

18th ANNUARY GALA

KEVIN P. CHAVOUS

J O H N
L E G E N D

HONORING THOSE WHO ROCK REAL REFORM

THE HONORABLE JOHN BOEHNER - KATHERINE BRITTAIN BRADLEY

THE CENTER FOR EDUCATION REFORM

ED REFORMIES

ROCKIN' REFORM REVUE

2011 - HONOREES

THE REFORMERS DJ MASTER HOWARD FULLER

STEVEN KLINSKY - BRIAN WILLIAMS

J O H N
F I S H E R

EVA S. MOSKOWITZ

OCTOBER 20TH - 2011

ED REFORMIES

ROCKIN' REFORM REVUE

**HONORING THOSE WHO
ROCK REAL REFORM**



18th Anniversary Gala & Awards Show
Thursday, October 20, 2011
W Hotel Washington, D.C.

800-521-2118
www.edreform.com

A FEW WORDS FROM

– JEANNE ALLEN
CER PRESIDENT

Tonight's typically unconventional Center for Education Reform Gala pays tribute to real Rock Stars whose lives are integral to the successes we share, and that you, who we are fortunate to have with us on this exciting evening, have helped make possible.

Eighteen years of doing this work, day in & day out, has taught us all that nothing comes easy. Indeed, it's the hard work that does pay off. From the tedious work of convincing a fellow policymaker to break ranks and vote for a bill that challenges the unions, to creating a school from ideas and inner resolve, only to see it targeted for extinction, there is no work harder. Our honorees embody this. All of them have allowed us to serve them over the years, providing counsel and advice,

cover and yes, even critique when we felt it was warranted. Their moral and financial support, ideas and yes, critiques, have carried us and so this gala is our gift – for a brief few hours – to applaud, laugh and sing to them, and to you all.

There is nothing we can't do without a little help from our friends. We are better when we have people who move and shake the earth to get results, no matter what the consequences. Our honorees are not easily satisfied, and they don't settle for the top of the mountain. The EdReformies are for the rebels, those who inspire and those who eschew convention.

Now let's get this party started!

Welcome to the EDREFORMIES!

—Here Comes the Sun—
CER President Jeanne Allen

—Glam Rock EdReformie—
Eva Moskowitz
Introduction by Chris Whittle

—Classic Rock EdReformie—
Honorable John Boehner
Introduction by Janine Yass

—Motown EdReformie—
Kevin P. Chavous

—National Premiere—
A Preview of Walden Media's
Learning to Fly
Micheal Flaherty, President and Co-Founder
Walden Media

—Dancing With the Stars, EdReform-Style—
Gisèle Huff

—Rock EdReformie—
John Fisher
Introduction by Michael Moe

—R&B EdReformie—
John Legend
Introduction by Donald Hense

—Pop EdReformie—
Katherine Bradley
Introduction by Kevin Chavous

—Hard Rock EdReformie—
Steve Klinsky
Introduction by Tim Barton

—Country EdReformie—
Brian Williams
Introduction by Jeanne Allen

—Closing—
"In My Life"

Dessert After Party
Featuring DJ Master Howard Fuller
Distinguished Professor of Education and Director
Institute for the Transformation of Learning

18





Here Comes the Sun

Written by George Harrison
Performed by Bob Bowdon and The Reformers



Smoking in the Boys Room

Recorded by Brownsville Station
Performed by The Reformers

“Sun, sun, sun, here it comes!” As our movement and The Center for Education Reform comes of age tonight, we are pleased to share with you the new CER, re-engineered (and with a new look) to address the increasing demand by the general public for a central hub to serve their daily information needs and provide ready access to opportunities to become more engaged in the education reform space.



Eva S. Moskowitz

Former NYC Councilwoman
& CEO, Success Charter Network



Teacher I Need You

Written by Elton John
Performed by The Reformers

True to the lyrics, Eva is “an inspiration for [so many students’] graduation, and she helps to keep the classroom sane.” This diva of education reform — through her political, personal and professional life — Eva is an unwavering and aggressive advocate for children’s achievement. Her work as the founder and the CEO of Success Charter Network has brought much-needed attention to the need for better educational opportunities through such highly controversial and bold films like *Waiting for Superman* and *The Lottery*. For rockin’ education reform like a true diva, the Glam Rock EdReformie goes to... Eva Moskowitz.

The Honorable John Boehner

Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

There’s no question that this “leader” is a true reform rebel. Not only has Speaker Boehner been one of the most outspoken supporters of school choice for decades, he’s never let political pressure [“...don’t you fill me up with your rules”] get in the way of ensuring children access to a better education. It’s not often (in fact, unprecedented) that the Speaker of the House would make school choice legislation his top priority and the only bill he would sponsor after taking leadership of the US House of Representatives. And while his conviction and political will reinstated the DC Opportunity Scholarship Program, Boehner’s commitment to accountability in schools, charter schools and teacher reforms that work has resulted in the passage of numerous reforms - like the bipartisan No Child Left Behind Act. Boehner’s been rockin’ reform before it was cool. That’s why the Classic Rock EdReformie goes to... Speaker of the House, John Boehner.



Ain't No Mountain High Enough

Written by Nickolas Ashford & Valerie Simpson

Performed by Dawn Chavous & The Reformers



With A Little Help From My Friends

Arrangement by Joe Cocker,

Written by Paul McCartney

*Performed by Jonas Chartock, Bob Bowdon,
Paul Powell & The Reformers*

Kevin P. Chavous

Former D.C. Councilman & Partner, SNR Denton

As a policymaker, parent, author and attorney there really is “no mountain high enough, no valley low enough, no river wide enough” to keep Chavous from putting everything he’s got into Serving Our Children. A prominent African-American Democrat, Chavous was at the forefront of promoting change within the DC public school system. Under his leadership on the DC Council, charter schools to over 40 serving 17,000 students in six short years. After Chavous left his political life, he took his show on the road and climbs mountains every day for children most in need. His relentless nature led to the creation and protection of the DC Opportunity Scholarship Program – almost landing him in a DC jail. For all of this and so much more, the Motown EdReformie goes to...Kevin Chavous.

John Fisher

President, Pisces, Inc. & Chairman, KIPP Foundation

Thousands of children have gotten by with a lot of help from this friend. A true hero of education reform, John’s passion to impact great education started in his formidable years, supporting his father’s (Don Fisher) vision that knowledge is power. For decades, this family affair has led to almost every path-breaking, innovative and successful reform effort to date – KIPP, Teach for America, GreatSchools.net – to name only a few. Despite his modest nature John and his wife, Laura, continue to be real friends of the battle for educational freedom churning out idea after idea for the next phases of the education reform revolution. John’s philanthropy and brainpower has helped hundreds of thousands of children, who would normally fall through the cracks, break the cycle of poverty and get ahead. John’s volunteerism has encouraged others to get involved in the movement. John’s belief that all kids, despite their background, can succeed with a great education only makes our movement stronger. That is why, as we come of age nearly two decades in, the Rock EdReformie goes to... John Fisher.



A Place in the Sun

Single by Stevie Wonder
Performed by The Reformers

John Legend

Activist & Entertainer

Despite being one of the world's most talented and popular musicians, John Legend is an unsung hero of education reform. Lending his celebrity and talents to the movement, John Legend's commitment to making schools work better for all children is contagious, thankfully. His passion and involvement with charter schools like Harlem Village Academies and teacher programs like Teach for America have put some rhythm in the education reform space. Very publically, John Legend continues to express his view that education is the "civil rights issue of our time." Featured in *Waiting for Superman*, Legend's original song articulates his belief that all children can succeed if we just "let them shine." For shining the spotlight on our crisis and holding true to the belief that, "there's a place in the sun, where there's hope for everyone," the R&B EdReformie goes to...John Legend.



I Feel the Earth Move

Written by Carole King
Performed by Dawn Chavous & The Reformers

Katherine Brittain Bradley

President, CityBridge Foundation

Katherine Bradley is truly one of the nation's leading education reform movers and shakers. For over two decades, Katherine has driven reform by strategically launching efforts that focus on community engagement and volunteerism. Katherine has engaged partners in the fight for better educational opportunities in Washington, DC and throughout the country by developing and identifying education ideas and leaders and placing in them her confidence to act. She has opened her home and heart, not only to raise money for these causes but awareness of the plight of children here and across the earth. As one of the most generous, visible and successful movers of the Nation's Capital, the Pop EdReformie goes to...Katherine Bradley.



Satisfaction

*Written by Mick Jagger and Keith Richards
Performed by Derrell Bradford and The Reformers*



Harper Valley PTA

*Single by Jeannie C. Riley
Performed by Jeanne Allen and The Reformers*

Steve Klinsky

Founder & CEO, New Mountain Capital

Steve Klinsky does not get any “satisfaction” from the status quo. So, despite being a highly successful businessman, Steve turned his focus to serve children most in need. First, and in honor of this late brother, he started the Gary Klinsky Educational Centers to provide a free, safe, and nurturing place for low-income children in some of the Big Apple’s most depressed neighborhoods. Like most rockstars, he began a network of charter schools before doing so was a sure hit, and today his vision has resulted in an independent company, Victory Education Partners, that over the past ten years has helped dozens of schools and school districts in NY, IL, DE and MD affecting the lives of more than 10,000 children and been an engine for economic development in some of America’s poorest neighborhoods. His support and involvement with Strayer University has helped provide opportunities for students who would otherwise never have access to a higher education. For the thousands of children who do get “satisfaction” from his efforts, the Hard Rock EdReformie goes to...Steve Klinsky.

Brian Williams

Anchor & Managing Editor, NBC Nightly News

As the nation’s most well-respected and influential journalist, Brian Williams has thrust the education crisis into the homes and minds of millions of Americans. His work at NBC, particularly Williams’ contributions to Education Nation, has bucked the status quo, and made a critical difference in helping spark public awareness of the problems and the many solutions being pursued. Williams’ wit, intelligence and telegenic personality have not only kept reform a hot issue at NBC, but shows there’s much more to reporting than just being on the beat. Williams’ passion for creating better educational opportunities does not fade even when the television camera lights do. His personal dedication to programs that change children’s lives and ability to make fun of the obstacles we all face are two other reasons we seek to honor the familiar and famous anchor tonight. He may not be fighting a PTA, but for challenging convention and rockin’ reform on and off the air, the Country EdReformie goes to...Brian Williams.



In My Life

Written by John Lennon
Performed by The Reformers

Since 1993, The Center for Education Reform has generated and shared innovative and actionable ideas and information, stimulated major policy changes, supported and enabled grassroots activism and increased media coverage on behalf of the movement to genuinely reform and improve educational options and performance in the US. We're proud to say that today more than 2 million children are enjoying the freedom to choose quality schooling options that were not available just 18 short years ago. And, "though [we] know [we'll] never lose affection, for people and things that went before, [we]" know [we'll] often stop and think about them," as lessons learned "In CER's Life..." as we look ahead to the next 18 years.

THIS EVENING'S CREDITS

We acknowledge the unique contributions of the artists, activists, designers and production team that made our vision a reality and set the stage for The EdReformies:

The Reformers

As the only rock group solely committed to celebrating education reform – ever, The Reformers represent some of the most dedicated movers and shakers in education reform today.

Bob Bowdon

Director, "The Cartel," Founder, Choice Media

Derrell Bradford

Executive Director, Better Education for Kids, Inc. (B4K)

Kenneth Campbell

President, Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO)

Jonas Chartock

CEO, Leading Educators

Dawn Chavous

Executive Director, Students First PA

Paul Powell

Founding Principal, Uncommon Schools-Troy Prep

Mickey Revenaugh

Executive Vice President, Connections Learning

Joe Williams

Executive Director, Democrats for Education Reform (DFER)

Caprice Young

CEO and President, EnCorps, Inc.

Music Director

Dr. Kevin Strother

The Band:

The Adrian Duke Project

Adrian Duke, Keyboard, Vocals
Theresa Richmond, Vocals
Damon Brown, Bass
Will Tynch, Saxophone
Damon Foreman, Guitar
Jeff Neal, Drums
Brett Lemley, Trumpet

Event Coordinators

Kara Horning Kerwin
Michael Musante

Event Production

Joshua Lesser, Vision Matrix Productions, Inc.

Gala Design

Michele Chaves, Chaves Design

Venue with Verve

The W Washington D.C. Hotel

TONIGHT'S SPONSORS

Talk about rocking! We gratefully acknowledge the support of our donors and sponsors, whose generosity has made this event possible. Their commitment and support of education reform is recognized not only tonight, but in all our hearts and minds daily.

This Evening's Platinum Record Awards sponsored by:

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The Papparazzi and Performers courtesy of:

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Building Hope is pleased to support the Center for Education Reform, "the leading voice for structural and sustainable changes that can dramatically improve educational opportunities in the U.S."

Established by The Sallie Mae Fund, Building Hope supports the growth of high quality public charter schools in select cities in the U.S. by providing funding and services for all aspects of facilities planning, acquisition, leasing, construction and renovation—a critical need for this fast-growing community. We believe the expansion of academically successful charter schools can make substantial changes to local public education systems and help transform all public education.



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