



FANNIE LOU HAMER STATUE COMMITTEE

PHONE: (336) 517-1393

E-MAIL: INFO@FANNIELOUHAMER.INFO

Dr. Molefi Kete Asante
Temple University
Philadelphia, PA

Dr. Francine C. Childs
Ohio University
Athens, OH

Vergie Hamer Faulkner
Memphis, TN

Lawrence T. Guyot, Jr.
Washington DC

Hakim M. Johnson
Washington DC

Hattie Jordan
Ruleville, MS

Margaret Kibbee
Greenville, MS

Rev. Vester Lobbins
Memphis, TN

Dr. Julianne Malveaux
President, Bennett College
for Women
Greensboro, NC

Charles McLaurin
Indianola, MS

Susan Reep
Bakersfield, CA

Dr. Patricia Reid- Merritt
Committee Chair
Richard Stockton College of
New Jersey

Rev. Regena L. Thomas
Former Secretary
of State of NJ
Hamilton, NJ

Patricia M. Thompson
Committee Coordinator
Saint Paul, MN

Dr. Stacy J. White
Indianola, MS

Dr. Conrad Worrill
Chicago, IL

HONORARY MEMBERS*

Mr. William Buckley

**Former Mayor
Shirley Franklin**

Dr. Davis W. Houck

Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

**Rep. Eleanor
Holmes Norton**

Mr. Tracy Sugarman

Ms. Susan Taylor

**Prof. Ekwueme
Michael Thelwell**

Ms. Iyanla Vazant

** As of January 31, 2010*

For Immediate Release: February 1, 2010

Former Hamer Campaign Manager and fellow SNCC member, Charles McLaurin, and MFDP Chairman and Hamer friend, Lawrence Guyot, are part of a National Committee Launching Campaign to Honor Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer

Ruleville, MS. Charles McLaurin and Lawrence Guyot are among a distinguished group of scholars, educational leaders, community and civil rights activists who have joined forces to help launch a national fundraising campaign to honor human and civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer. **The Fannie Lou Hamer Statue Committee (FLHSC)**, established in summer 2009, exists solely for the purpose of supporting efforts to pay tribute to Mrs. Hamer by commissioning the construction of a full-length statue of the civil and human rights leader, to be placed on permanent display at the Fannie Lou Hamer Memorial Garden in Ruleville, Mississippi. The Board of Alderpersons of the City of Ruleville passed a resolution on April 17, 2008 to lend its support to the project by designating the "tract of property owned and maintained by the City of Ruleville where Mrs. Hamer and her late husband are buried," as the permanent location for the monument.

The FLHSC is a not-for-profit, non-political organization comprised of local, regional and national civil rights activists, scholars and community leaders who serve as fundraising and educational ambassadors in conjunction with the City of Ruleville, and public and private initiatives to help achieve the goals of the FLHSC. The Committee's secondary objective is to further educate the public and future generations about the tremendous sacrifices and achievements made by Mrs. Hamer during her lifetime in an effort to gain freedoms and social justice for African Americans and other disenfranchised groups. Committee members include Dr. Molefi Kete Asante (PA), Dr. Francine C. Childs (OH), Vergie Hamer Faulkner (TN), Lawrence Guyot (DC), Hakim Johnson (DC), Hattie Jordan (MS), Margaret Kibbee (MS), Rev. Vester Lobbins (TN), Dr. Julianne Malveaux (NC), Charles McLaurin (MS), Susan Reep (CA), Patricia M. Thompson (MN), Rev. Regena Thomas (NJ), Dr. Stacy J. White (MS) and Dr. Conrad Worrill (IL). Dr. Patricia Reid-Merritt (NJ) serves as National Committee Chairperson. In addition, a number of renowned national public officials, celebrities and social advocates serve as members of the Honorary Committee, including William Buckley, former Mayor Shirley Franklin, David W. Houck, the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, Tracy Sugarman, Susan Taylor, Ekwueme Michael Thelwell and Iyanla Vanzant.

The FLHSC is appealing to the public to support this worthy cause. The Committee has set a goal of \$125,000 for the completion of the first phase of the fundraising project and hope to achieve this goal by October 6, 2010, the 93rd anniversary of Mrs. Hamer's birth. **The National Black United Fund (NBUF)**, a 501 (c) 3 Black philanthropic organization, has been designated as the fiscal sponsor for the FLHSC. Tax-deductible donations can be made via check, credit card or electronic transfer through the NBUF website at: www.nbuf.org. Additional information on NBUF and its affiliate sponsored programs and projects can also be found at the website, as well as a listing of current donors. For more information on the legacy of Mrs. Hamer please visit: www.fanniелouhamer.info. You can also access on [Twitter@HamerStatueFund](https://twitter.com/HamerStatueFund).

For further information, interviews or assistance with educational fundraising projects contact the FLHSC at (336) 517-1393 or email us at info@fanniелouhamer.info.

**"I am sick and tired of
being sick and tired."**

- FANNIE LOU HAMER

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The Committee has established targeted initiatives to support this project:

Hamer Flamekeepers: (\$10,000 and above). These companies or individuals will receive recognition with the company or individual's name on a star similar to that on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Hamer Superstars: (\$5,000 - \$9,999). These companies or individuals will receive recognition with the company or individual's name on an individual plaque.

Hamer Star Circle of Sisters and Brothers: (\$1000 to \$4,999). These companies or individuals will receive recognition with the company or individual's name on the Star Circle plaque.

Hamer Brethren: Organizational Sponsors (\$500 - \$999). Educational, social, civic, fraternity, sorority, or community groups dedicated to helping uplift others by spreading the life story of Mrs. Hamer. These groups will have their names placed on the Brethren plaque.

Hamer Sister Circle (\$500-\$999). These prominent, successful sisters accept the "special role" that women should play in helping to preserve Mrs. Hamer's legacy and will have their names placed on the Sister Circle plaque.

Hamer Circle of Friends: (contributions up to \$499). These individuals name will appear on the program at the Flame Keepers Conference to unveil the statue.

The Fannie Lou Hamer Loose Change Project (Open). This initiative, specifically designed as both an educational and fundraising project to engage K – 12 and college students, to help ensure that young people are knowledgeable about Mrs. Hamer and the history of the Civil Rights Movement.

We are cognizant of the difficult financial times that we all face in the current economy and recognize that there are many competing charities and other worthy causes that deserve broad national support. However, we invite you to join us in helping to assure that the life contributions of Fannie Lou Hamer will be forever recognized by placing a much deserved statue at the heart of the City of Ruleville to pay homage to one of the greatest civil rights leader of our time. Please select your category of support and make your contribution today.

Donations are tax deductible and all contributions will be made available to the public. Credit card payments can be made at www.nbuf.org. Please make checks payable to NBUF in care of Fannie Lou Hamer Statue. Mail to:

**National Black United Fund
40 Clinton Street - 5th Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102**

Updates on The Fannie Lou Hamer Statue Project will be available at www.nbuf.org and www.fanni louhamer.info/hamer_statue. You may reach us by calling (336) 517-1393 or email us at info@fanni louhamer.info. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Fannie Lou Hamer Statue Committee

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being sick and tired."

- FANNIE LOU HAMER