



Opening Acts

A Publication of the Fair Housing Justice Center Inc.

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

FHJC Announces 2nd Annual Acting for Justice Awards

On Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 p.m., the Fair Housing Justice Center (FHJC) will hold its 2nd Annual "Acting for Justice" Awards Reception at the Metropolitan Pavilion located at 124 West 18th Street (4th Floor Gallery) in Manhattan. The annual event will recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to promoting fair housing. Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, actor, and dancer Everett Bradley will serve as the celebrity master of ceremonies for the evening.

The FHJC is very proud to present the exclusive New York City viewing of a photo exhibition entitled "The Chicago Freedom Movement, 1965-66" by Bernhard J. Kleina. The exhibit depicts the first large-scale fair housing campaign in the country. Kleina's rarely seen color photographs document the 1965-66 Freedom Movement's demonstrations for open housing. The exhibit includes images of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Coretta Scott King; Rev. Jesse Jackson; comedian activist Dick Gregory; gospel singer Mahalia Jackson; and Rev. Ralph Abernathy, as well as thousands of fair housing advocates. The photographs also capture those who attempted to disrupt the peaceful marches. Mr. Kleina, a nationally known fair housing advocate and exhibit photographer will offer brief remarks to FHJC members and supporters at the reception.



© Photographs by Bernard J. Kleina

Join us for a delightful evening of live jazz, great food and drink, inspiring photographs, and an opportunity to show your support for FHJC's work. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at www.fairhousingjustice.org/event. For more information or to RSVP by May 28th, please contact FHJC Office Manager Vanessa Gonzalez at (212) 400-8201.

Woman Denied Opportunity to Purchase Condo, Disability Discrimination Alleged

On May 14, 2010, Adele Friedman, a woman with a disability who uses a wheelchair, filed a federal discrimination lawsuit against a property management company and a condominium owners association located in the Riverdale area of the Bronx. The suit alleges that Goodman Management Company, Inc. and Highpoint-on-the-Hudson Owners, Inc. refused to allow Ms. Friedman to purchase an apartment. According to the suit, the refusal to approve the sale to Ms. Friedman and not allow her to make reasonable physical modifications to the apartment violated her civil rights under local, state and federal fair housing laws. The proposed modifications would have enabled her to fully use and enjoy the apartment.

The lawsuit seeks an injunction to stop the discrimination, relief to prevent future discriminatory acts, recovery of compensatory and punitive damages, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. The plaintiff is represented pro bono by the law firm of Latham & Watkins LLP.

Opening Acts is the e-Newsletter of the Fair Housing Justice Center, Inc. The goal of this publication is to highlight "acts" taken to "open" up housing opportunities in the New York region.

