).

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