**P**rogressive A COALITION OF WOMEN LEADERS

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Sandra Threlfall

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Kathleen Cha **O**akland Gloria Fangon-Hitz Lenore Gallin, PhD Women for Judy McCord Carol Norberg Empowerment & Reform

POWER's purpose is to recognize courageous women of the past upon whose shoulders we stand and those women today who continue to lead the way in advancing reforms that build and empower communities. More info at http://www.waterfrontaction.org/power/



#### **Friends & Sponsors**

We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and organizations without whose support this event would not have been possible:

Alameda County Historical Society

**AAUW Oakland-Piedmont** 

League of Women Voters of Oakland

Sally Lewis

National Women's History Project

Sequoia Equities

Special thanks to Daphne Muse for her contributions to POWER

## **Celebrating Women's History Month Civil Rights / Civil Liberties:** How Do We Move Forward?



Saturday, March 21, 2015 10 am - 1 pm Mills College, Oakland Carnegie Hall - Bender Room

Presented by the Mills College Public Policy Department and POWER (Progressive Oakland Women for Empowerment & Reform)

## POWER & the Mills College Public Policy Department present

### Civil Rights / Civil Liberties: How Do We Move Forward?

#### Moderator

Daphne Muse Writer/activist, former Director, Mills College Women's Leadership Institute

#### **Panelists**

Jerri Lange Author, TV broadcaster, producer, print journalist, and SFSU professor

Lynette Jung Lee
President & CEO, East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation (retired)

Barbara Parker City Attorney, City of Oakland

Teresa DeLoach Reed Fire Chief, City of Oakland

Nancy Skinner
Former Assemblywoman, California State Assembly, District 15

Betty Soskin Park Ranger, National Park Service, Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park

Refreshments · Networking · Book Sale

# SAVE THE DATE The 4th Annual Ms Delilah Beasley Tea



Sunday, September 27, 2015 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM Pardee Home Museum Gardens 672 11th St, Oakland

#### Honoring

#### **Arabella Martinez**

Interim CEO of the Latino Community Foundation
Founder and former CEO of The Unity Council
Former Assistant Secretary for the Office of Human Development
Services at the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Presented by

#### **POWER**

(Progressive Oakland Women for Empowerment & Reform)

Ms. Skinner began public service in 1984 as the first and only UC Berkeley student to be elected to the Berkeley City Council. On the City Council, Ms. Skinner introduced the nation's first Styrofoam ban and supported domestic partnership benefits for LGBT employees. In 1990, Ms. Skinner co-founded ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, serving as US Executive Director and Director of the Cities for Climate Protection program which engaged over 1000 cities worldwide in efforts to address climate change.

Ms. Skinner served on the East Bay Regional Park District Board, is a former small business owner and long time advocate to increase women in elected office. A graduate of UC Berkeley with a BS from the College of Natural Resources and a MA in Education, Ms. Skinner served in UC Berkeley's student government and was a leader in the South Africa Divestment movement.

in the National Park Service. She works as tour guide and interpreter at the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California, which she helped create in 2000 while serving as field representative for California State Assemblywomen Dion Aroner

and Loni Hancock. There, Ms. Soskin has been "a tireless voice for making sure the African-American wartime experience ... has a prominent place in the park's history."

Born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1921, Ms. Soskin spent her early childhood in New Orleans, Louisiana, and moved to Oakland, California in 1927.

Before becoming a park ranger at the age of 85, Ms. Soskin was a social and political activist who was a well-known songwriter and performer in the civil rights movement. She also ran Reid's Records in Berkeley, which she cofounded in 1945. Ms. Soskin has been featured in various print and broadcast media. Her honors and awards include recognition by the California Legislature as the 1995 Woman of the Year; by the National Women's History Project as a 2006 Builder of Communities and Dreams; and by the Richmond City Council in a 2009 Proclamation by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin. She attended President Obama's Inauguration as a guest of Rep. George Miller and received an honorary doctorate at California College of the Arts. To learn more about and from this amazing lady, read her blog "CBreaux Speaks" at http://cbreaux.blogspot.com, on which she has posted almost daily since 2003.

JERRI LANGE began her colorful career as a Legislative Secretary to Assemblyman W. Byron Rumford, the first African American Assemblyman in Northern California. As a mother of three children, she enrolled at Merritt College at the age of 36 as an English Literature major and never looked back. Decades later, Ms. Lange's autobiography,

"Jerri - A Black Woman's Life in the Media," received the 2007-2010 Literacy Award from Artists Embassy International.

In 1963, Ms. Lange joined the San Francisco Chronicle as an editorial secretary, working for such well-known columnists as Art Hoppe. Three years later, Ms. Lange became the first African American to serve on the staff of San Francisco Mayor John Shelley and, in that capacity, assisted the Mayor in avoiding a near race riot which threatened the City. When Mayor Shelley decided not to run for a second term, Ms. Lange became Public Service Director at KEMO (now KOFY), a new TV station in San Francisco. She later produced the "Mel Belli Show." By 1970, Ms. Lange was at KBHK hosting "San Francisco Today," a program that ran for four years and featured such celebrities as Sammy Davis, Jr., Madam W.E.B. du Bois, Charlton Heston, and Alex Haley. Moving on to KGO and KQED, Ms. Lange was the first Black woman to host the national talk show, "TURNABOUT."

In 1986, Ms. Lange moved to KHET in Honolulu, where she produced and hosted "SPECTRUM HAWAII" and a program on aging. On her return to the Bay Area in I990, she became General Manager of KMPT in San Francisco. In 1978, San Francisco State University awarded Jerri Lange, along with Walter Cronkite and Mike Wallace, its most prestigious honor, the Broadcast Preceptor Award, given by the Broadcast Communications Arts Department.

LYNETTE JUNG LEE spent 33 years with the non-profit East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation (EBALDC), the last 27 years as Executive Director. During her tenure, she grew EBALDC from a staff of two to 90 and helped guide its affordable housing development to achieve over 1400 completed apartments and over 200 homes

for first time home buyers. Ms. Lee helped expand EBALDC programs to include property management, small business retail and office development,

community organization and neighborhood economic development, and financial literacy. After retirement from EBALDC, Lynette helped to establish the Diversity in Health Training Institute, a nonprofit focusing on helping immigrants and refugees with medical backgrounds to re-enter the medical field.

Ms. Lee currently serves as a board member for the Center for Leadership Innovation, Community Economics and the Gum Moon/Asian Women's Resource Center and is a Commissioner with the Oakland Housing Authority. She was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii. She has a B.A. in English Literature from the University of Hawaii and a Standard Secondary Teaching Credential from San Francisco State College (now University). Ms. Lee is married with two grown children and a "grand doggie."

BARBARA J. PARKER was elected City Attorney for the City of Oakland in 2012 after serving as Chief Assistant City Attorney in Oakland for more than 10 years. Ms. Parker has worked to improve public safety, to secure equal opportunity and justice for all Oaklanders, and to assure that City Hall operates in a transparent, honest and fair manner. She

shut down two Oakland hotels that were centers for prostitution, is holding big banks and financial institutions accountable for violating antitrust laws and mortgage lending violations, and won a record \$15 million judgment against a fraudulent immigration consultant preying on Oakland families. Recently Ms. Parker launched an initiative to crack down on illegal dumping on Oakland streets.

Ms. Parker serves as Board President of the Black Adoption Placement and Research Center, which finds permanent homes for children, the majority of whom are in California's foster care system. Born and raised in Seattle, Washington, where her parents migrated to escape the poverty and oppression of the segregated South, Ms. Parker and her siblings are the first generation in her family to attend college. She earned her undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Washington and graduated Harvard Law School. Ms. Parker has practiced law for almost four decades in the private sector and at every level of government, including more than five years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. She has lived in Oakland for more than 34 years and resides in Haddon Hill near Lake Merritt.

TERESA DELOACH REED, Fire Chief for the City of Oakland since 2012, has the distinction of being the first African American woman to lead a metropolitan fire department. She began her career with the San Jose, California, Fire Department in 1986, serving as Firefighter, Fire Engineer, Fire Inspector, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief, Deputy

Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief.

Governor Jerry Brown appointed Chief Reed as a voting member of the California State Board of Fire Services. She is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the IAFC Metropolitan Fire Chiefs, the California Metro Fire Chiefs and serves as President of the Alameda County Fire Chiefs Association. Chief Reed is also a member of the Black Chief Officers Committee of the International Association of Black Professional Firefighters (IABPFF) and the National Forum of Black Public Administrators.

Chief Reed's awards include the 2014 Powerful Women of the Bay Area Award, the NAACP Henry Gage Senior Excellence in Leadership Award, the IABPFF Black Chief Officers Committee Metro Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Association's Public Safety and Service Award.

Chief Reed has a master's degree in Public Administration and a bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership. She comes from a family of dedicated public servants and is married to Ronald E. Reed. They have two children, Jessica and Akil

NANCY SKINNER recently completed three terms in the State Assembly representing the East Bay cities along the I-80 corridor from Hercules to Oakland. As a social justice advocate, energy and climate expert, and accomplished legislator, Ms. Skinner chaired both the Assembly Rules and the Budget Committees. There she oversaw Cali-

fornia's largest investment in early child care and education in over a decade and new funding to reduce prison recidivism. Ms. Skinner authored legislation to prevent gun violence, to collect sales tax from internet retailers, to mandate that evidence from sexual assaults be entered into the national DNA database ("rape kit" bill), and to make food stamps more accessible to families.