



miami-dade election reform coalition

The Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition is delighted that the work of two of its long-standing members will be honored at the 19th Annual *In the Company of Women* Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, March 7, 2007. Martha Mahoney and Barbara Schwartz are both honorees this year.

These awards recognize "outstanding women who have made significant contributions to the quality of life for the Miami-Dade County community." The Miami-Dade County Commission for Women, Mayor Alvarez and the Board of County Commissioners certainly knew what they were doing when they made both Marnie and Barbara honorees this year!

Professor Mahoney is being recognized for her pioneering work in the area of voting system reform as well as for her long and distinguished career as an academic and an advocate for social justice. Marnie's work has focused on women's rights, the rights of workers to organize, racial equality and housing discrimination. At the University of Miami School of Law she has helped many, many law students learn how to serve the needs of common, everyday people.

Barbara Schwartz was a founding member of MDERC; she joined when she was serving as President of the American Association of University Women. Barbara has played a key role in organizing every single one of our poll closing projects as well as being a vital contributor to many of our other activities. She also serves on the Board of the Pace Center for Girls and volunteers on a regular basis for the Miami-Dade schools.

All of the Coalition members are so excited for Marnie and Barbara because we know first-hand what wonderful work they have done for MDERC. It is our honor and blessing to count both of these women as our friends and colleagues.

If you look at the Coalition Web site, <http://www.reformcoalition.org/>, you will find a flyer for the Awards Ceremony is on Wednesday, March 7, 2007. It will be held at Vizcaya from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. We want you all to attend this event and therefore we are canceling our weekly meeting to honor our two award winners. Please email me at swayland@mindspring.com

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Sandy Wayland
President of the Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition