

NEWS

FROM THE

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations



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County Human Relations Commission To Honor

Remarkable People and Groups for Outstanding Achievements on October 5th

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations celebrates its 62nd Anniversary in 2006, marking its history as one of the oldest and largest human relations agencies of its kind in the United States. The annual celebration of human relations heroes will take place at the Commission's annual John Anson Ford Human Relations Awards Luncheon being held on Thursday, October 5, 2006, at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel.

R. J. Cutler, a cutting-edge producer/director who was behind the powerful and provocative FX cable channel TV series "Black/White" and "Thirty Days", will be honored with the Commission's *Courage Award* for his work in bravely raising the inter-racial and social justice issues that are often too uncomfortable to be publicly discussed. He has been a recipient of numerous awards including the Emmy, Peabody and GLAAD Awards, and was nominated for an Academy Award and an Independent Spirit Award.

The *John Allen Buggs Award* is being presented to **Dr. Maher M. Hathout**, the President of the Islamic Center of Southern California. As a leading spokesperson for the American Muslim community, Dr. Hathout has for many decades been an inspired and tireless voice for greater inter-faith understanding and alliances. He is an international figure that is highly regarded as a positive voice for Islam, having met with Presidents Clinton and Bush to discuss America's image in the Islamic world, and the need for democratization in the Middle East.

The five annual County Board of Supervisors' district Human Relations awardees are: the **Multi-Ethnic Immigrant Workers Organizing Network**, First District; the **Black AIDS Institute**, Second District; **Communities for Educational Equity**, Third District; the **National Conference for Community & Justice of Southern California (NCCJ)**, Fourth District; and **We Care for Youth**, Fifth District. All have been standouts in building alliances among culturally diverse communities around critical social justice issues.

The *Corporate Award* will go to **Brent D. Sokol, John Sasaki, Giam Nguyen, and Sophia Chang of Jones Day** law firm, who worked *pro bono* for the Commission in a successful effort to reclaim the Commission's *zerohour.com* website domain. The *zerohour.com* website has been the focal point of a multi-media campaign intended to reach and engage youth to take a stand in challenging prejudice, discrimination and hate in their schools and communities.

The reception begins at 11:30 a.m. Cost of the luncheon is \$100 per person. Valet parking is available at \$18; self-parking with validation is available at Pershing Square for \$8.50.

Various levels of sponsorships are available. For more information about the luncheon or sponsorships, please contact Wendy Gladney Brooks, event coordinator at wendy@personalservicesplus.com.