LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

Company Name: Latham & Watkins LLP

Industry: Legal

Company CEO: Richard Trobman, Chair and Managing Partner

Number of Employees: 7,700

PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP JOURNAL 2026 STEAM LEADERSHIP AWARD

Gloria Ring, *Partner*

Education: JD, University of Virginia School of Law; BA, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Your Location: Boston, MA

Words you live by: Great work starts with great people.

Personal Philosophy: Work hard, prepare thoroughly, and never assume the door will open on its own.

What was your first job? Intern at the Boston Public Health Commission, where I helped spearhead the digitization of medical files — my first real exposure to the intersection of health care and technology.

Favorite charity: Rosie's Place in Boston — the first women's shelter in the United States, providing meals, housing, and support services to women in need.

Interests: Mentorship, travel, baking, and jigsaw puzzles

Family: My husband, two daughters (5 and 3) and our 7-year-old dog

What can be done to increase student participation in STEAM education?

Increasing student participation in STEAM requires making these subjects tangible and relevant to students' lives. Schools and organizations should invest in mentorship programs that connect students with professionals who use STEAM skills in unexpected ways—including in law, health care, and life sciences. Exposure to the interdisciplinary nature of STEAM helps students see that these fields extend well beyond the laboratory. Hands-on projects, competitions, and partnerships with local businesses can make STEAM education feel less abstract. Additionally, we need to address equity gaps by ensuring underrepresented communities have access to the same resources, technology, and encouragement. Early intervention is key; if students develop confidence in analytical and technical thinking before high school, they are far more likely to pursue STEAM pathways. When we invest in young people early and show them that STEAM belongs to everyone, we are not just filling a pipeline—we are building a generation of problem solvers ready to tackle the world's biggest challenges.

How will AI change the STEAM fields over the next five years?

AI will fundamentally reshape STEAM fields by accelerating research, automating routine analysis, and enabling professionals to focus on higher-order problem solving. In health care and life sciences, AI is already transforming drug discovery, clinical trial design, diagnostics, and how we conduct due diligence on complex transactions. Over the next five years, I expect AI to become deeply embedded in every STEAM discipline—from accelerating therapeutic development to enabling precision medicine and smarter medical devices. The professionals who thrive will be those who understand how to work alongside AI, critically evaluate its outputs, and apply ethical judgment where machines cannot. This means STEAM education must evolve to emphasize not just technical proficiency but also critical thinking, adaptability, and interdisciplinary collaboration. The intersection of AI and human expertise will define the next generation of innovation.