



Lewis & Clark Law School

Manche Langley Scholarship at Lewis & Clark Law School

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Lewis & Clark Law School
10015 SW Terwilliger Blvd.
Portland, OR 97219
Phone: 503.768.6652
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The Manche Langley Scholarship was created by Queen's Bench in 1963 and endowed in 1994 as a memorial to Oregon lawyer, Manche Langley. Manche vigorously practiced law until she died in July 1963, a month before her 80th birthday. She was an active member of Queen's Bench, the association of women attorneys which she had helped to found in 1948.

Manche Langley was born in 1883. After graduating from Tualatin Academy, now Pacific University, she began reading the law in her father's office, Langley & Son.

The thirteenth woman to be admitted to practice law in Oregon, Manche practiced in Forest Grove from 1909 until 1933 with her father and brother in general civil practice. She attended law school while practicing law and received an LLB from Northwestern School of Law in 1927 so that she could teach a law course at Pacific University. She taught from 1927 to 1933.

On June 5, 1932, she was appointed to the Democratic National Committee of Oregon. Prior to this appointment she served as secretary and chairman of the Washington County Democratic Central Committee. In addition Manche, served as a deputy district attorney for Multnomah County (1933-1935), field representative for the U.S. Administration in Oregon (1935-1937), and field representative and then District Director for the Women's Division of the Works Progress Administration (1937-1943). In 1944 Manche was appointed as a deputy district attorney assigned to the women's division. In 1961 she was appointed chief deputy of the domestic relations department, of the Multnomah County DA's office.

Manche was a member of the League of Women Voters and a moderator for early sessions of the Northwest Institute of International Relations. She served on the State Board of the League from 1944 to 1948 and in 1950 was a member of the league's committee on international relations.

She did volunteer work for the Oregon Prison Association, focusing on parole cases. She was elected vice president of the association in 1949. She was a lifelong member of Phi Delta Delta, a national women's legal fraternity. She was also a member of the Order Eastern Star. She was a member of the American, Oregon State, and Multnomah Bar Associations. Among her pioneering contributions was her work to enable women to serve as jurors in Oregon.

Manche Langley touched the lives of many people and was variously described as sensational, incomparable, and unforgettable. In a 1964 tribute to Manch, Helen Althaus wrote, "Perhaps most of all, Manche was a humanitarian. Despite her efforts at anonymity, Manche's ever-impulsive, unselfish generosity to those in need became legendary in her lifetime."

The Manche Langley Scholarship is awarded to individuals, especially women, with superior integrity and intelligence who have chosen to pursue legal education and a career in the law.