

Welcome!

As evidenced by the remarkable group of people attending Claim Democracy, a growing number of reformers aspire to forge a true pro-democracy movement – one grounded in the fundamental democratic values of equality, voter choice, free speech, freedom of the press and universal suffrage. We may not be unified on the particulars of what such a movement might mean and how it weights different reform priorities, but we come to Washington, D.C. united in a belief that our efforts are enhanced when we work together.

This gathering is testimony to that belief. Reformers are here from more than a hundred local, state and national organizations. They represent literally every corner of the nation, from Maine to Hawaii, Washington to Arizona and most states in between. They include groups focused on the immediate tasks of protecting voter access in the 2008 elections and groups seeking far-reaching structural reforms necessary to realize democracy's full potential – fair and effective voting systems; elections fueled by ideas and not special interest money; and diverse, critical and accessible journalism. In the wake of national scandal, poisonous partisanship and high levels of voter dissatisfaction, the coming years may represent our best chance in a century to win change nationally and in the states.

Indeed, already we have won new reform successes, including reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act and giant strides toward voting rights for the people of Washington, D.C. in Congress and, in the states, victories for public financing of elections, voting rights for more people with felony convictions, election day registration, fusion voting, instant runoff voting and the National Popular Vote plan for president. Looking forward, the conduct of the 2008 elections and the reform coalitions they may forge promise to create even more opportunities for change – both immediate progress in 2009, and more transformative changes over time. We hope this conference triggers collaborative efforts helping us to seize this moment, including perhaps a major role for electoral reform at the national media reform conference to be held in Minneapolis in June 2008.

This booklet is a practical guide to the conference: an agenda and the times of when and where to go. But it is also a guide to a remarkable community of organizations that, amidst the daily mountain of tasks we set ourselves in pursuit of our objectives, have taken the time necessary to plan, support and participate in this conference. I found it inspiring to read these speaker and organizational profiles: we indeed are claiming democracy, step by step, leap by leap, as we move into the 21st century.

Finally, I want to give special thanks to the Solidago Foundation, Open Society Institute, Glaser Progress Foundation and Liberty Tree for providing funds that allowed us to help so many community-based and youth reformers to participate and to the dozens of reform and voting rights organizations that are with us today. My colleagues at FairVote have taken the lead in organizing the logistics of this conference, but we quite literally could not have done this without so many of you who are reading this guide.

Onward to a terrific weekend and to a successful run of reform in the years ahead!



Rob Richie
Executive Director, FairVote

Friday, November 9, 2007

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm (for paid registrants)	Auditorium
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Registration with tables of sponsoring and supporting organizations. A reception with hors d'ouvres.

6:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Auditorium
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Exhibitor Tables Open to Public

Auditorium open to general public, with opportunity to visit organizational tables.

7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Auditorium
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Welcome / Democracy in Washington, D.C. / Democracy after Katrina

A welcome from conference organizers and former Congressman John Anderson. Vincent Gray will explain how District voters are closer than ever to earning the fundamental right to representation. Sheila Williams of Rainbow PUSH will talk about the ongoing struggle for democracy in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.

- ü Hon. John B. Anderson – FairVote chairman and former presidential candidate
- ü Hon. Vincent Gray – D.C. Council chairman
- ü Sheila Williams – Rainbow Push Coalition, Louisiana

7:45 pm – 9:15 pm	Auditorium
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Keynote Presentation: Seeking Common Ground

Four of our nation's leading thinkers and political activists address whether there are areas where the political right and political left can come together to improve elections. Moderated by FairVote's Rob Richie and Reuniting America's Ana Micka.

- ü *Moderator:* Rob Richie – FairVote
- ü *Moderator:* Ana Micka – Reuniting America
- ü Spencer Overton – author and law professor
- ü Grover Norquist – Americans for Tax Reform
- ü David Keating – Club for Growth
- ü Hendrik Hertzberg – *New Yorker* magazine

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Saturday, November 10, 2007

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Auditorium Lobby
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Registration and Coffee with Tabling

9:00 am – 10:15 am	Auditorium
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PLENARY: Lessons from our Successes

Panelists will discuss lessons from successful campaigns for electoral reform and voting rights at the local, state and national level, providing examples of potential pitfalls and best practices.

- Ü *Moderator:* Laleh Ispahani – American Civil Liberties Union
- Ü Wade Henderson – Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
- Ü Hon. Jamin Raskin – Maryland State Senator
- Ü Betty Ahrens – Iowa Citizen Action / Midwest States Center
- Ü J. Mijin Cha – Progressive States
- Ü Sol Rodriguez – Rhode Island Family Life Center

10:30 am – 12:00 noon – CONCURRENT SESSIONS
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Organized by Conference Sponsors and Supporters

Ending Felon Disenfranchisement: Steps Forward Auditorium

Panelists will discuss the current state of felony disenfranchisement laws with an emphasis on recent policy developments, an update on litigation, and first-hand accounts of reform efforts at the state-level.

- Ü Ryan King – The Sentencing Project
- Ü Laleh Ispahani – American Civil Liberties Union
- Ü Renee Paradis – The Brennan Center for Justice
- Ü Kimberly Haven – Justice Maryland
- Ü Rev. Edward Hailes, Jr. - The Advancement Project

Verified Voting: Using Audits to Ensure Election Integrity Room 205

This panel will provide an overview of current and proposed audit laws, discuss principles of state-of-the-art audits and strategies for how to pass new audit laws or improve existing laws. Highlights from the first national audit summit, held just two weeks prior, will also be shared. Join us to learn about this rapidly evolving aspect of American elections and find out what you can do in your state or county to ensure audits get done (and done well).

- Ü Pam Smith – Verified Voting
- Ü Larry Norden – The Brennan Center for Justice
- Ü Mark Halvorson – Citizens for Election Integrity Minnesota
- Ü Ion Sancho – Supervisor of Elections Leon County, FL

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DC Voting Rights as a Modern Era Civil Rights Issue **Room 203**

Learn about the DC Voting Rights movement and how elements of race, class and prejudice have real effects on the fair treatment of DC residents.

- ü Eugene Kinlow – DC Vote
- ü Ilir Zherka – DC Vote
- ü Johnny Barnes – DC ACLU
- ü Anise Jenkins – Stand Up! For Democracy in DC Coalition

Election Day Registration: Stories From the Frontlines **Room 204**

Learn about the Election Day registration (EDR) movement. EDR is a reform that would allow eligible voters to register and vote on Election Day. The panel will discuss how EDR can benefit our election system and recent victories.

- ü Stuart Comstock-Gay - Demos
- ü Avi Green - MassVote
- ü Anthony Khamala – Democracy North Carolina

Language, Citizenship and Voting **Room 210**

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed for a twenty-five year extension in 2006. This panel will discuss the renewed and restored provisions of the VRA and how they can be used to benefit disenfranchised language minority voters.

- ü Bob Kengle – Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- ü Sandy Wayland – Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition
- ü James Tucker – American Civil Liberties Union

Presidential Election Reform in Primaries: A Rational Schedule **Room 202**

Why does America lack any coherent policy for nominating presidential candidates? How did we end up here, and what options are available to get us out of this mess and establish a rational schedule? Meanwhile, states looking for real influence are defying party rules and setting off politically dangerous internecine battles over the election of our nation's most powerful office. This panel will discuss these salient issues that plague the modern presidential election process.

- ü *Moderator:* Ryan O’Donnell - FairVote
- ü Libby Benton – Office of Sander Levin
- ü Kate Nilan - Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar
- ü Kay Stimson - National Association of Secretaries of State
- ü Lou Jacobson - *Roll Call*
- ü Pamela Prah – stateline.org
- ü Hon. Kumar Barve - Maryland House of Delegates, Majority Leader

Public Financing of Elections: Voice of the Voter **Window Lounge**

Learn about the public financing of elections movement and important new opportunities to win reform nationally and redefine Americans' understanding of the impact of campaign finance reform.

- ü Nick Nyhart - Public Campaign
- ü Jeannette Galinas – Public Campaign
- ü Dan Weeks – Americans for Campaign Reform
- ü Ian Storrar – Democracy Matters

Ballot Access Fusion Voting and Open Debates: **Room 111**
A Voter Choice Agenda

Many states' laws are very restrictive regarding entry of third parties and independent candidates onto the ballot. Other laws narrow voters' options. With several speakers directly involved in efforts to expand voter choice, this panel will discuss several ways to broaden voter choices during an election.

- ü William Redpath – Libertarian Party Chair
- ü Mark Brunswick – APRI-Delaware
- ü Brent McMillan – Green Party
- ü George Farah – Open Debates
- ü Shilpi Niyogi – Unity 08

Beyond Elections: Building a Deep Democracy Movement **Room 112**

Most Americans have serious reservations about the purity of voting as a democratic process. This panel will discuss the challenge of creating a movement that will expand and deepen the notion of elections and democracy itself. They will discuss forging organizational alliances, unification of the effort, and attempt to design a coherent political strategy capable of creating new political openings and generating the political power necessary for a sustained political process of democratic change.

- ü David Cobb – Liberty Tree
- ü Patrick Barrett – Liberty Tree
- ü Brandon Lacy Campos – Liberty Tree

Voting Rights: Immigrants & Citizens of Territories **Room 113**

The focus of the panel is “non-citizen citizenship” – perspectives on immigrant/non-citizen political participation, particularly regarding the lack of voting rights, and thus, political power. Each panelist will describe their organization's focus and approach. They will discuss the efforts to restore and expand local voting rights across the country and in the territories, specifically in Connecticut, Takoma Park, Boston, and in local school elections.

- ü Ron Hayduk – Immigrant Voting Project
- ü Hon. Jamin Raskin – Maryland State Senator
- ü Joyce Hamilton-Henry – Democracy Works
- ü Orlando Vidal – Attorney, Sullivan & Worcester LLP
- ü Danny Solis – Chicago City Council Member
- ü Felix Arroyo – Boston City Council Member

NOON – 1:15 PM – LUNCH AND TABLING

Avoid the lines! A limited number of Potbelly sandwiches and drinks will be available for \$5 in the auditorium. See page 63 for a listing of the local eateries.

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

Auditorium

PLENARY: New Victories and New Challenges in 2008-2009

The 2008 election presents new challenges for a fair voting process and could set the stage for advances in states and in Congress in 2009. How can reformers best seize the moment?

- Ü *Moderator:* Kristen Clarke – NAACP Legal Defense Fund
- Ü Krist Novoselic – Washington Voters Association
- Ü Hon. Deborah Markowitz – Vermont Secretary of State
- Ü Josh Silver – Free Press
- Ü Miles Rapoport – Demos
- Ü Deborah Goldberg – The Brennan Center for Justice
- Ü Jonah Goldman – Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

2:45 pm – 4:00 pm – CONCURRENT ISSUE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

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Universal Registration: The Ideal and Steps in its Direction Auditorium

Learn about the international model of universal voter registration and ideas for advancing in its direction in the United States.

- Ü George Pillsbury – Nonprofit Voter Engagement Network
- Ü Renee Paradis – The Brennan Center for Justice
- Ü Adam Fogel – FairVote
- Ü Gary Kalman – U.S. PIRG
- Ü Michael Caudell-Feagan – Pew Charitable Trusts

The NVRA & Voter Engagement: From Registration to the Polls Room 208

The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) - the “motor voter” law – requires that voter registration be offered at motor vehicle departments and that states provide voter registration services at public assistance agencies such as those that administer Food Stamps and Medicaid. While most states have created effective programs for motor vehicle department registration, recent research suggests that states across the country are failing to offer voter registration at public assistance agencies. As a result, millions of low-income citizens remain unregistered.

- Ü Winnett Hagens – Democracy South
- Ü Ellynee Bannon – New Voters Project
- Ü Scott Novakowski – Demos

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Voter Protection 2008**Room 203**

Widespread voter turnout is vital to the success of a representative democracy, yet American voter turnout is very low in the United States. This panel will discuss their work, in anticipation for the 2008 election cycle, to protect voters who are being disenfranchised by illegal and deceptive practices.

- Ü Rev. Eddie Hailes, Jr. – Advancement Project
- Ü Jonah Goldman – Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights
- Ü Michele Lawrence Jawando – People for the American Way

Media Reform Policy in Congress**Room 112**

Over the next months, several ongoing media policy debates will determine what information will – and will not – reach the American public. Policies will decide whether the Internet will grow as a platform for free speech and economic growth, or whether a few cable and phone companies will erect tollbooths to censor content. We will discuss these policies that will determine the future of critical journalism and independent voices that are required for a participatory democracy.

- Ü Mary Alice Crim – Free Press
- Ü Josh Silver – Free Press

National Popular Vote for President: Equal Vote for All**Room 204**

Under the United States’ unique law for presidential elections, candidates can win the presidency while losing the popular vote, and most states are virtually ignored in electing our one national office. But that may all change by 2012 due to an exciting new proposal that is being debated in all 50 states.

- Ü *Moderator:* Gautam Dutta - New America Foundation
- Ü Ryan O’Donnell – FairVote
- Ü Hon. Jamin Raskin – Maryland State Senator
- Ü Pam Wilmot – Common Cause Massachusetts
- Ü Torrey Dixon – FairVote North Carolina

Reforming the Voting Engine: Instant Runoff & Proportional Voting**Room 201**

Instant runoff voting & proportional voting present profound opportunities to transform American elections, yet also can be implemented in more modest forms that simply provide common-sense solutions to problems with redistricting, large field primary races and low turnout runoffs. This panel will discuss all options and the remarkable progress that has been made to implement them.

- Ü *Moderator:* Hon. David Segal – Rhode Island State Representative
- Ü Steven Hill – New America Foundation
- Ü David Moon – FairVote
- Ü Dr. Barbara Klein – League of Women Voters of Arizona
- Ü Paula Lee – Californians for Electoral Reform

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Local Democracy: Citizen Initiatives & Referenda **Room 210**
Voting Rights and Municipal Foreign Policy

The movement toward "Municipal Foreign Policy" -- local communities taking action on national and foreign policy initiatives -- is on the rise. In addition, there has been an increase in the use of local citizen initiatives and referenda. These trends are linked. The municipal and county level is the closest to the people, offering the most direct and participatory form of democracy, and is made up of the most demographically diverse and progressive elected officials in the US. The potential is ripe for positive change at the local level.

- Ü Karen Dolan – Cities for Progress/Cities for Peace
- Ü Ben Manski – Liberty Tree

Redistricting Reform: Practical Steps toward Reform **Room 202**

Many people perceive redistricting as one of the most complicated enigmas of modern electoral politics. This panel will unravel the issue and discuss what is being done and proposed to reform this process at the state and national level.

- Ü *Moderator:* Ed Davis – Common Cause
- Ü Ben Wilcox - Common Cause Florida
- Ü Michael McDonald – Brookings Institution & George Mason University
- Ü Jeff Wice – Redistricting attorney
- Ü Peter Wagner – Prison Policy Initiative
- Ü Catherine Turcer – Ohio Citizen Action
- Ü Carling Dinker – Office of Congressman John Tanner
- Ü Steven Ochoa – William C. Velasquez Institute

Technology: Friend or Foe of Elections? Transparent Integrity **Room 205**
and Voter Misdirection

The use of technology to improve the administration of elections has certain benefits but also creates potential problems for ensuring the integrity of each vote. This panel will discuss the problems associated with technological development and their work to protect each vote.

- Ü *Moderator:* John Gideon – Voters Unite
- Ü Lillie Coney – National Committee on Voting Integrity
- Ü Stefan Popoveniuc – George Washington University
- Ü John Bonifaz – Voter Action
- Ü Ion Sancho – Supervisor of Elections Leon County, FL

Initiative and Referendum as a Tool For Reform: Efforts to Expand and Defend it **Room 111**

Twenty-four states allow direct citizen participation in the making of state laws through the initiative process. Expansion of this citizen right to other states has been difficult, usually requiring the acquiescence of the state legislature and amendment of the state constitution. Recently the ability of citizens to enact or block legislation at the polls has come under increasing attack from both legislatures and the courts. This session will review both current expansion efforts and potential threats to restrict existing citizen access to the process.

- ü Paul Jacob – Citizens in Charge
- ü Eric Ehst – Arizona Clean Elections

Voter ID and the Supreme Court: What's At Stake? **Room 113**

With the U.S. Supreme Court reviewing Indiana's photo ID law this term, voting rights advocates are asking what the implications could be across the country. A distinguished panel of experts will tackle this question and discuss the next steps for protecting access to the polls for traditionally disenfranchised voters.

- ü David Becker – People for the American Way
- ü Larry Norden – The Brennan Center for Justice
- ü Linda Brown – Arizona Advocacy Network
- ü Bob Kengle – Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

New York: Fusion, Nonpartisan Election and Conflicts Between Voter Rights and Party Rights **Room 110**

New York State has a long history with fusion voting – with candidates able to receive the nomination of more than one party. New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg is a leading proponent of a competing proposal: nonpartisan elections. Attorney Kresky will address the broader implications of this New York debate.

- ü Harry Kresky – Committee for a Unified Independent Party

4:15 pm - 5:45 pm – PLENARY **Auditorium**

Democracy 2020: Looking to the Future

What are elements of the big picture for the future of our democracy?

- ü *Moderator:* Malia Lazu – The Gathering
- ü Steven Hill, New America Foundation
- ü David Cobb, Liberty Tree
- ü Nick Nyhart, Public Campaign
- ü Ray Martinez, Former Election Assistance Commission Vice-Chair
- ü Scott Heiferman, CEO of MeetUp.com

7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

FAIRVOTE'S 15th ANNIVERSARY GALA (Washington's Union Station)

Tickets are \$125 for this dinner to celebrate FairVote's anniversary and honor its board chairman, John B Anderson. See conference organizers wearing Red Staff Ribbons for details. A limited number of tickets are still available.

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7:00pm - 9:45pm – FILM FESTIVAL **Rooms 201 and 205**

Enjoy an evening of film and discussion of films, with several documentary filmmakers on hand to introduce excerpts from their work, including:

- *Uncounted* – David Earnhardt
- *Election Day* – Katy Chevigny
- *Call It Democracy* – Matt Kohn
- Special Presentation by Why Tuesday?
- *Dan Rather Reports: The Trouble with Touchscreens*

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Sunday November 11, 2007

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Room 201
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Registration and Coffee

9:00 am – 9:30 am	Room 201
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Morning welcome and Goals of the Day

9:30 am – 4:00 pm	Room 205
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Ranked Voting Intensive Training (closed)

Ranked voting methods – instant runoff voting and choice voting -- hold great promise as an electoral reform that could foster more positive, issues-based campaigns while increasing voter choice and engagement. Learn the A-Z about ranked choice from the experts the experts go to. From messaging strategies to implementation best practices and case studies, this all-day training session is designed to leave you ready and excited to advocate for change in your community! *Note: Space is limited. Please contact conference organizers by Saturday if interested in attending this all-day workshop.*

9:30 am – 11:00 am – Workshops: Tools for Change

Making Change Happen: Citizen’s Initiatives and Direct Lobbying	Room 201
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The individual voter’s role in democracy is essential to its success and each voter has more tools to contribute at their disposal than ever before. This workshop of leading practioners will discuss the powers of the modern activist, and two major tools for winning reform: ballot measures and direct lobbying of elected officials.

- ü Oliver Griswold – Ballot Initiative Strategy Center
- ü Jennifer Frye – Democracy North Carolina
- ü Chase Foster – North Carolina Voters for Clean Elections
- ü Dan Johnson-Weinberger – Progressive Public Affairs
- ü Robert Brown – Opportunity Maine

Voting Rights: Litigation & Community Engagement	Room 204
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Americans have been fighting to expand and protect voting rights ever since our nation’s founding. This panel will discuss the interplay between legal and political work to protect voting rights and on partnerships between national organizations and state-based community groups.

- ü Kristen Clarke – NAACP Legal Defense
- ü Meredith Bell-Platts – American Civil Liberties Union

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Mobilizing Electorate: From Campus Activism to Online Organizing

Room 202

The Internet is providing an increasing number of options for activists to organize people around their effort. Students are an especially attractive group for mobilizing efforts using new Internet mechanisms. This panel will discuss election mobilization and student involvement.

- ü *Moderator:* David B. Smith – Mobilize.org
- ü Matthew Segal – Student Association for Voter Empowerment
- ü Ellynn Bannon – Student PIRGs' New Voter Project
- ü Daryn Cambridge – Democracy Matters
- ü Ian Storrar – Common Cause

Using Documentaries and YouTube to Support Reform

Room 208

The voters' ability to influence the public has increased as the Internet and computer technology has matured. This trend has important ramifications for many movements for reform. With filmmakers whose work was featured Saturday evening on hand, this panel will discuss how reform movements can benefit from the ready availability of visual outlets to supporters.

- ü Enrico Cullen – Arts Engine, Inc.
- ü Jacob Soboroff – Why Tuesday?
- ü Matt Kohn – Filmmaker, *Call it Democracy*

How to Make Election Law Relevant: Framing the Issue to Unite Reformers from a Variety of Disciplines

Room 203

Many voters, especially those who are regularly disenfranchised because of their race or socio-economic status, are skeptical about if and how reforms in the election process might make the promise of equal access to political power real and elections meaningful for them. In this session we will discuss overt and subtle voter disenfranchisement and civic alienation and how they erode our faith in our fundamental democratic rights. We will then share strategies based on real-life examples of how to frame these issues to build broad coalitions that will work together to campaign for electoral reform issues.

- ü Margo Alpert – Illinois Campaign for Political Reform
- ü George Friday – Independent Progressive Political Network

11:15am – 12:00pm – PLENARY

Room 201

Town Meeting: Putting it All Together & Working for Change

12:00pm – 1pm LUNCH

A limited number of Potbelly sandwiches and drinks will be available for \$5. See page 63 for a listing of the local eateries.

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1:00 pm – 2:30 pm – WORKSHOPS: Advancing Reforms

Voting Equipment Security Warren Stewart – Verified Voting	Room 201
Voting Rights and Democracy for Washington, D.C. DC Vote	Room 202
Public Financing of Elections Dan Weeks – Americans for Campaign Reform	Room 205

Organizational Sponsors and Supporters

Advancement Project

www.advancementproject.org

Advancement Project is a policy, communications and legal action group committed to racial and social justice. To dismantle structural exclusion, Advancement Project partners with community organizations bringing them the tools of legal advocacy and strategic communications. Their two-plane implementation theory allows the organization to operate locally, directly contributing hands-on support, while working national to broadly extend the practice of community-centered racial justice. Advancement Project's diversely skilled staff enables them to make contributions across the country.

American Civil Liberties Union

www.aclu.org

ACLU is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that has grown from a roomful of civil liberties activists to an organization of more than 500,000 members and supporters. It handles nearly 6,000 court cases annually from our offices in almost every state. The ACLU has maintained the position that civil liberties must be respected, even in times of national emergency. It works also to extend rights to segments of our population that have traditionally been denied their rights, including Native Americans and other people of color; lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people; women; mental-health patients; prisoners; people with disabilities; and the poor. It believes that if the rights of society's most vulnerable members are denied, everybody's rights are imperiled.

Arizona Advocacy Network

www.azadvocacy.org

The Arizona Advocacy Network promotes social, economic, racial and environmental justice by connecting and building power among activists and leaders in those fields, and by leading efforts for electoral justice and increased civic participation. Arizona Advocacy Network works directly to promote protecting and improving citizen access to voting, defending and promoting public financing of campaigns for political office at all levels, ensuring viable accuracy of voting machines, protecting the right to initiative and referendum, promoting instant runoff voting and working to increase the number of competitive elections.

Ballot Initiative Strategy Center

www.ballot.org

The Ballot Initiative Strategy Center (BISC) was launched five years ago to reinvigorate the initiative process among state and national progressive organizations by providing education, training, and research so that a wide range of ideologically progressive groups can use the process more effectively to fight for social, environmental, and economic justice. BISC Foundation, the organization's 501c3 educational arm, tracks ballot measure developments, contributions to ballot measure campaigns and trains people to work on ballot

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initiatives. By developing major infrastructure, building efforts in research, training and consulting, BISC has become the premier organization to help progressives have an effective ballot initiative strategy.

The Brennan Center for Justice

www.brennancenter.org

The Brennan Center for Justice is a non-partisan public policy and law institute that focuses on the fundamental issues of democracy and justice. The Center's work ranges from voting rights to redistricting reform, from access to the courts to presidential power in the fight against terrorism. A single institution - part think tank, part public interest law firm, part advocacy group - the Brennan Center combines scholarship, legislative and legal advocacy, and communications to win meaningful, measurable change in the public sector. Along with Justice Brennan, the Center believes that a "living constitution" is the genius of American law and politics - and that the test of our institutions is the ability to apply timeless values to a changing world.

Californians for Electoral Reform

www.cfer.org

Californians for Election Reform (Cfer) is a nonpartisan coalition of Californians who believe that all citizens deserve equal and satisfactory representation in government. The organization works to promote and implement voting methods that fulfill this right as much as possible. Their main reforms are instant runoff voting and proportional representation. In 2002 Cfer supported a successful campaign for instant runoff voting in San Francisco, and it continues to support IRV and proportional voting in local and student elections across the state.

The Campaign Legal Center

www.camlc.org

The Campaign Legal Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that works in the areas of campaign finance and elections, political communication and government ethics. The Legal Center offers nonpartisan analyses of issues and represents the public interest in administrative, legislative and legal proceedings. The Legal Center also participates in generating and shaping our nation's policy debate about money in politics, disclosure, political advertising, and enforcement issues before the Congress, the Federal Communications Commission, Federal Election Commission and the Internal Revenue Service.

Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest

www.clpi.org

Citizen participation is the essence of democracy, and nonprofit organizations are one of the most effective vehicles for engaging people in the democratic process. Lobbying is an important activity that nonprofits can undertake to achieve their missions and foster democracy. Through lobbying, nonprofit volunteers and staff provide vital expertise and perspectives to federal, state and local government decision-makers, resulting in better law and policy. These beliefs and the need to preserve them led to CLPI's founding in 1998.

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The Century Foundation**www.tcf.org**

The Century Foundation, founded in 1919 by the progressive businessman Edward A. Filene, is a nonprofit public policy research institution committed to the belief that a mix of effective government, open democracy, and free markets is the most effective solution to the major challenges facing the United States. Our staff, fellows, and contract authors produce publications and participate in events that explain and analyze public issues in plain language, provide facts and opinions about the strengths and weaknesses of different policy strategies, and develop and call to attention distinctive ideas that can work.

Cities for Progress**www.citiesforprogress.org**

Cities for Progress is a project of the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C. The organization is a growing network of locally-elected officials and community-based activists working together for social change. Cities for Progress is a network that incorporates local, national and global approaches to issues that affect us in our own communities. Following in the footsteps of Cities for Peace local resolutions prior to the Iraq war in which almost 200 cities and towns expressed their concerns about local costs of such a war, Cities for Progress is taking on other issues including Universal Healthcare and opposing Wal-Mart expansion.

Citizens for Election Integrity Minnesota**www.ceimn.org**

Citizens for Election Integrity Minnesota (CEIMN) was formed shortly after the 2004 election. The initial focus was supporting the Ohio recount to which CEIMN sent nine volunteer observers from Minnesota. CEIMN advocates for accurate and transparent elections and specifically to promote robust post-election audits across the country. In 2006 CEIMN played a role in amending Minnesota's audit law. In 2006, CEIMN, along with the League of Women Voters Minnesota, coordinated the first statewide citizen led observation of a post-election audit, recruiting and training 208 citizens who observed in 70 counties.

Citizens in Charge**www.citizensincharge.org**

Citizens in Charge believes citizen control of government is essential for peace, prosperity and freedom and that the citizen initiative process is imperative for citizens to truly control their government. Citizens in Charge works with activists, legislators, media, opinion leaders and voters to protect the initiative & referendum process where it exists in 24 states and to expand the process to the 26 states where voters currently lack the initiative.

Common Cause**www.commoncause.org**

Common Cause is a non-partisan citizens' organization whose goal is to ensure open, honest, accountable and effective government at the federal, state, and local levels. Common Cause seeks, by sustained and focused lobbying campaigns, grassroots activities, and other efforts: to strengthen public participation and public faith in our institutions of self-government; to ensure that

government and the political process serve the general interest, rather than special interest; to curb the excessive influence of money on government decisions and elections; to promote fair and honest elections and high ethical standards for government officials; and to protect the civil rights and civil liberties of all Americans.

DC Vote

www.dcvote.org

DC Vote is a non-profit, non-partisan educational and advocacy organization whose mission is to secure full voting representation in Congress for more than half a million residents of the District of Columbia. DC Vote works closely with DC elected officials, community and opinion leaders, a coalition of national and local advocacy organizations, the media, and thousands of individual supporters to raise awareness about the denial of democracy to the people living in Washington, DC.

Democracy Matters

www.democracymatters.org

Democracy Matters is a non-profit, non-partisan national student organization working for the full public financing of election campaigns (Fair and Clean Elections) and other pro-democracy reforms. Democracy Matters offers a paid internship to students to organize Democracy Matters chapters on their campus and do grassroots organizing to increase political awareness and activism among college and high school students. Founded by NBA star, Adonal Foyle in 2001, Democracy Matters has established chapters on over 300 college campuses and high schools nationwide.

Democracy North Carolina

www.democracync.org

Democracy North Carolina's ultimate goal is a more vital democracy that fulfills the promise of "one person, one vote." Because voters should "own" the election process, Democracy North Carolina is committed to a range of campaign-finance reforms that improve disclosure of the flow of political money, protect the integrity of the election process, and provide voluntary public-financing programs that free candidates from the money-chase. In addition, we are committed to expanding voting rights and voter participation through structural and personal changes - e.g., by making voting more accessible (Election Day Registration, out-of-precinct voting, instant runoff voting, etc.) and by educating those not involved (youth, ex-felons, discouraged ex-voters, etc.) about the value of participation.

Democracy South

www.democracysouth.org

Democracy South is a non-partisan, non-profit regional network of state-based and regional organizations in the Southeast that is dedicated to helping build, strengthen, and link progressive, multi-issue, multi-racial coalitions that can address economic, social, and environmental justice issues at the state level, and to collaborate on regional strategies. It strives to accomplish this goal in large part by focusing on the core underlying issues of money-in-politics, and how wealthy special interests subvert the development of genuinely democratic institutions.

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Money and politics research and advocacy for real campaign reform represent fertile ground for coalition development and uniting diverse constituencies.

Demos: A Network for Ideas & Action

www.demos.org

Demos: A Network for Ideas & Action is a non-partisan public policy research and advocacy organization committed to building an America that achieves its highest democratic ideals. We believe this requires a democracy that is robust and inclusive; an economy where prosperity and opportunity are broadly shared and disparity is reduced; and a strong and effective public sector with the capacity to plan for the future and provide for the common good. The Democracy Program at Demos undertakes timely research, supports advocacy campaigns, engages in litigation and supports educational campaigns to advance a diverse and inclusive democracy reform movement across the U.S. We focus primarily on state-level reforms, where opportunities for policy change are most pronounced. Demos is particularly concerned about reform efforts that will lower barriers for populations that have historically been disfranchised from the political process.

Fair Election Legal Network

www.fairelectionsnetwork.org

The Fair Elections Legal Network (FELN) is a national, nonpartisan network of experienced private and organizational election lawyers. FELN lawyers work proactively to remove legal impediments to voter participation and promote laws or administrative decisions that grant broader participation in voting. FELN's activities include operating an online discussion where participants can address legal, process and litigation issues, serving as a clearinghouse for attorney referrals and contacts, creating and maintaining a database from which members of the Network can access contact information about lawyers, experts, and organizations as well as documents, including briefs and judicial and administrative decisions, convening discussions about legal theories, litigation strategy, and the relative merits of ongoing and cases and/or potential filings, and facilitating the exchange of information between lawyers representing different entities who are challenging obstacles to full voter participation.

FairVote

www.fairvote.org

FairVote is one of the leading national organizations acting to transform our elections to achieve secure and universal access to participation, a full spectrum of meaningful choices and majority rule with fair representation and a voice for all. Achieving our goals rests upon bold, but achievable reforms: a constitutionally protected right to vote, universal voter registration, robust civic education, a national popular vote for president, instant runoff voting for executive elections and proportional voting for legislative elections. As a reform catalyst, we develop and promote practical strategies to improve elections for local, state and national leaders.

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FairVote Minnesota**www.fairvotemn.org**

FairVote Minnesota works for better democracy through a unique focus on the voting system. We educate the public about the effect our voting system has on the quality of our democracy and about alternative voting systems that may improve public life. In particular, we examine qualities such as competitiveness, majority rule, representation, and participation. We advocate voting systems with a demonstrated record of success in producing these qualities. Such systems include instant runoff voting in single-winner elections and various forms of proportional representation in multi-winner elections for legislative bodies.

Free Press**www.freepress.net**

Free Press is a national, nonpartisan organization working to reform the media. Through education, organizing and advocacy, we promote diverse and independent media ownership, strong public media, and universal access to communications. We believe that a more democratic US media system will lead to better public policies at home and abroad. As our world becomes more and more interconnected, it is imperative that any kind of development takes into account basic environment, economic, and human rights, while defining corporate and personal responsibilities. Free Press considers information to be among the most important resources to any society. We strive to open up the media system to allow more diversity of opinion to be expressed, to present a broader perspective, and to increase the caliber of information available to everyday people. This, in turn, will lead to a more participatory and accountable government and to more sustainable policies and practices regarding national and global development.

Fund for Constitutional Government**www.epic.org/fcg**

The Fund for Constitutional Government is a publicly supported, charitable, nonprofit corporation established in 1974 to expose and correct corruption in the federal government and other major national institutions through research and public education. The Fund and its Board of Directors believe that this country's leaders and decision makers should be held to principles and standards set forth in the Constitution. The Fund for Constitutional Government seeks to expose instances of corruption which have a large public impact, have a precedent-setting value, and which, if rectified, will aid in preserving an open and accountable government.

Global Exchange**www.globalexchange.org**

Global Exchange envisions a people centered globalization that values the rights of workers and the health of the planet; that prioritizes international collaboration as central to ensure peace; and that aims to create a local, green economy designed to embrace the diversity of our communities. Global Exchange takes a holistic approach to creating change. With 20 years working for international human rights, the organization realizes that in order to advance social, environmental and economic justice we must transform the global economy from profit centered to people centered, from currency to community.

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Grassroots Leadership**www.grassrootsleadership.org**

Grassroots Leadership's goal is to put an end to abuses of justice and the public trust by working to abolish for-profit private prisons. Since 1980, its goal has been to help build the infrastructure for a progressive Southern movement, including the leaders, organizers, organizations, networks and coalitions that will make long-term positive change inevitable. Over the past 26 years, Grassroots Leadership has worked to accomplish this goal in three ways: by helping organizations become stronger so that they can meet the goals they set for themselves, by creating new organizations and by providing strategic space for Southern activists to work together on common issues and campaigns.

Illinois Campaign for Political Reform**www.ilcampaign.org**

The Illinois Campaign for Political Reform (ICPR) is a non-profit, non-partisan public interest group that works to reduce the influence of money in politics and to promote integrity, accountability, transparency and public participation in government through a multilateral approach of media outreach, public education, original research, public education, coalition-building, litigation and advocacy. Founded in 1997 by the late U.S. Senator Paul Simon and former Illinois Lieutenant Governor Bob Kustra, ICPR endeavors to facilitate dialogue between members of the public, legislators, the nonprofit and policy communities, academics and the media on a wide range of government reform issues. ICPR was the first group in the nation to put state-level campaign finance reports into a searchable, on-line database. The group is frequently acknowledged by Illinois, national, and international media as key resource for Illinois politics and government.

The Immigrant Voting Project**www.immigrantvoting.org**

The Immigrant Voting Project is a resource network dedicated to promoting discussion about the practice of allowing immigrants to vote in local elections – referred to as "resident voting" – as an innovative way to promote civic participation. It also promotes responsibility among incipient Americans and better educates and prepares them for eventual citizenship. The project gives voice to one of the last disenfranchised segments of the population and to increase government accountability in communities with large immigrant populations.

Independent Progressive Politics Network**www.ippn.org**

The Independent Progressive Politics Network (IPPN) is composed of organizations and individuals committed to the achievement of a national, non-sectarian, independent progressive political party, or an alliance of such parties, as an alternative to the corporate-controlled, Democratic/Republican system. IPPN's goal is the transformation of this country through the unity of its peoples in active opposition to racism, sexism, homophobia, economic class exploitation, age discrimination and all other forms of oppression and discrimination.

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Organizations that join the IPPN maintain their independence while coordinating with other IPPN groups to the extent they find appropriate.

Institute for Policy Studies

www.ipsdc.org

For more than four decades, IPS has transformed ideas into action for peace, justice, and the environment. The Institute has strengthened and linked social movements through articulation of root principles and fundamental rights, research and analysis on current events and issues, and connections to policymakers, academics, and activists at all levels. As a multi-issue think tank that has worked with the movements that shaped the late 20th Century, from Civil Rights onwards, we offer a cross-cutting analysis with a historical perspective.

Justice at Stake

www.justiceatstake.org

Justice at Stake is a nonpartisan campaign working to keep our courts fair and impartial. Justice at Stake Campaign partners educate the public and work for reforms to keep politics and special interests out of the courtroom—so judges can do their job protecting our Constitution, our rights and the rule of law.

Liberty Tree: Foundation for Democratic Revolution

www.libertytreefdr.org

The Liberty Tree Foundation for the Democratic Revolution is a nonprofit organization rooted in the belief that the American Revolution is a living tradition whose greatest promise is democracy. The Foundation is a fellowship of organizers, lawyers, and scholars, providing support to pro-democracy campaigns in the form of policy research, publications, legal assistance, consultative services, and the convening of pro-democracy organizers.

MassVote

www.massvote.org

Founded in 1999, MassVOTE (“The Massachusetts Voter Education Network”) is a non-partisan voting rights organization whose urban voter mobilization model works with non-profit organizations to increase voter education and turnout. In addition, MassVOTE’s electoral reform agenda seeks to eliminate voter participation barriers, especially among communities of color, language minorities, low-income individuals, youths, new Americans and the disabled.

Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition

www.reformcoalition.org

The Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition (MDERC) is a non-partisan grass-roots organization dedicated to election reform. Our mission is to protect the rights of every eligible voter to cast a ballot and to have that ballot accurately recorded and counted. We are neither liberal nor conservative, Republican or Democrat. We will not be co-opted by partisan agendas, political strategies or candidate or issue-driven interests. If you do not agree with this, we are not the group for you. In May of 2005 MDERC published a groundbreaking report on poll-closing observations, ballot accounting, and electronic security from the

November 2004 election known as Get It Right the First Time. This report exposed serious weaknesses in the conduct of elections in Miami-Dade and led to a greater understanding and evaluation of a voting system that had become technical and complex.

Montgomery County Progressive Alliance www.mcprogressivealliance.blogspot.com

The Montgomery County Progressive Alliance works to advance equal and civil rights, clean and safe communities, high quality health care and education, secure retirement, freedom, fairness and opportunity for all. MCPA demands fair and unbiased media to counter the right-wing corporate media. MCPA researches and formulates policy, supports causes and organizes events, fundraisers, and campaigns to advance its ideals. In cooperation and coordination with other organizations and the grassroots, MCPA works with and pressures local and national politicians and media by organizing and leading protests, lobbying and public education efforts.

National Popular Vote www.nationalpopularvote.com

National Popular Vote Inc. is a non-profit organization with the specific purpose to study, analyze and educate the public regarding its proposal to implement a nationwide popular election of the President of the United States.

New America Foundation www.newamerica.net

Working at both the national level and in California, New America's Political Reform Program acts as a catalyst for meaningful reforms that update our 18th century political institutions and modernize them for the 21st century. Through an integrated program of research, constituency-building and public education, the Political Reform Program promotes the following solutions: instant runoff voting, proportional voting, campaign finance reform, redistricting reform, universal voter registration and other reforms.

Ohio Citizen Action www.ohiocitizen.org

Ohio Citizen Action's vision is a democratic society based on principles of social justice and cultural and racial diversity that involves ever-greater numbers of people in the public decisions that shape their lives. Ohio Citizen Action concentrates on running and winning good neighbor campaigns, but also finds practical ways for members to make the most of whatever time they can spare: signing petitions, writing letters, making phone calls, talking to neighbors, or speaking out at community meetings. In addition, its *Money in Politics* project analyzes the role of big money in Ohio elections.

¿Oíste? www.oiste.net

¿Oíste?, the Massachusetts Latino Political Organization was founded in 1999 by several Latino activists from across the state who were concerned about the lack of Latino political representation and participation in Massachusetts. The

purpose of ¿Oíste? is to build a solid, educated and participatory electoral base of Latinos, active in civic and electoral processes at the federal, state, and local levels. At the heart of this effort is a deeply held belief in the importance of direct involvement by Latinos in the development of the public programs and policies that shape the context for the future of the community in the Commonwealth.

Open Debates

www.opendebates.org

Open Debates works to ensure that the presidential debates serve the American people first. Open Debates is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to reforming the presidential debate process. Currently, the presidential debates are secretly controlled by the major parties, through the private bipartisan corporation called the Commission on Presidential Debates, resulting in the stultification of format, the exclusion of popular candidates, and the avoidance of pressing national issues. The major party candidates never pay a political price for their antidemocratic practices; posing as an independent sponsor, the Commission on Presidential Debates shields the major party candidates from public criticism and public accountability. Open Debates is launching simultaneous campaigns to inform the public, the news media and policy makers about the fundamental problems with the bipartisan Commission on Presidential Debates. It is also promoting an alternative presidential debate sponsor - the nonpartisan Citizens' Debate Commission - comprised of national civic leaders committed to maximizing voter education.

People for the American Way

www.pfaw.org

People for the American Way is an energetic advocate for the values and institutions that sustain a diverse democratic society. Many of these are now threatened by the influence of the radical right and its allies who have risen to positions of political power. Our most fundamental rights and freedoms – and even our basic constitutional framework – are at risk. People For the American Way works in close collaboration with other leading national and state progressive organizations to mobilize Americans at this defining moment in our history.

Poverty & Race Research Action Council

www.prrac.org

The Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) is a civil rights policy organization convened by major civil rights, civil liberties, and anti-poverty groups in 1989-90. PRRAC's primary mission is to help connect advocates with social scientists working on race and poverty issues, and to promote a research-based advocacy strategy on structural inequality issues. PRRAC sponsors social science research, provides technical assistance, and convenes advocates and researchers around particular race and poverty issues. PRRAC also supports public education efforts, including the bimonthly newsletter/journal *Poverty & Race*, and the award-winning civil rights history curriculum guide, *Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching* (co-published with Teaching for Change).

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The Praxis Project**www.thepraxisproject.org**

The Praxis Project is a national, nonprofit organization that builds partnerships with local groups to influence policymaking to address the underlying, systemic causes of community problems. Committed to closing the health gap facing communities of color, the project forges alliances for building healthy communities. Praxis trains partner organizations and provides research, technical assistance and financial support to tackle issues impacting the well-being of communities. In recent years, national and local policymaking has focused on the punishment and surveillance of individuals – disproportionately affecting the poor, the disenfranchised and people of color.

Prison Policy Initiative**www.prisonpolicy.org**

The non-profit, non-partisan Prison Policy Initiative documents the disastrous impact of mass incarceration on individuals, communities, and the national welfare. We produce accessible and innovative research to empower the public to participate in creating better criminal justice policy. A particular focus is the problem of incarcerated people being counted for the purposes of reapportionment where they are imprisoned rather than their home.

Progressive States Network**www.progressivestates.org**

Progressive States Network aims to transform the political landscape by sparking progressive actions at the state level. Founded in 2005, the group provides coordinated research and strategic advocacy tools to state legislators and their staffs, empowering these decision-makers with everything they need to engineer forward-thinking change. Progressive States also works with non-profits and a variety of constituent groups to build a swath of support for coordinated progressive policy. The overarching goals: to get good policy passed into law and change the way issues are debated in the states.

Public Campaign**www.publiccampaign.org**

Public Campaign is a national educational and advocacy organization dedicated to advancing the values of fairness, equality, accountability and common sense in elections by promoting public financing of political campaigns. Public Campaign is laying the foundation for sweeping reform by working with partner organizations that are fighting for change at the state and local level and national organizations whose members are not fairly represented under the current electoral system. Together we are building a national network of efforts to win fundamental campaign reform and empower voters within the political process.

ReclaimDemocracy.org**www.reclaimdemocracy.org**

ReclaimDemocracy.org is a national, non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to building democracy through education, activism, and collaboration. Relevant issues include corporate crime and personhood, election financing and

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integrity, establishing a constitutional right to vote, media reform, ethical consumption, globalization, corporatization, and citizen rights.

The Sentencing Project

www.sentencingproject.org

The Sentencing Project is a national organization working for a fair and effective criminal justice system by promoting reforms in sentencing law and practice, and alternatives to incarceration. Since its founding in 1986, The Sentencing Project has become a leader in the effort to bring national attention to disturbing trends and inequities in the criminal justice system with a successful formula that includes the publication of groundbreaking research, aggressive media campaigns and strategic advocacy for policy reform. As a result of The Sentencing Project's efforts many people know that this country is the world's leader in incarceration, that one in three young black men is under control of the criminal justice system, that five million Americans can't vote because of felony convictions, and that thousands of women and children have lost welfare, education and housing benefits as the result of convictions for minor drug offenses.

Southern Coalition for Social Justice

The Southern Coalition for Social Justice is a new North-Carolina based organization headed by Anita Earls, former deputy in the civil rights vision of the U.S. Justice Department.

Southwest Voter Research and Education Project

The Southwest Voter Registration Education Project was founded in 1974 by William C. Velásquez and a group of fellow Mexican-American political activists to ensure the voting rights of their people in the Southwest and thereby provide them "meaningful political participation," a prerogative that they had largely been denied before the mid-1960s. SVREP was chartered as a politically nonpartisan organization pledged solely to be an advocate for the functionally disfranchised. With such a commitment, it allied itself with the civil-rights movement to overturn segregation in the state.

Stand Up! for Democracy in DC Coalition

www.freedc.org

Stand Up!/FreeDC is a grass-roots organization consisting of individual citizens, local organizations, groups and churches formed in 1997 when the U.S. Congress took over the powers of the local government in Washington, DC, the nations capital. Its mission is to obtain full democracy for all residents of the District of Columbia with equal rights under the Constitution and Human Rights consistent with international law, and to promote good governance for the welfare of the people. It protests that District of Columbia has been stripped of too many of its rights to govern itself and are currently residing under a condition of "taxation without representation."

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TrueVote Maryland**www.truevotemd.org**

TrueVote is a non-partisan group of citizens dedicated to preserving the integrity of our elections. TrueVote argues that, in their nature, computers are inherently subject to programming error, equipment malfunction, and malicious tampering. To ensure transparent, fair elections and to ensure voter confidence, our voting system must provide a voter-verified paper audit trail. TrueVote works to ensure the accurate recording of each vote, realize the possibility of manual recounts and create a viable audit trail to verify computer tallies.

U.S. PIRG**www.uspirg.org**

U.S. PIRG, the federation of state Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs), takes on powerful interests on behalf of the American public, working to win concrete results for our health and our well-being. With a strong network of researchers, advocates, organizers and students in state capitols and population centers across the country, PIRGs stand up to powerful special interests on issues to promote clean air and water, protect open space, stop identity theft, fight political corruption, provide safe and affordable prescription drugs, and strengthen voting rights.

Verified Voting Foundation**www.verifiedvotingfoundation.org**

The Verified Voting Foundation is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization championing reliable and publicly verifiable elections. Founded by Stanford University Computer Science Professor David Dill, the organization supports a requirement for voter-verified paper ballots (VVPBs) on electronic voting machines allowing voters to verify individual permanent records of their ballots and election officials to conduct meaningful recounts. The Verified Voting Foundation is the recognized leader of the nationwide grassroots movement for VVPBs and verifiable elections. We seek to reclaim our elections for the public domain, controlled by the voters and not by private interests.

Voter Action**www.voteraction.org**

Voter Action is a national non-profit organization engaging in legal advocacy, research, and public education to ensure election integrity in the United States. We protect an open and transparent election process, one in which our elections at the federal, state, and local levels are accessible and verifiable. Electronic voting machines used in the most recent elections are deeply flawed. Voter Action supports the basic civil and political rights of all voters to cast their ballots in an independent manner and to have to their votes accurately recorded and counted.

The White House Project**www.thewhitehouseproject.org**

The White House Project, a national, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization, aims to advance women's leadership in all communities and sectors, up to the U.S. presidency. By filling the leadership pipeline with a richly diverse, critical mass of women, the project makes American institutions, businesses and

government truly representative. Through multi-platform programs, the White House Project creates a culture where America's most valuable untapped resource—women—can succeed in all realms.

William C. Velásquez Institute

www.wcvi.org

The William C. Velásquez Institute (WCVI) is a tax-exempt, non-profit, non-partisan organization chartered in 1985. The purpose of WCVI is to conduct research aimed at improving the level of political and economic participation in Latino and other underrepresented communities. WCVI holds a unique position among national Latino organizations. In its tradition of working with grassroots organizations, academic institutions and local elected officials, WCVI fills the gap between intellectual think tanks and community groups. WCVI conducts research in selected areas of concentration and follows up the implementation stages: WCVI translates ideas into research, research into education, education into policy advocacy and policy advocacy into action. WCVI was created: to provide information to Latino leaders and the public about the needs of their constituents, the impact of policy and the opinions and behaviors of the public.

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

www.wisdc.org

The Wisconsin Democracy Campaign (WDC) is a homegrown network of citizens fighting government corruption and working for voter-owned elections, media democracy, fair and impartial justice, election integrity, government transparency and truth in campaigning. The Democracy Campaign pursues these objectives through research, citizen education, community outreach, coalition building and direct advocacy. WDC was founded in 1995 as a non-profit, independent coalition of individuals and groups responding to the growing dominance of special interest money in the campaigns of state lawmakers.

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Speaker Biographies

Betty Ahrens

Executive Director Iowa Citizen Action / Midwest States Center

Betty Ahrens, Executive Director of Iowa Citizen Action Network (ICAN) is responsible for the overall direction of the organization including financial management, staff supervision, affiliate relations and strategic planning. ICAN is Iowa's largest grassroots consumer and environmental watchdog organization, with more than 13,000 individual members across the state. ICAN is also an alliance of community, religious, labor, senior, farm, environmental and civil rights organizations - a coalition that is working together to raise the living standards and improve the quality of life for all people in Iowa.

Margo Alpert

Legal Counsel, Illinois Campaign for Political Reform

As Legal Counsel and Judicial Program Manager for the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform (ICPR), Margo Alpert is responsible for monitoring Illinois' judicial elections, coordinating and implementing ICPR's judicial reform strategies and guiding the Supreme Court Public Financing initiative. Margo also serves as legal counsel for ICPR litigation and administrative complaints. Margo's prior work experience includes the Federal Election Commission, the U.S. Department of State, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, as well as several non-profit and advocacy organizations. Margo holds a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School and a B.A. in International Relations from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Margo is a member of the Chicago Bar Association Election Law committee and currently serves on the Board of Governors of the Chicago Council of Lawyers and the Board of Directors of Camp Young Judaea-Midwest.

John Anderson Independent Presidential Candidate and Chair, FairVote

Former United States Congressman from Illinois John B. Anderson received 6 million votes as an independent candidate for president in 1980 after two decades of service in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has served as chair of FairVote since 1996 after four years as chair of its Advisory Board. Mr. Anderson is an accomplished speaker: his recent media appearances include the BBC, NPR and C-SPAN among others, and he is a frequent lecturer and expert commentator on issues of electoral reform, United Nations reform, foreign affairs, American politics, and independent candidacies. He also writes regularly on the role of Congress in both domestic and international affairs.

Mr. Anderson has taught political science as a visiting professor at numerous universities, and served ten terms as U.S. Representative to Congress from the 16th District of Illinois. In Congress he served on the House Rules Committee and for a decade was in the House Republican leadership as Chairman

of the House Republican Conference. He served as States Attorney in Winnebago County, Illinois for four years. Mr. Anderson earned his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where his education was interrupted by enlistment in the army in 1943. Anderson served as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Field Artillery until the end of the war. Following his return, he continued his education to receive an LL.M. degree from Harvard Law School in 1949, and has since been awarded honorary doctorates of law from Wheaton College and Trinity College.

Felix Arroyo

Boston City Council Member

Felix D. Arroyo was sworn in as the first-ever Latino on the Boston City Council on January 6, 2003. In November 2003, Councilor Arroyo was reelected to a second term on the Boston City Council and he was re-elected to his third term in January 2005. Prior to serving on the City Council, Councilor Arroyo served as Director of Advocacy at HOPE (The Hispanic Office of Planning and Evaluation). He also served on the Boston School Committee for eight years, including as Vice-President for one year and as President for two years. His additional experience includes employment as the Education Advisor to Mayor Raymond Flynn and as Policy Advisor to U.S. Senator John F. Kerry. Councilor Arroyo has been the Executive Director for a number of local non-profit organizations and has taught at Springfield College in Boston, the University of Massachusetts-Boston, Roxbury Community College, Boston University, and Emmanuel College.

Kumar Barve

Maryland House of Delegates

Kumar Barve is an important figure in Maryland politics as Majority Leader of the Maryland House of Delegates. Barve serves on several committees including the House Ways and Means Committee. During his time as a Maryland delegate he has enacted historic laws in the areas of health care, insurance, intellectual property and technology development. During his elections he has won by very sound margins and has been endorsed by the Washington Post and Baltimore Sun. Barve received his bachelors from Georgetown University.

Ellynn Bannon

New Voters Project Director, Student PIRGs

Ellynn Bannon is the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project Director. Prior to becoming the director in 2007, Ms. Bannon was the chief advisor to the U.S. House of Representatives Education and Labor Committee on higher education and national service issues from 2003 to 2006. In this position, she was responsible for developing all key policy, strategy and message on higher education and national service issues for House Democrats. During the 2006 elections, Ms. Bannon spearheaded the logistical set up for Grassroots Campaign's MoveOn PAC field program in thirty-nine cities nationwide. From 1997 to 2002, Ms. Bannon worked for the Student PIRGs as a Campus Organizer in California and Oregon, then as the PIRGs' national Higher Education Advocate

in Washington, D.C. Ms. Bannon graduated from Rutgers College with a B.A. in Political Science.

Johnny Barnes **Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union,
National Capital Area**

Born in New Bedford, Mass., he attended boarding school in the Berkshires and played harmonica in a weekend blues band in New York City's Greenwich Village during the late '60's. After two years at U-Mass Dartmouth, Johnny moved to Boston where he drove a taxicab, attended Berklee School of Music and Harvard University Extension School majoring in Zen Buddhism. Johnny Barnes sang and played guitar in Boston's nightclubs with many of rock and roll's legends. Local airplay and intense record company interest led to a hit song in England and work with legendary producer, Jimmy Miller (The Rolling Stones, Blind Faith with Eric Clapton, Traffic with Steve Winwood). Barnes moonlighted at the Channel, helping to manage Boston's largest live music nightclub of the time, where his band opened for numerous major acts through the '80's and early 1990's. Barnes was also a paralegal investigator for law firms, and an operative and operations manager for Boston area private detective agencies. Johnny worked for Massachusetts's Legal Services, the Mass. ACLU, and was a subcontract homicide investigator for the state's Committee for Public Counsel. Since 1991 Barnes has been a full time Police Officer, an FBI trained Hostage Negotiator, and a Detective.

Patrick Barrett **A. E. Havens Center for the Study of Social Structure
and Social Change, Liberty Tree**

Patrick Barrett is Administrative Director of the A. E. Havens Center for the Study of Social Structure and Social Change at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At Liberty Tree Barrett works to coordinate the Democratizing Elections program. He received a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

David Becker **Director of Democracy Campaign, People for the
American Way**

David J. Becker is the Director of People for the American Way's Democracy Campaign, managing PFAW's election reform and voting rights work. David oversees PFAW's litigation in cases regarding such issues as voting technology, voter ID, voter suppression, redistricting and other issues. In particular, David has been PFAW's lead counsel in the litigation regarding the loss of 18,000 votes by voting technology in Florida's 13th Congressional District, the defense of the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act in federal court, and federal court litigation over restrictive voter ID laws in Arizona and Missouri. Prior to joining PFAW, David served as a senior trial attorney in the Voting Section of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, where he was responsible for leading dozens of investigations into issues including minority language voter rights, redistricting, alleged voter intimidation, and vote dilution,

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including serving as lead trial counsel in the redistricting case of *Georgia v. Ashcroft*. While at the DOJ, David also supervised federal monitoring of thirty elections in approximately 1,000 precincts in a dozen states, and helped direct department policy regarding enforcement of the Help America Vote Act. David is a two-time graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, receiving his undergraduate degree in 1991 and his law degree in 1994.

Meredith Bell-Platts Staff Counsel, American Civil Liberties Union

Meredith Bell-Platts has been with the Voting Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union since 2001. As staff counsel, she has litigated numerous cases dealing with the reapportionment and redistricting of congressional, state and local districts. Meredith first became interested in voting rights law when she was an undergraduate at Harvard University and was privileged to be the research assistant and student of the late Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. She earned a bachelor of arts in Government in 1997. She then graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in 2000. Prior to joining the ACLU, she was a litigation associate with the multinational law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP in Cleveland, Ohio where she volunteered her services to victims of housing discrimination and with the Legal Aid Society. She currently makes her home in Atlanta, Georgia and is licensed in Ohio and Georgia.

John Bonifaz Legal Director, Voter Action

John C. Bonifaz is the Legal Director of Voter Action, a national non-profit organization that engages in legal advocacy, research, and public education to ensure election integrity in the United States. Prior to joining Voter Action, John worked with the National Voting Rights Institute, which he co-founded. He has been at the forefront of key voting rights battles in the country over the past dozen years. He led the fight in the federal courts in Ohio for a recount of the 2004 presidential vote in that state. He has pioneered a series of court challenges that have helped to redefine the campaign finance question as a basic voting rights issue of our time. He has worked to defend laws passed at the state level that overhaul the campaign finance system and open up the political process to all candidates and voters, regardless of economic status. In addition, Bonifaz ran for Massachusetts Secretary of State and lectures in Public Policy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Mr. Bonifaz is a 1992 *cum laude* graduate of Harvard Law School and a 1999 recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

Linda Brown Executive Director, Arizona Advocacy Network Foundation

Linda Brown is the executive director of the Arizona Advocacy Network Foundation (AzANF). Since moving to Arizona in 1999, she has served as a board member for the Partnership for Media Education, Deputy Director of the Clean Elections Institute and worked in Public Affairs for Planned Parenthood of Central and Northern Arizona. She was a founding board member of AzANF and is active in the Arizona Hispanic Community Forum, Somos America Arizona,

Arizona Citizens for Election Reform, Interfaith Worker Justice, FairVote Arizona, and the Arizona Social Change Fund. Through AzANF she works on strengthening democratic systems and educating the public on how they can access and use the tools of democracy, be it through informed voting, using the media, lobbying, or participating in campaigns. AzANF is the leading grassroots organization behind a federal court challenge to Arizona's laws requiring ID in order to vote at the polls, and documentary-proof-of-citizenship in order to register to vote. Linda served as Director of Educational Programming and Marketing for Discovery Communications, where her work was honored with numerous national awards.

Robert Brown **Executive Director, Opportunity Maine and Opportunity Maine Campaign**

Rob Brown serves as the Executive Director and one of the founding members of Opportunity Maine and Opportunity Maine Campaign, sister non-profit organizations dedicated to using the citizen's initiative as a catalyst for positive reform and changing the public discourse Rob has a background in statewide and community organizing, economic development policy, communications, campaigns, and the legislative process. He has served as staff for the Maine Citizen Leadership Fund and the Dirigo Alliance, helped build and staff the Taxpayers for a Fair Budget coalition, and was an organizer and project director with Food AND Medicine. He has worked with a number of national organizations, including his affiliation as a founding member of United for a Fair Economy's Tax Fairness Organizing Collaborative. He resides on the coast of Maine.

Daryn Cambridge **Assistant Director, Democracy Matters**

Daryn is the Assistant Director of Democracy Matters (DM), and runs the DM Washington, DC office. Daryn graduated from Middlebury College in 2003 and is enrolled in graduate school American University. He is dedicated to the fields of youth empowerment, experiential education, and community activism. He works with Democracy Matters student interns in campus chapters throughout the United States. He is passionate about helping young people realize the role they have played and continue to play in generating significant progressive social change. In his many DM presentations on campuses and for high school and civic groups, Daryn advocates for publicly financed election campaigns ("Fair and Clean Elections"), bringing together his many concerns for the environment, civil rights, women's issues, and health and education policy.

Michael Caudell-Feagan **Senior Officer, Pew Center on the States**

Michael Caudell-Feagan serves as a Project Director for the Pew Charitable Trusts' Make Voting Work initiative and as a Senior Officer in the Pew Center on the States overseeing a campaign finance and elections portfolio. Prior to joining the Trusts, he served with the Stern Family Fund and as the senior program officer of the Proteus Fund. At Proteus, Michael designed and managed

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grant-making programs supporting state-level campaign finance reform, participatory elections initiatives and voter engagement efforts. Michael has provided management and consulting services to private and family foundations. He was the founder and executive director of Equal Justice Works (EJW), an association that organizes, trains and supports public service-minded law students and helps to create summer and postgraduate job opportunities in the government and nonprofit sector. Michael holds a BA in government from Hamilton College and a law degree from George Washington University's National Law Center.

Brandon Lacy Campos **Camp Heartland, Liberty Tree**

Brandon Lacy Campos is the Grant Specialist with Camp Heartland, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and their families facing HIV/AIDS and poverty. At Liberty Tree Campos coordinates the Democratizing Elections program. In addition, he services on the board of directors of FairVote Minnesota and is an accomplished poet and playwright.

J. Mijin Cha **Senior Policy Specialist, Progressive States Network**

J. Mijin Cha is a senior policy specialist at the Progressive States Network focusing on smart growth, clean jobs, and electoral reform. She recently completed her PhD in law from the Univ. of London, School of Oriental and African Studies studying access to justice and environmental justice movements in India and the U.S. Prior to joining Progressive States, she worked in Nepal on a project increasing access to environmental justice in rural areas of South Asia. She has worked with grassroots groups in several countries and is a member of the California Bar.

Kristen Clarke **Co-Director, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund**

Kristen Clarke is Co-Director of the Political Participation Group at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. At LDF, she handles a range of voting rights matters including a constitutional challenge to the recently reauthorized provisions of the Voting Rights Act. Prior to joining LDF, Ms. Clarke worked for several years in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. For three of those years, she served as a Trial Attorney in the Voting Section of the Division where she handled enforcement efforts under the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act. Ms. Clarke received her A.B. from Harvard University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School.

Tanya Clay House **Director of Public Policy, People for the American Way**

Tanya Clay House began her tenure with People for the American Way (PFAW) in April of 2002 as Senior Legislative Counsel. She now serves as Director of Public Policy. The Public Policy Department lobbies Congress and the Executive Branch on behalf of PFAW to affect public policy at the national level. As Director, Mrs. House manages and directs national advocacy and other

legislative activities on behalf of People for the American Way and People for the American Way Foundation, including the representation of the organization's interests and organization's presence on Capitol Hill. PFAW's federal legislation focus areas include, but are not limited to, judicial nominations, public education, the Religious Right, civil rights, civil liberties, First Amendment, immigration, church/state, electoral reform, budget/tax, affirmative action and reproductive rights. Mrs. House also serves as the policy liaison for the African American Ministers Leadership Council, a program of PFAW Foundation, and closely supports the organizational efforts for the non-partisan Election Protection 365 program.

David Cobb Democratizing Elections Program Director, Liberty Tree

David Cobb was the 2004 Green Party nominee for President of the United States. He served as General Counsel for the national Green Party until declaring his candidacy in 2003. His legal career is dedicated to challenging illegitimate corporate power and to creating democracy. In addition to his service as a Democratizing Elections Program Director and a Fellow with Liberty Tree, David is a member of the Democracy Unlimited of Humboldt County Steering Committee, a co-founder and member of the Board of Directors for the Green Institute, and a member of the Sierra Club's national Corporate Accountability Committee.

Stuart Comstock-Gay Director of Democracy Program, D•mos

Stuart Comstock-Gay is Director of the Democracy Program at D•mos, a New York-based "think and action" tank devoted to making democracy work for all Americans. Comstock-Gay came to D•mos through its affiliation with the National Voting Rights Institute in Boston, where he was Executive Director. From 1997 to 2004, Comstock-Gay worked for the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, as Vice President for Programs, and later as Chief Operating Officer. At NHCF, among other work, he helped develop a statewide advocacy and leadership organization addressing issues of substance abuse. He also spent 14 years with the ACLU, the last ten as Executive Director of the Maryland affiliate. He has written for numerous publications, has been a regular radio commentator, and has spoken before hundreds of audiences on a wide range of voting rights, civil liberties, democracy and foundation issues. Comstock-Gay has an MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and a BA in Political Science from Bucknell University.

Lillie Coney National Committee on Voting Integrity

Lillie Coney is Associate Director with the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) in Washington, DC. She is the Public Policy Coordinator for the National Committee for Voting Integrity (NCVI), and has testified before the Election Assistance Commission. She served on the Brennan Center Taskforces on the Security and Usability of Voting Systems. She also served as a member of

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the ACM Committee on Guidelines for Implementation of Voter Registration Databases. She participated as a contributor in the academic paper "Towards a Privacy Measurement Criterion for Voting Systems." She has written several law journal articles on voting, and contributed to the development of the Election Incident Reporting System. She is a contributor to the New York Times Best Seller, *50 Ways to Love Your Country*. She serves in an advisory capacity to several organizations, which include Verified Voting, ACCURATE, Voting System Performance Rating, and Open Voting Consortium. She is also on the board of Computing Professionals for Social Responsibility.

Enrico Cullen **Director of Development and External Affairs,
Arts Engine, Inc.**

Enrico is a nonprofit manager, filmmaker, educator, and development specialist. Before joining Arts Engine, Enrico was the Director of Development & Public Affairs for Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment, a \$2.5 million nonprofit providing environmental education programs to over 100,000 children, youth, and adults each year. He has worked on long-form documentary films and narrative shorts and most recently screened his film, *The Misadventure of 95*, at the Tribeca Grand Screening Room.

Ed Davis **Research Director, Common Cause**

Edwin Davis is director of research at Common Cause. His responsibilities include helping Common Cause develop its position on issues, supervising the research department in the development of reports and providing assistance and advice to Common Cause state organizations. He is also one of Common Cause's lobbyists on Capitol Hill. Ed joined Common Cause in 1987, first as associate director of issue development and later as vice president for state and field operations. Before joining Common Cause, Davis worked for 12 years in the U.S. House of Representatives as a legislative analyst for the Democratic Study Group and later as chief-of-staff for Representative Philip Burton (D-CA). Ed graduated from Haverford College and has a Master of Public Administration degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Torrey Dixon **FairVote North Carolina**

Torrey D. Dixon is a graduate of Averett University in Danville, Virginia, where he was valedictorian of his graduating class. He received his law degree and master's of theological studies degree from Duke University in 2004. Dixon was a legal research assistant with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and served as a clerk with the Danville Circuit Court in Virginia. After graduation in December 2004, Torrey worked as a paralegal with the law firm Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice. He was a fellow at the Civil Rights Center, UNC Chapel Hill School of Law, from July 2005 to May 2007.

Karen Dolan **Director, Cities for Progress/Cities for Peace**

As director of Cities for Progress/Cities for Peace, Dolan has worked with municipal governments on anti-war resolutions since the run up to the invasion of Iraq starting in 2002. She has worked for over a decade as a fellow with the Institute for Policy Studies organizing local-based movements, placing them in a national context.

Gautam Dutta **Deputy Direct of the Political Reform Program,
New America Foundation**

Gautam Dutta is Deputy Director of the Political Reform Program at the New America Foundation. In this capacity, he is an advocate for New America's signature reform proposals, including instant runoff voting, proportional voting, and redistricting reform. A Yale and Georgetown-educated lawyer, Mr. Dutta has been Tax Counsel to California State Controller John Chiang, an enforcement attorney for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, a commercial litigator at the Los Angeles firm of Buchalter Nemer, and law clerk for a federal judge in Washington, D.C. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed him to the position of commissioner on the Los Angeles Industrial Development Authority, which he served in from 2006 to 2007. Mr. Dutta also serves on the boards of the American Civil Liberties Union-Southern California and the South Asian Bar Association of Southern California, and was previously Chair of the South Asian Bar Association Public Interest Foundation. In Washington, D.C., he was President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association Educational Fund, as well as Vice Chair of the District of Columbia's Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs. He was Editor in Chief of the Yale Political Monthly, and is fluent in Spanish, German, Hindi, and Bengali.

Eric Ehst **Executive Director, Arizona Clean Elections Institute**

Eric Ehst is currently the executive director of the Clean Elections Institute, a nonprofit corporation dedicated to the preservation and expansion of Arizona's public campaign financing system. He has a BS degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland and spent over 20 years directing the design, development, and marketing of jet engines for numerous domestic and international customers. He has run as a Democrat for both the state senate and U.S. congress and is past vice-chairman of the Arizona Democratic Party. In addition, Eric serves as board member for the Arizona Advocacy Network Foundation, the Valley Citizens' League, the Arizona Editorial Forum, and the Arizona National Organization for Women. Ehst has past experience with the League of Women Voters and the Arizona Conservative Alliance working on defending initiative rights and lobbying state legislature on issues concerning election law.

George Farah **Executive Director, Open Debates**

George Farah, founder of Open Debates, is an attorney at Cohen Milstein Hausfeld & Toll. He is the author of the book *No Debate: How the Republican*

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and Democratic Parties Secretly Control the Presidential Debates by Seven Stories Press. His articles have been published in *The Boston Globe*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Washington Post*, *The Denver Post* and other publications. He has appeared on dozens of television programs, including “Nightline,” “NOW with Bill Moyers,” “20/20,” “CBS Evening News with Dan Rather,” “NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw,” “CNN Lou Dobbs Tonight,” and “Countdown with Keith Olbermann.” He has been interviewed on over 100 radio shows, including NPR’s “To the Point,” “Keep Hope Alive With Jesse Jackson,” “Democracy Now!,” “CounterSpin,” and “Judicial Watch Report.” He graduated from Princeton University and Harvard Law School.

Adam Fogel

Right to Vote Director, FairVote

Adam Fogel is the Director of the Right to Vote Initiative at FairVote. He is developing a voting curriculum for high schools to encourage students to get involved in the political process and register to vote. Before joining FairVote, Adam served as the Pennsylvania Field Director for a voter registration project funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts that registered over 500,000 new, young voters. He was a fellow at the Center for Political Participation at Allegheny College for two years, where he designed an educational outreach program in high schools called “Why Bother? The Importance of Voting in America.” In 2005, The Institute of Politics at Harvard University adapted “Why Bother?” into a national program.

Chase Foster

Lobbyist and Coordinator, NC Voters for Clean Elections

Chase has been the lobbyist and coordinator of NC Voters for Clean Elections (NCVCE) since May 2006. The group serves as the central coordinating coalition for campaign public financing advocacy in North Carolina. He also has experience working with Democracy North Carolina, the James B. Hunt, Jr. Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy, and the Direct Action Center for Peace and Memory in Cape Town, SA. He has a degree in Public Policy Analysis and African Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

George Friday

National Coordinator, Independent Progressive Politics Network

George Friday is the National Coordinator for the Independent Progressive Politics Network (IPPN). She works with grassroots community organizations to provide leadership and skills training ranging from strategic planning and organizing to fundraising, marketing and community building with particular focus on oppression dynamics and the role of “privilege” in transforming power dynamics leading to broad, deep economic and social justice change. She currently holds positions as National Co-Chair with United For Peace and Justice, fellow with the Liberty Tree Foundation, and board member with the Institute for Southern Studies. George holds degrees in Political Science, Economics, and African American Studies from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill where she graduated in 1982.

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Jennifer Frye **Field Organizer, Democracy North Carolina**

Jennifer Frye, Field Organizer, joined the staff of Democracy North Carolina in January 2006 and has been involved in work on campaign finance and election reform since 2003. She has a background in grassroots lobbying, organizing and program development. Jennifer is an alumnus of the Public Allies leadership development program, which seeks to advance new leadership to strengthen communities, nonprofits and civic participation. She also has experience working with several other advocacy organizations, including North Carolina Women United, North Carolinians Against Gun Violence, the Interfaith Council and Peace Action Education Fund. Jennifer earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

John Gideon **Executive Director, VotersUnite**

John Gideon is the Executive Director of VotersUnite and Information Manager for VoteTrustUSA. He is a disabled Vietnam veteran (Navy) and a retired federal employee. He has been learning about and working on the issues related to voting reform and voting integrity since early in 2003. He maintains the current news links on the VotersUnite! website and compiles the "Daily Voting News", a clipping service of voting news articles for activists, attorneys, elections officials, elected officials, and others who are interested in voting reform issues. He also chooses Top Five Voting News story each week for VoteTrustUSA's weekly newsletter Election Integrity News. His personal knowledge of current events on these issues has become a trusted resource for voting integrity activists across the country.

Jonah Goldman **Lawyers' committee for Civil Rights**

Jonah works with the voting rights project to ensure that minority voters are guaranteed their constitutional rights to equal representation. Specifically, Jonah is works for the Lawyers' Committee's efforts to promote the viability of the Voting Rights Act by challenging voting districts that dilute the strength of minority voters. Jonah is also involved with constitutional and statutory challenges to felon disenfranchisement laws. Jonah Graduated cum laude from Boston College Law School in May 2003.

Vincent Gray **Chairman, DC City Council**

Vincent Gray is the incumbent Chairman of the DC City Council. Gray was elected in 2005 after a campaign highlighting the need of unity between the many racial and economic groups in the District. As a council member, Gray sits on committees relating to health, economic development, human services, libraries and recreation, and education. Prior to winning his seat on the city council, Gray developed a distinguished career in public service, including as Founder/Executive Director of Covenant House Washington, Director of the Department of Human Services for DC, and a longtime Executive Director of the DC Association of Retarded Citizens.

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Oliver Griswold**Ballot Initiative Strategy Center**

Oliver Griswold is the Communications and Outreach Director for the Ballot Initiative Strategy Center. He is responsible for overseeing BISC's strategic communications activities, which includes promoting BISC's programs and resources to external audiences, managing Ballot.org and related e-communications, and engaging organizations within the progressive community in the ballot initiative process. Oliver also initiates and maintains working relationships with members of the ballot initiative community, and organizes strategic discussions regarding ballot measure activity and trends. His research responsibilities include monitoring ballot measure activity, and using historical ballot measure data to inform current strategy.

Avi Green**Executive Director, MassVote**

Avi Green is an experienced grassroots organizer, campaign manager, and policy analyst. Avi has worked on several groundbreaking political campaigns, and crafted strategies for the first Latinos to win seats in the Massachusetts State Senate and the Boston City Council. In 2000, Avi worked for Al Gore, and went to Florida to participate in the Presidential recount. In West Palm Beach, Avi saw first-hand the disenfranchisement of hundreds of Americans, and turned his attention to voting rights and long-term base-building for progressive change. As Executive Director of MassVOTE, Avi works to create effective, multi-racial coalitions to make the electorate better reflect the people as whole and to win victories that strengthen our democracy and expand opportunity. Avi holds a degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and studied Religion at Columbia University.

Winnett Hagens**Executive Director, Democracy South**

Winnett Hagens is executive director of Democracy South, an advocacy group in Carrboro, N.C., that is pushing for improvements in the electoral system, says his organization created and distributed sophisticated computer-based mapping programs to help charity voter drives identify where to concentrate their efforts.

Edward A. Hailes Jr.**Director, Advancement Project's Power & Democracy Program**

Edward Hailes, Jr., Senior Attorney and Director of Advancement Project's Power & Democracy Program, is an experienced civil rights attorney and an ordained Baptist minister. Hailes directs Advancement Project's "Voter Protection Project," which provides year-round, legal, and policy advocacy, strategic communications, and litigation support to on the ground voter registration and voter protection efforts to increase voter participation in communities of color. He also directs the VA Voter Restoration Initiative, which works with VA community partners to support eligible people with felony convictions to regain their voting rights. He formerly served as General Counsel for the United States Commission on Civil Rights, directing the federal agency's

historic investigation into allegations of voting irregularities in Florida during the November 2000 presidential election. Mr. Hailes also served for 10 years as a legal and legislative counsel for the NAACP. Rev. Hailes is the Assistant to the Pastor of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. Hailes currently serves as the Vice Chair of FairVote's board of directors, a research and action center for voting and democracy. He was selected by the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc. to serve on the Katrina National Justice Commission.

Mark Halvorson **Director, Citizens for Election Integrity Minnesota**
 Mark Halvorson is the founder and director of Citizens for Election Integrity Minnesota (CEIMN), a statewide nonpartisan organization that advocates for accurate and verifiable elections. Mark was an observer to the 2004 Ohio Presidential recount. In 2005 he served as co-chair of the legislatively mandated voting machines options working group. In 2006 CEIMN played a role in improving Minnesota's current audit law and coordinated the nation's first citizen based observation of a post-election audit. Mark served on the Brennan Center Audit Panel and consults closely with election integrity activists across the country on audit legislation. Prior to directing CEIMN he worked as a social worker for 15 years and before that as a community organizer for 10 years.

Joyce Hamilton **Executive Director, Democracy Works**
 Joyce Hamilton Henry received a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Relations from the University of Connecticut, a Masters of Social Work degree from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, and is a doctoral candidate at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. She was the former Director of the Office of Multicultural Programs at the University of Hartford. In that capacity, she developed and implemented programs to assist with the recruitment and retention of students of color and to address broader issues of diversity and inclusion on the college campus. Since 1988, Joyce has been an Adjunct Professor at the University of Hartford in African American Studies and the Departments of Sociology and Psychology.

Kimberly Haven **Justice Maryland**
 Since her release from prison in 2001, Kimberly Haven has become one of the leading advocates for the restoration of voting rights for former felons and a national spokesperson on the issue. What began as a selfish act on her part when she came home from prison took on a life of its own when she realized the magnitude of the disenfranchisement policies in Maryland and across the country. As a result of her efforts and leadership, and backed by the support of statewide and national civil rights and advocacy organizations, the "Voting Registration Protection Act" was signed in April 2007 effectively returning the franchise to over 52,000 Maryland citizens. This legislation in essence has created a new constituency – something Haven is extremely proud of. She is now poised to help educate grassroots organizations, coalitions, and legislators about the real impact

of this issue and to empower those organizations and individuals working on this issue to build strong collaborations and challenge the draconian felon disenfranchisement laws in this country.

Ronald Hayduk

Co-founder, Immigrant Voting Project

Ronald Hayduk is assistant professor of political science at Borough of Manhattan Community College and co-Director of the Immigrant Voting Rights Project. Hayduk is the author of *Democracy for All: Restoring Immigrant Voting Rights in the United States*. He has written about political participation, immigration, race, and public policy, and is working on a book about the restoration of immigrant voting rights in the United States. He is co-editor of *Democracy's Moment: Reforming the American Political System in the Twenty First Century*; and co-editor of *From ACT UP to the WTO: Urban Protest and Community Building in the Era of Globalization*. His articles include: "Non-Citizen Voting: Pipe Dream or Possibility" *Drum Major Institute for Public Policy*; "Democracy for All: Restoring Immigrant Voting Rights in the U.S." *New Political Science: A Journal of Politics and Culture*. Hayduk also contributed essays in: *Surviving Sprawl: Culture, Ecology and Politics*; *Teamsters and Turtles?: U.S. Progressive Political Movements in the 21st Century*; *In Defense of the Alien*. Hayduk has consulted to several policy organizations, including Demos, The Aspen Institute Roundtable on Race, The Century Foundation, and the NAACP LDF.

Scott Heiferman

Co-Founder, Meetup.com

Scott Heiferman is the co-founder of the website Meetup.com, a service that helps people use the internet to organize local community groups with local offline meetings. Meetup originally gained notoriety as the grassroots backbone of the Howard Dean presidential campaign in 2004. As of November 2006, approximately 3 million people have registered on Meetup. Meetup's investors include eBay, Omidyar Network, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Esther Dyson, and others. Heiferman also co-founded Fotolog and i-traffic. Prior to founding i-traffic, Heiferman was employed by Sony with the title "Interactive Marketing Frontiersman". He was interviewed in the May 29, 2006 issue of Newsweek. At the time, he was 33 years old. In 2005, Scott received the Jane Addams Award from the National Conference on Citizenship. In 2004 M.I.T. Technology Review awarded Scott "Innovator of the Year" for his work with Meetup.com. He graduated from The University of Iowa in 1994.

Wade Henderson

**President and CEO, Leadership Conference
on Civil Rights**

As President and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR), Mr. Henderson is well known for his expertise on a wide range of civil rights, civil liberties, and human rights issues. Currently he works on issues involving voting rights and election reform; federal judicial appointments; economic justice; educational equity; hate crimes; criminal justice reform; issues

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of immigration and refugee policy; and human rights. In addition he is the Counselor of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund (LCCREF) and has previously worked with the NAACP and ACLU. Mr. Henderson received his bachelors from Howard University and received his law degree from the Rutgers University School of Law.

Hendrik Hertzberg

Senior Editor, The New Yorker

Hendrik Hertzberg is a senior editor of *The New Yorker*, for which he is renowned for writing the opening column of political commentary in “The Talk of the Town.” From 1981 to 1992 he was associated with *The New Republic*. During his final three-year stint as editor of that magazine it won two National Magazine Awards for General Excellence. He served on the White House staff throughout the Carter administration and was President Carter’s chief speechwriter during his last two years in office. He is the author of *Politics: Observations & Arguments*, published by Penguin Books. He lives in New York with his wife, who is also a *New Yorker* senior editor, and son.

Steven Hill

**Director of Political Reform Program,
New American Foundation**

Steven Hill is Director of the Political Reform Program at the New America Foundation, which seeks to identify and develop the best opportunities for political and electoral reform, educate opinion leaders and the public about electoral alternatives, and encourage the formation of a broad-based coalition for reform. Mr. Hill is author of the recently published *Ten Steps to Repair American Democracy* (www.10steps.net). His previous books include *Fixing Elections: The Failure of America's Winner Take All Politics* (www.FixingElections.com) and *Whose Vote Counts* (co-author, Beacon Press, 2001). Mr. Hill's articles and commentaries have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Daily News*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Miami Herald*, *The Nation*, *American Prospect*, *Ms.* and other leading publications. Mr. Hill has appeared on national and local radio and television programs, and has lectured widely in the United States and Europe. He was campaign manager in San Francisco for the successful effort that passed instant runoff voting for electing local offices, and was one of the organizers of successful efforts to pass public financing of elections for local campaigns. Hill is the former senior analyst and co-founder of FairVote.

Laleh Ispahani

Senior Policy Counsel, ACLU

Laleh Ispahani is Senior Policy Counsel at the American Civil Liberties Union, where she works on voting rights and international human rights. She represents the ACLU on the Right to Vote Campaign (RTV), a national collaboration of the ACLU, the Brennan Center for Justice and the Sentencing Project to promote felon enfranchisement. Ms. Ispahani has authored or produced key felon enfranchisement resources, including the report *Purged! How Flawed*

and Inconsistent Voting Systems Could Deprive Millions of Americans of the Right to Vote, the international human rights and comparative law report *Out of Step with the World: An Analysis of Felony Disfranchisement in the U.S. and Other Democracies*, the documentary film *Democracy's Ghosts*, and the toolkit *VWI: Voting While Incarcerated*. In addition, she works on human rights advocacy and has authored the ACLU's "shadow report" on U.S. compliance with the International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights and is currently drafting an analogous report for review by the Committee monitoring U.S. compliance with the Convention to Eliminate All forms of Racial Discrimination. She recently also filed the first petition challenging U.S. felony disfranchisement policies in an international forum, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The author of numerous articles including "Is the Right to Vote a Criminal Matter?" for the Center for American Progress, and "Voting Rights, Human Rights" (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2007), Ms. Ispahani received her bachelor's degree from Harvard College and her law degree from Georgetown University.

Paul Jacob

Citizens for Change

Paul Jacob is an activist, organizer, and advocate for legislative term limits, initiative and referendum rights, and limited government in the United States. He writes a weekly column for Townhall.com and his short radio commentary feature, "Common Sense," is syndicated by the Sam Adams Alliance on over 120 radio stations around the U.S. He has held positions with the Libertarian Party (United States), U.S. Term Limits, Americans for Limited Government, Citizens In Charge and the Sam Adams Foundation.

Michele Lawrence Jawando

Counsel, People for the American Way

Michele Lawrence Jawando specializes in voting rights, election reform, and civil rights, working closely with colleagues in other organizations and coalitions to effectively integrate legal, field, public policy and other components. She has been involved in action to challenge discriminatory laws and practices, including in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and in Virginia during the 2006 mid-term elections. A former staffer for U.S. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY), she attended Hampton University and earned her law degree at the University of North Carolina.

Anise Jenkin

President, Stand Up! for Democracy (Free DC)

A proud native Washingtonian, graduate of DC public schools, BA - Political Science, Howard University, MBA - Howard University. Current president of Stand Up! for Democracy in DC Coalition (Free DC), Secretary of Near Northeast Citizens Against Crime and Drugs, member of the Urban Housing Alliance, National Council of Negro Women and several other organizations. Plaintiff in the democracy lawsuit - *Adams v. Bush* ("20 Citizens"). Born-again citizen and activist, striving for equal human and civil rights for our people living in Washington, DC.

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Dan Johnson-Weinberger **President, Progressive Public Affairs**

Dan Johnson-Weinberger is the President of Progressive Public Affairs. In the past Dan Johnson-Weinberger worked as FairVote's national field director and general counsel. Licensed to practice law in California and Illinois, he is a 1997 graduate of the University of Illinois (B.A. in economics and political science) and a 2000 graduate of the University of Chicago Law School. Dan has been published in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Roll Call*, *the Hill*, *Daily Herald*, *Chicago Reader*, *the Daily Southtown* and the *Miami Herald*. He has appeared on National Public Radio and is an occasional guest on the nationally syndicated radio program Beyond The Beltway.

Gary Kalman **Democracy Program, U.S. PIRG**

Gary Kalman leads the legislative advocacy and research for U.S. PIRG's Democracy Program where he specializes in campaign finance, government accountability and election reform. Mr. Kalman is the author of numerous reports on money and politics and has testified before Congress, presented at national conferences and appeared on national and local television. Prior to joining U.S. PIRG, he worked with a team of producers to develop the nationally syndicated NPR program, Justice Talking. In partnership with the New York Times, NPR and the University of Pennsylvania, he led the development and design of Justice Learning, an award-winning Internet-based civics program recognized at the 2006 Webby Awards. He is a co-editor of *The U.S. Constitution: What it Says, What it Means* (Oxford University Press). A graduate of Clark University, Mr. Kalman has also served as Deputy Director of the ACLU of Pennsylvania, a political campaign consultant and as an instructor at LaSalle University where he lectured on nonprofit advocacy and development.

David Keating **Executive Director, Club for Growth**

David Keating's long experience in the field makes him an expert in tax issues and reform. Keating is currently the Executive Director of the Club for Growth, a political action group that promotes tax reform and reduction and Social Security reform among other economic related issues. Keating has earned his esteemed reputation working with the Internal Revenue Services, National Taxpayers Union, the Citizens Legislator Caucus, Citizen Strategies. He has made television appearances on "60 Minutes," "Today," "Dateline," and "20/20," in addition to his written articles in the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, and *Chicago Tribune*, among many.

Robert Kengle **Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights**

Robert Kengle joined the Lawyers' Committee in 2007. He had previously served over 20 years in the Department of Justice's Voting Section after joining the Civil Rights Division in 1984 as an Honor Law Graduate. As a trial attorney he litigated minority vote dilution claims under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, enforcement and preclearance actions under Section 5 of the Voting Rights

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Act, and constitutional claims of unconstitutional racial gerrymandering under *Shaw v. Reno*. From 1996 through 1999 he served as a special counsel and acting deputy chief, and was named a deputy chief in 1999. In addition to supervising litigation under Section 5 and Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act, he worked with the Bureau of the Census in preparation for the 2002 Section 203 language minority determinations and served a specialist within the Voting Section for statistical and demographic analysis. He was a recipient of the Civil Rights Division's Maceo Hubbard Award and a co-recipient of the Attorney General's Award for Excellence in Information Technology, among others.

Ryan King

Policy Analyst, The Sentencing Project

Ryan King's research specialization with The Sentencing Project is the American correctional system, with a particular concentration on the radiating effects of incarceration upon individuals, families and the community at large. His most recent work is an analysis of marijuana arrests during the 1990s. Past research has included a study of the localized impact of felony disenfranchisement laws in Atlanta, GA, a national profile of life sentences, an analysis of the economic effects of siting a prison in a rural community, and a statistical profile of state prison inmates incarcerated on drug charges. His research appeared in *Criminology & Public Policy*, the *Harm Reduction Journal*, the *Federal Sentencing Reporter*, *New England Journal on Criminal and Civil Confinement*, *SOULS: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society* and national periodicals such as *Associated Press*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *USA Today*. He has addressed members of the Maryland House of Delegates and the Canadian House of Commons. Mr. King holds a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh, a M.A. in Criminal Justice from Monmouth University, and a M.S. in Justice, Law, & Society from The American University.

Eugene Kinlow

Outreach Director, DC Vote

As Outreach Director for DC Vote, Eugene Dewitt Kinlow is principally responsible for managing the over-70 organizations that are part of the DC Vote coalition and recruiting new organizations and individuals to our cause. Eugene also oversees DC Vote's efforts to engage residents in the greater DC-area and is the organization's principal liaison to local officials. Mr. Kinlow served as principal of Kinlow & Associates, a community relations company, Management Fellow at the Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Field Coordinator for Florida Victory 2004 and Legal Information Specialist for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. He is a graduate of Ballou High School, in Washington, DC, and received his BA from the University of the District of Columbia in Business Administration.

Barbara Klein**League of Women Voters of Arizona**

Dr. Barbara Klein is the Vice President of the League of Women Voters of Arizona. The League is a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Matt Kohn**Film Director**

Matt Kohn has produced, edited and directed short and full-length films, music videos, industrials and documentaries for the past fifteen years. *Call it Democracy* is his first feature documentary. Since then, he was commissioned by Metropolis magazine to direct *Site Specific: The Legacy of Regional Modernism*, a short film about a high school designed by Paul Rudolph slated for complete destruction, but which may provide clues to architecture that is both modern, beautiful, green and efficient. Set to open in France in the next several months is *Democracy in France*, a feature doc where Kohn covered Francois Bayrou's insurgent Third-way-styled campaign. This year Kohn has directed four music videos including Cindy Lee Berryhill's "When Did Jesus Become a Republican?" Kohn is currently in production on a documentary about Tonic- a world-famous but underground avant garde music venue that recently shut its doors due to the stresses of gentrification. For more fun, Matt curates and hosts "Speakeasy Cinema" - a monthly series which invites a film director, producer, actor or writer to choose a film worthy of conversation - while the audience attends but does not know what film they are coming to see. Future projects include development on two feature screenplays and at least one additional documentary.

Harry Kresky**Counsel, Committee for a Unified Independent Party**

Harry Kresky is a 1971 graduate of Columbia Law School where he served as an editor of the *Columbia Law Review*. He is in private practice in New York City. Kresky was appointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to serve on the 2002 New York City Charter Commission. He has served as counsel to the New York State Independence Party and now represents the organization in litigation concerning its rights and the rights of party members. Kresky has been published in the *Neo Independent* as well as *Newsday* and *Times* on issues of concern to independent voters. He represented Ralph Nader in successful fights to maintain ballot access in West Virginia and New Mexico during the 2004 presidential campaign. Kresky serves as counsel to the Committee for a Unified Independent Party.

Malia Lazu**Director, The Gathering Project**

Malia Lazu is currently the director of The Gathering Project in New York City. The Gathering is an answer to the generational and racial schisms that have many justice organizations working in their own silos. They create an intergenerational; interracial space to allow the justice community; in its broadest sense; to get to know one another and to find the common agenda that will allow

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them to support one another as they continue their work. Formerly, Malia was the Director of the Racial Justice Campaign Fund at Progressive Majority, where she focused on creating models to elect candidates of color and help progressives win. She was also the National Field Director for Cities for Progress. Malia was responsible for reaching out to and recruiting activists and locally elected officials in 30 cities through out the country to work on progressive policy campaigns in their respective cities.

Paula Lee

Californians for Electoral Reform

Paula Lee is a political activist, past president, and current member of the League of Women Voters from El Dorado County in the Sierra foothills. She currently is a board member for the nonprofit organization Californians for Electoral Reform.

Jeanne Massey

Executive Director, FairVote Minnesota

Jeanne Massey is the Executive Director of FairVote Minnesota and was the lead organizer for the Minneapolis Better Ballot Campaign. Before joining FairVote Minnesota, she was an independent urban and social services planning consultant and is the former Director of the South Hennepin Regional Planning Agency. She is an active community volunteer and has served on several nonprofit and neighborhood boards.

Ben Manski

Executive Director, Liberty Tree

Attorney Ben Manski, Executive Director of Liberty Tree. Manski served as legal counsel for the Wisconsin municipal initiative campaign in which the voters in 34 of 42 municipalities voted in favor of "immediate withdrawal of all U.S. military personnel from Iraq."

Deborah Markowitz

Vermont Secretary of State

Deborah Markowitz is Vermont's 37th Secretary of State. She was first elected in 1998. Although she had never run for elective office before, she beat a two-term incumbent after running a strong grassroots campaign. As Secretary of State, she is the constitutional officer chiefly responsible for Vermont's elections, the State Archives, professional licensing and business registrations, and for providing educational assistance to Vermont's local officials. The first woman to be elected Secretary of State in Vermont, she served as president of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) in 2006-2007.

Ray Martinez

Former Election Assistance Commission Vice-Chair

Currently director of Public Relations for Rice University, Ray Martinez served as and advisor to the Pew Charitable Trusts and as a commissioner and vice chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC), an independent, bipartisan federal agency responsible for assisting state and local governments to improve the process of election administration. Prior to his appointment to the EAC, Mr. Martinez practiced administrative law in Austin,

Texas with a client base consisting primarily of county governments and related public sector associations. He began his practice after serving as Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House. In this position, he was responsible for assisting former President Bill Clinton with various policy issues involving the Nation's governors and other statewide elected officials. Before serving as Deputy Assistant to the President, he served as Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Dallas, where he focused agency resources on public health issues such as full implementation of the Children's Health Insurance Program. His federal government service began in 1993, when he was appointed White House Liaison to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and later as Special Assistant to the President in the White House Office of Political Affairs. Prior to his service in the federal government, he worked for the Texas Attorney General's office. A native of Alice, Texas, Mr. Martinez received his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center and his bachelor's degree from Southwestern University. He is married to Beth Stanley Martinez, a clinical social worker, and they are the parents of two children, Sofia and Lorenzo.

Michael McDonald Brookings Institution & George Mason University

Dr. Michael P. McDonald is Associate Professor of Government and Politics in the Department of Public and International Affairs at George Mason University and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He received a Ph.D. in Political Science from University of California, San Diego and a B.S. in Economics from California Institute of Technology. He held a one-year post-doc fellowship at Harvard University and has previously taught at Vanderbilt University and University of Illinois, Springfield. His research interests include voting behavior, redistricting, Congress, American political development, and political methodology. His voter turnout research shows that turnout is not declining, the ineligible population is rising. His research on redistricting warns of the uncompetitive nature of elections as a result of redistricting. On the practical side of politics, Dr. McDonald has worked for the national exit poll organization, consulted to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, consulted to the Pew Center for the States, served on campaign staff for state legislative campaigns in California and Virginia, has worked for national polling firms, and has worked as a redistricting consultant in Alaska, Arizona, California, Michigan, and New York. He has worked as a media consultant to ABC and NBC, and is frequently quoted in the media regarding United States elections. His opinion editorials have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, *The American Prospect*, and *Roll Call*.

Brent McMillan National Policy Director, Green Party

Brent McMillan is the national political director for the Green Party, working out of the party's offices in Washington, D.C. McMillan has served as the GPUS Political Director since February 11, 2004. A former Republican, McMillan first became involved in the Green Party in 1991 with the Delaware

County Greens in Muncie, Indiana and served as secretary for the first statewide gathering of Greens in 1992. In 1996 he co-founded the Green Party of Seattle and served on the first coordinating council. In 1998 he co-founded the Green Party of the 36th District and served as its Treasurer until 2004. In 2000 he co-founded the Green Party of Washington State and served as the first State Facilitator (Chair). In 2002 he was elected as one of two delegates to represent the state of Washington on the National Committee of the Green Party of the United States. In 2003 he was a candidate for the newly created Seattle Monorail Authority Board. During the campaign he was endorsed by the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* and the *Seattle Weekly*. He received a BS and a BA from Ball State University.

Ana Micka

Co-Director, Reuniting America

Ana Micka is Co-Director of Reuniting America. Ana brings many years of political and non-profit management to Reuniting America. She spent 10 years running Congressional campaigns, successfully electing several Members of Congress, was a founding staff member of Progressive Majority and the Organic Consumers Association and was President of Citizens for Health.

David Moon

Program Director, FairVote

David Moon is the Program Director of FairVote. An attorney licensed in Maryland, he is returning to the organization having completed his legal education at the American University, Washington College of Law. Over the past several years, David has worked with numerous social justice organizations, including the NOW Legal Defense & Education Fund and the ACLU. With a strong interest in criminal justice, David worked with the ACLU's *Students Against the Death Penalty* in voter education efforts and workshops on systemic legal problems for grassroots organizers, and he has also served on the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project. In the past, he co-taught two seminars on political domination at Tufts University and continues to work on political organizing to this day. His most recent political management endeavors include a federal progressive political action committee, and successful campaigns for Providence, RI City Council and Maryland State Senate candidates.

Shilpi Niyogi

National Ballot Access Director, Unity 08

Shilpi Niyogi joined Unity08 to take on the challenge of getting on the ballot in all 50 states and Washington, DC for the 2008 presidential election. Ms. Niyogi comes to Unity08 as a public affairs leader with two decades of experience successfully navigating and managing issues at the intersection of education policy and practice. She has broad and deep expertise in conceptualizing, planning and implementing strategic communications programs—including advertising, public engagement campaigns, government relations, opinion research, and corporate branding. Ms. Niyogi worked for nearly 17 years at Educational Testing Service, the nation's premier educational assessment and

research company—most recently serving as the Executive Director of Government Relations and Market Research. Ms. Niyogi was an Institute for Education Leadership fellow in Washington, D.C., in 2000, and graduated from Brown University in 1987 a B.A. with Honors in Comparative Literature.

Larry Norden **Counsel, The Brennan Center for Justice**

Mr. Norden works in the areas of voting technology, voting rights and government accountability at The Brennan Center for Justice. He is the lead author of *The Machinery of Democracy: Voting System Security, Accessibility, Usability, Cost* and a contributor to Routledge's forthcoming *Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties*. Mr. Norden edits and writes for the Brennan Center's blog on New York State, ReformNY. He is a graduate of the University of Chicago and the NYU School of Law. Mr. Norden serves as an adjunct faculty member in the Lawyering Program at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Before joining the Brennan Center, Mr. Norden was in private practice, concentrating in commercial litigation, technology and bankruptcy law.

Grover Norquist **President, Americans for Tax Reform**

Grover Norquist is an activist and lobbyist working as the President of Americans for Tax Reform. Past work includes co-authoring the 1994 Contract with American and playing an influential role in garnering support for President Bush's 2000 campaign for the White House. Working closely with President George H.W. Bush, President George W. Bush and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich has contributed to Norquist's reputation as a successful political strategist. Norquist received his bachelors in economics from Harvard and later received his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

Scott Novakowski **Demos**

Scott Novakowski joined Demos in September 2005. At Demos, Scott works primarily on securing state compliance with the public assistance provisions of the National Voter Registration Act and other reforms to ensure historically marginalized populations have access to the democratic process. Scott has spoken at various conferences and testified before the Election Assistance Commission on democracy issues and has had articles published in the *Professional Development: The International Journal of Continuing Social Work Education* and Tompaine.com among others. As an intern with DemocracyWorks, Scott lobbied and testified before the Connecticut General Assembly on issues of open government and immigrants' rights, and also coordinated an initiative to increase civic engagement among 16-24 year olds. He holds a Master of Social Work degree with a concentration in Policy Practice from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work and a B.A. in Sociology, also from the University of Connecticut.

Krist Novoselic**Bassist of Nirvana and Author**

A founding member of the groundbreaking rock band Nirvana, Krist Novoselic, along with band mates, Kurt Cobain and David Grohl, changed the course of music history when they snapped up Billboard Magazine's number one spot with their much-acclaimed album *Nevermind*. In doing so, Nirvana opened the doors for a flood of a new generation of bands. After Nirvana, Novoselic went on to become one of rock's most politically-minded musicians. Novoselic has also committed himself to numerous different community projects and has become an influential part of the Northwest political scene. He has been active in politics as an elected Democratic State Committeeman and as a master with the Grange. A FairVote board member since 2004, Krist has made numerous appearances to advocate electoral reform, especially instant runoff voting and proportional voting. He considered a 2004 run for Lieutenant Governor of Washington State. His first book, *Of Grunge and Government: Let's Fix This Broken Democracy*, was published in October 2004.

Nick Nyhart**President and CEO, Public Campaign**

Nick Nyhart is a co-founder and the President and CEO of Public Campaign. A three-decade veteran of social change politics, issue advocacy, grassroots organizing, and non-profit management, Nyhart brings a wealth of experience to the national reform movement. Following the 1992 elections, Nyhart became Director of the Northeast Action Money and Politics Project, a six-state venture that laid the groundwork for Maine's 1996 breakthrough full public financing victory. In January 1997, Nyhart joined scores of state and national money and politics activists to found Public Campaign, where he served as National Field Director and Deputy Director before assuming the group's helm in 2000. At Public Campaign, Nyhart has worked to win cutting edge state reform efforts across the country and has organized a number of innovative national collaborations to promote publicly financed elections at the federal level.

Steven Ochoa**William C. Velasquez Institute**

Steven Ochoa has served as the Director of Voting Rights and Policy Research for the William C. Velasquez Institute's since June, 2006. He joined WCVI after receiving his Master of Public Policy from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, where he focused on Voting and Civil Rights for minority interests, in particular for the Latino community. A Los Angeles area resident, he earned his Bachelors degree from the University of California, Berkeley in Political Science in 2000, after which he spent four years working at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund working on redistricting in California, Texas, and Illinois, including extensive participation in the California statewide, Los Angeles City Council, and Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education redistricting processes.

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Ryan O'Donnell**Director of the Presidential Election Reform Program, FairVote**

Ryan was the lead organizer and lobbyist for the National Popular Vote bill in the Maryland Assembly. Maryland became the first state in the country to sign on to the plan to change the way we elect the president in April 2007. Ryan has been interviewed in outlets ranging from NPR to *The National Journal's* Insider Interviews series. His commentaries on politics and elections have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Miami Herald*, *Boston Globe*, *Sacramento Bee*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, *Manchester Union-Leader*, *San Jose Mercury News*, *the Tennessean*, *TomPaine.com*, *Newark Star-Ledger*, *The Guardian (UK)* and others. Ryan drafted a substantial portion of the Association of State Democratic Chairs "Priorities for Election Reform" recommendations in 2007. He also served as an international policy fellow for the Electoral Reform Society in London during Britain's 2005 general elections. Ryan joined FairVote as Communications Director after serving as Marketing Coordinator at the Fine Arts Center of Amherst, Massachusetts, a non-profit organization that presented jazz, classical music, dance and visual arts. Ryan is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts.

Spencer Overton**Author and GWU Law Professor**

Professor Overton teaches law at the George Washington School of Law, specializing in voting rights, campaign finance, property and race and law. In addition, Professor Overton has an extensive list of published works, many of which are focuses on racial inequality in the electoral system. His most recent book, *Stealing Democracy: The New Politics of Voter Suppression*, has received great praise for addressing the problem of the rule manipulation by officials to win their election. Overton's writing has been featured in major newspapers across the country including the New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and Boston Globe to name a few. Overton received his bachelors in mass media and journalism from Hampton University and his J.D. from Harvard Law School.

Renée Paradis**Counsel of Democracy Program, Brennan Center for Justice**

Renée Paradis is Counsel in the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice, a non-partisan public policy and law institute. She joined the Center in September 2005 following her fellowship at the Drug Law Reform Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, in Santa Cruz, California. She previously clerked for the Honorable Karen Nelson Moore of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, in Cleveland, Ohio. She received her J.D. in 2003 from Columbia Law School, where she was a James Kent scholar, and served as a Notes Editor of the Columbia Law Review. Ms. Paradis works primarily on the Center's efforts to reform voter registration, including litigation challenging restrictions on voter registration drives, and will be the primary author of the

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His articles have appeared in national magazines and newspapers, and he is the founder of Northeast Action, a leading political reform organization in New England. Rapoport moved to Demos from his position as Executive Director of DemocracyWorks, a Hartford-based group that works on democracy reform.

Jamin Raskin

Maryland State Senator

Jamin Raskin is the sitting state senator for the 20th congressional district of Maryland. Senator Raskin has also worked as law professor at the American University Law School. As an AU professor he directed the Appleseed Project on Electoral Reform and founded the Marshall-Brennan Fellows Program. He has authored several books on the democratic process including *The Wealth Primary* (with John Bonifaz), *We the Students*, and, his Washington Post Bestseller, *Overruling Democracy: The Supreme Court versus the American People*. He is the sponsor of a National Popular Vote law which makes Maryland the first state in the Union adopt a plan for a nationwide interstate compact to cast every state's electoral college votes for the winner of the national popular vote, a movement that is very popular among the American people. Continued dedication to electoral reforms and protecting constitutionally given rights has earned Senator Raskin a very esteemed reputation in the reform community. Senator Raskin received his bachelors and law degree, respectively, from Harvard University and Harvard Law School.

William Redpath

Libertarian National Committee

William Redpath was elected chair of the Libertarian Party in July of 2006 at the party's national convention in Portland, Oregon. Redpath is the Vice President of a financial consulting firm and holds an MBA from the University of Chicago. In 2001 he ran for governor of Virginia. He has served as treasurer of FairVote's board of directors for a decade. Bill and his wife Melinda live in Leesburg, Virginia.

Rob Richie

Executive Director, FairVote

Rob Richie is executive director of FairVote (www.fairvote.org), a non-profit organization acting to transform American elections to achieve equal access to participation, a full spectrum of meaningful choices and majority rule with fair representation and a voice for all. He is co-author of *Every Vote Equal* about establishing a national popular vote for president and *Whose Votes Count*, about proportional voting for American elections. His writings have appeared in many newspapers and six additional books. Richie has been a guest on radio and TV programs on C-SPAN, NBC News, NPR's *All Things Considered* and *Talk of the Nation*, CNN, FOX and MSNBC. At FairVote, Richie has: addressed the annual conventions of the American Political Science Association, National Association of Counties, National Association of Secretaries of State and National Conference of State Legislatures; drafted federal and state legislation; and testified before many charter commissions and state legislative committees. He and his wife Cynthia Terrell have three children.

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Sol Rodriguez **Executive Director, Rhode Island Family Life Center**

Sol Rodriguez is the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Family Life Center. The nonprofit organization helps ex-offenders and their families by providing long-term holistic case management services starting prior to release from prison and extending for two months afterwards. Before the Rhode Island Family Life Center Sol has worked in a variety of fields ranging from labor organizing to affordable housing and environmental justice.

Ion Sancho **Supervisor of Elections Leon County, FL**

Ion Sancho is the Supervisor of Elections for Leon County, Florida. Serving since January 1989, he has been reelected four times. He is the only Supervisor of Elections in Florida without party affiliation. Mr. Sancho has devoted special attention to studying voting technologies and increasing citizen participation in the democratic process. In the Florida 2006 general election Leon County finished first in voter turnout, more than 20 percentage points higher than State average. Ion Sancho is nationally recognized as an expert in elections, appearing on ABC, CBS, CNN, PBS, FOX and MSNBC news programs and over a hundred publications. He has testified in numerous legal proceedings across the nation and has been invited to present testimony before the United States Congress and the U.S. Elections Assistance Committee. Mr. Sancho was appointed by the Florida Supreme Court in December of 2000 as the technical expert to oversee the Florida Recount effort and was recognized by the Leon County Board of County Commissioners for providing “statistically the cleanest county elections in the state” during that infamous election. In 2005 Mr. Sancho sanctioned the first tests of voting machines by voting integrity experts, independent of the vendors. His actions were captured in the 2007 Emmy nominated documentary film, “Hacking Democracy”. Sancho received his bachelor’s degree from Stetson University in 1978 and his Juris Doctorate from the Florida State University College of Law in 1987. He was the first Supervisor of Elections in Florida history to achieve national certification as a Certified Elections/Registration Official, in 1996.

David Segal **Rhode Island State Representative**

In 2003, David Segal was sworn in as the youngest person ever elected to the Providence City Council, devoting himself to the City Council full-time. Dubbed "a champion of progressive politics" by the Providence Phoenix, David led countless initiatives during his time on the City Council, promoting social justice, good government, environmental sustainability and energy efficiency, civil liberties, and civil rights. In 2006, David won the District Two Democratic Primary for State Representative with 68 percent of the vote, and was unopposed in the general election. He serves on the Corporations Committee and the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. David graduated magna cum laude from Columbia University with a BA in math. During 2001 and 2002 he worked at the Wheeler School, teaching and tutoring mathematics. While at

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County advocacy group SAVE-Democracy (Safe, Accurate, Verified Elections). She has been a small business and marketing consultant and nonprofit executive, and has worked in both public and private sector.

Jacob Soboroff

Executive Director, Why Tuesday?

Jacob is a Los Angeles native and the host of Why Tuesday?'s weekly video blog. He moved to New York to attend New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, but he graduated from the politics department where he also received his MA in political theory and philosophy. He was a part time advance man for NYC Michael Bloomberg and briefly played the same role for presidential candidate Howard Dean. After moving back to Los Angeles, he took up video blogging for LA Observed, where he contributes reports about Los Angeles news, media and sense of place. Jacob is also a contributor to the new PBS series WIRED SCIENCE, a production of KCET Los Angeles in association with Wired magazine.

Danny Solis

Chicago City Council Member

Alderman Daniel "Danny" Solis brings vision, leadership, and action to Chicago's diverse 25th Ward community. His impressive 30-year history of dedicated service to his community is evidence of his commitment to neighborhood improvement. His continual work within today's neighborhoods builds upon past accomplishments while laying a foundation of growth and development for future generations of the 25th Ward residents.

Kay Stimson

National Association of Secretaries of State

Kay Stimson works with the National Association of Secretaries of State. She has served as the Associate Director of Media and Public Affairs to the Commission on Federal Election Reform, and Director of Communications at both the U.S. Election Assistance Commission and the National Association of Secretaries of State, where she served as the association's spokesperson and managed its voter outreach efforts. Prior to joining NASS, Ms. Stimson spent more than five years in the field of television journalism as an news anchor and political reporter.

Ian Storrar

Director of Youth and Volunteer Programs, Common Cause

Ian Storrar serves as the Director of Youth and Volunteer Programs for Common Cause. Based in Washington, DC, he is responsible for the organization's outreach to young people, coordinates the national office's internship program, and the Washington Connection volunteers. With its new close working relationship with Democracy Matters, Ian is serving as field organizer for DM campuses in Iowa and Pennsylvania. Ian is working to make Democracy Matters students on its 70+ campuses throughout the US part of Common Cause's national grassroots network. Before accepting a full-time position in 2005, he was a Common Cause intern during the summer of 2004, focusing on media reform and voter education in the grassroots department. Since

1999, he has been active in diverse campaigns in several states from Arizona to New York.

Warren Stewart

Project Director, Verified Voting

As Senior Project Director for Verified Voting, Warren Stewart advocates for election reform in the U.S. House and Senate and has contributed analysis and advice to state level activists across the country. His research and analysis of data from the 2004 General Election in New Mexico was influential in promoting public awareness of problems with electronic voting and positive legislative action in that state. He has written extensively on election issues and has been published in the Harvard Law and Policy Review, Washington Spectator, and on numerous websites, and has presented testimony before the Election Assistance Commission and the U. S. House and Senate. Stewart was formerly policy director for VoteTrustUSA and editor of Election Integrity News. In addition to his work with Verified Voting, Stewart is a conductor and cellist and serves as artistic director for the San Francisco-based early music ensemble Magnificat

Nancy Tate

Executive Director, League of Women Voters

Nancy E. Tate is the Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters Education Fund. The League is the nation's premier nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues through education and advocacy. From 1994 until accepting the top staff position at the League, Ms. Tate was the Chief Operating Officer of the National Academy of Public Administration. The Academy is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization chartered by Congress to examine the emerging issues of governance and to improve the effectiveness of government at all levels. Ms. Tate's previous experience in management-consulting, Department of Energy, the Department of Education, and the Office of Economic Opportunity. Ms. Tate has a B.A. in political science from Stanford University and a Masters degree in public administration from George Washington University. She is active in numerous professional and civic organizations.

Catherine Turcer

Project Director, Ohio Citizen Action

Catherine Turcer is the legislative director for Ohio Citizen Action and the director of Ohio Citizen Action's Money in Politics Project. In 1999, Turcer became the campaign finance director for Ohio Citizen Action and in 2001 she became Citizen Action's legislative director. Turcer is the co-author of a number of campaign finance studies including *The Run for the Money: An Analysis of Campaign Contribution Patterns in Ohio 1999-2000*; *The Enron Hot Potato, \$2.9 Million from Polluters to 'Call the Shots' at Ohio EPA, 2004 Contributions to Candidates for Justice and Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court and Following the Money: Contributions to Ohio Gubernatorial Candidates 2005-2006*. Turcer also provides regular commentary to Ohio newspapers including the

Akron Beacon Journal, Cincinnati Enquirer, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Columbus Dispatch and The Toledo Blade. She is a frequent guest on WOSU-TV's *Columbus on the Record*.

Orlando Vidal

Attorney, Sullivan & Worcester

Orlando E. Vidal serves as counsel in the Litigation and Legislative & Federal Affairs Groups of our Washington D.C. office. He has represented clients and governments before federal and state trial and appellate courts, Congress, administrative agencies, state and local legislative bodies, and international commissions. He also has represented companies, organizations, and individuals in internal corporate investigations, arbitrations, and mediations, and before international tribunals. Mr. Vidal is one of a very small group of attorneys in the United States who handles daily litigation matters in Spanish- and English-speaking jurisdictions.

Peter Wagner

Executive Director, Prison Policy Initiative

Peter Wagner, is an attorney and Executive Director of the Prison Policy Initiative. He teaches, lectures, and writes about the negative impact of mass incarceration in the United States. His current focus is on working to demonstrate -- through graphics, legal research, and state-by-state analyses -- the distortion of the democratic process that results from the U.S. Census Bureau's practice of counting the nation's mostly urban prisoners as residents of the often remote communities in which they are incarcerated.

Sandy Wayland

President, Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition

Sandy Wayland is the President of the Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition. The organization is dedicated to election reform to protect the rights of every eligible voter to cast a ballot and to have that ballot accurately recorded and counted.

Daniel Weeks

Policy Director, Americans for Campaign Reform

Daniel is policy director of Americans for Campaign Reform in Concord, NH and Washington, DC. He graduated with honors in Political Science and International Studies from Yale University in 2006, where he assisted in passing the first legislature-approved public campaign finance law in the country for Connecticut state elections. Also at Yale, he led the city of New Haven in implementing the state's first municipal public funding system for mayoral elections and founded Students for Clean Elections to amplify the student voice for reform. His senior thesis on federal campaign finance was published in Columbia's *Journal of Politics and Society* and he has spoken frequently on American elections and reform. Daniel is currently completing an MPhil. in Political Theory as a Marshall Scholar at Oxford.

Jeffrey Wice**Law Professor,**

Jeff Wice serves as counsel to the Foundation for the Future, a national redistricting program helping prepare Democrats for the post-2010 redistricting cycle. He is also a counsel to the New York State Senate Democratic Conference. Jeff helped create the first national Democratic Party redistricting programs in the early 1980s and served as the Democratic National Committee's redistricting counsel during the 1990 and 2000 cycles. Through the 2000 census, Jeff served as counsel to President Bill Clinton's appointees to the federal Census Monitoring Board. As an attorney, he has worked with federal, state and local elected officials with redistricting planning and litigation efforts in nearly every state in the country. Jeff teaches election law at Touro Law School and is a graduate of the George Washington University and Antioch School of Law.

Ben Wilcox**Executive Director, Common Cause Florida**

After graduation from Florida State University in 1976, Ben Wilcox worked as a reporter for the Florida Public Radio Network, providing reports on state government and the Florida legislature to public radio stations throughout the state. In 1978, he became the news director for the network and in 1994 he also became the news director for WFSU-FM, the public radio station in Tallahassee. As a journalist he covered 23 sessions of the Florida legislature and won awards from the Associated Press and the Society of Professional Journalists. He also hosted a statewide call-in program called *Florida on the Line* featuring the states political leaders, including the Governor, the legislative leadership and members of the state cabinet. As executive director of Common Cause Florida, Ben Wilcox is responsible for representing the position of Common Cause before the Florida legislature on a variety of issues including election reform, campaign finance reform, open government, reapportionment and ethics reform.

Sheila Williams**Rainbow Push Coalition**

Sheila Williams works for the Rainbow Bush Coalition's New Orleans chapter. The Rainbow Push Coalition is a multiracial, multi-issue national membership organization, founded by the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson. The Coalition's mission is to move the nation and the world toward social, racial, and economic justice. We embrace and seek to fulfill the democratic promise of Americans by uniting people of diverse ethnic, religious, economic and political backgrounds to make America's promise of "Liberty and Justice for All," a reality. She has is dedicated to the relief effort in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

Pam Wilmot**Common Cause**

Pam Wilmot has been an advocate for government reform and other progressive causes for over 20 years. She is a graduate of Brown University, Northeastern University School of Law, and Smith College School for Social Work. Pam is the current executive director of Common Cause Massachusetts, a post she has held for the past year as well as from 1989-1993. Ms. Wilmot has

also worked for Ralph Nader, Rhode Island and Mass PIRG, and the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Bottle Bill campaigns, and many others. Her achievements include the Massachusetts Act for Accountable Politics that lowered campaign contribution limits and increased campaign disclosure, the Rhode Island Used Car Lemon Law, and legislation limiting the number of days that banks can “hold” checks before clearing them for depositor’s use.

Iilir Zherka

Executive Director, DC Vote

Iilir Zherka joined DC Vote as Executive Director in 2002. As Executive Director, Iilir leads DC Vote’s local and national efforts to raise public awareness about DC’s denial of voting representation, serves as the principal spokesperson for the organization, and manages the day-to-day operations of the group. Under his leadership, DC Vote has: quadrupled the size of its coalition; added thousands of supporters and members; secured hundreds of media stories around the world; and launched an education and advocacy campaign directed at Congress. Prior experience includes Executive Director of the National Albanian American Council, Director for Ethnic Outreach for the Clinton-Gore re-election campaign, and Legislative Counsel to Congressman George Miller. Iilir has testified before the US Congress, the DC City Council, and other governmental bodies, and has appeared on numerous national television and radio news programs. Iilir graduated with distinction from Cornell University and received his law degree from the University of Virginia.

Barnett Zitron

Outreach Director, Why Tuesday?

Barnett is a native New Yorker and attended the Horace Mann School in the Bronx. He studied at New York University’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study where he concentrated on City Planning. After graduating, Barnett remained in New York to work for the Empire State Development Corporation in the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation, and currently aspires for a professional architecture degree.

Transportation

Drivers:

Parking is available at the University's main garage located at Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness Street (entrance at Van Ness). Daily parking permits cost \$8. Metered parking is also available on nearby streets.

Metro Map:



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UDC Area Eateries

Café

Sips Café - 4418 Connecticut Ave
Starbucks - 4250 Connecticut Ave
Your Way Café - 4250 Connecticut Ave

Chinese

Charlie Chiang's Restaurant - 4250 Connecticut Ave
Shanghai Garden - 4469 Connecticut Ave
Super Panda - 4221 Connecticut Ave

Fast Food

Burger King - 4422 Connecticut Ave
KFC 4221 - Connecticut Ave
Taco Bell - 4221 Connecticut Ave
Pizza Hut - 4221 Connecticut Ave

Indian

Delhi Dhaba - 4455 Connecticut Ave

Italian

Tesoro Restaurant - 4400 Connecticut Ave
Italian Pizza Kitchen - 4483 Connecticut Ave

Sushi

Epicurean & Co. - 4250 Connecticut Ave

Sandwiches

Subway Sandwiches and Salad - 4401 Connecticut Ave
Potbelly - 4300 Connecticut Ave
Schlotzkey's - 4340 Connecticut Ave DC Eateries

DC Eateries

Fast food and cafes:

Food Court – 800 K St.
Subway – H St. between 7th & 8th
Potbelly – 726 7th St NW, 1400 New York ST NW,
1900 L St. NW, 555 12th St. NW,
McDonald's – 1235 NY Ave NW
Cosí – 12th & G, 10th & E, 1275 K St,
1333 H St, 15th & K
Starbucks – 7th & H

Sandwiches, etc:

Warehouse Café – 1017 7th St. NW (between L & NY)
Sandwiches, salads, wraps ~ \$5
Also has baked goods, coffee, tea

New World Café – 720 I St. NW
Deli Sandwiches ~ \$3 - \$5
Breakfast – under \$4

High Noon – 1311 F St or 15th & K
Sandwiches, salads, etc.
Offers vegetarian/vegan options

American Cuisine:

RFD Washington – 810 7th St NW
Sandwiches ~ \$6 - \$7
Lunch/dinner entrees ~ \$7 - \$21

Fadó Irish Pub – 808 7th St NW (7th & H)
\$7 - \$14/plate
Late night (10 – 12) ~ \$4 - \$9/plate

Fuddruckers – 734 7th St NW (7th & H)
Burgers – up to \$10

Capital Q – 707 H St NW
Texas BBQ – entrees up to \$10

Austin Grill – 750 E St NW
BBQ, Burgers, Tex-Mex ~ \$10/plate

Georgia Brown's – 950 15th St NW
(McPherson Square)
Entrees ~ \$17 - \$25

Asian:

Sushi Aoi – 1100 NY Ave NW
Entrees ~ \$10 - \$16

Café Asia – 1720 I St NW
Entrees ~ \$10 - \$16

Chinese:

Eat First Restaurant – 609 H Street
Lunch Special ~ \$4

Tony Cheng's -- 621 H Street
Mongolian BBQ, All you can eat, lower level ~ \$10 -
\$15 Mongolian, Seafood, Upper level ~ \$15 - \$25/plate

Szechuan Gallery – 617 H St NW
Under \$10/plate

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Mr. Yung's Restaurant – 740 6th St NW
Entrees up to \$10

Greek:

Zaytinya – 701 9th St NW
Entrees ~ \$10 - \$16

Indian:

Mehak – 817 7th Street NW (bet. H & I)
Up to \$15/plate

Italian:

A.V. Ristorante Italiano – 607 NY Ave
~ \$8-\$15/plate, pizza ~ \$7 - \$9

Matchbox Restaurant – 713 H St (between 7th & 8th)
Brick oven pizza \$10 - \$17; Sandwiches, salads ~ \$5 - \$13; Entrees ~ \$13 - \$21

Ristorante Murali – 9th & I St NW
Lunch -- \$8 / pizza, \$10 - \$20/plate
Dinner -- \$10 / pizza, \$15 - \$25/plate

Moroccan:

Marakesh Restaurant – 617 NY Ave NW
(NY Ave & 6th St) Entrees ~ \$10 - \$16

Seafood:

Oceanaire Seafood – 1201 F St NW
Entrees ~ \$17 - \$25

Legal Sea Foods – 704 7th St NW
Entrees ~ \$17 - \$25

Spanish/Tapas:

Jaleo – 480 7th St NW
Entrees ~ \$10 - \$16

Thai:

Haad Thai – 1100 NY Ave NW
Entrees ~ \$10

**For more information and to stay in touch about
future plans for pro-democracy conferences, please
contact:**

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