

THE Center for Education Reform



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NEWS RELEASE

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LAURA FRIEDMAN RECEIVES COMMENDATION AS NATION'S UNSUNG EDUCATION REFORM HERO

Washington, DC – The Center for Education Reform (CER) tonight honored Laura Friedman as one of six distinguished heroes in education reform.

The tribute to Ms. Friedman was announced at the Center for Education Reform's Fifth Anniversary Celebration and Salute to the Nation's Unsung Education Reform Heroes.

Ms. Friedman was honored for her accomplishments advancing better educational opportunities for children, by nationally recognized authorities and leaders in reform who gathered at The Four Seasons Hotel in Washington, DC. Ms. Friedman volunteers as the Director of the Missouri Charter Schools Information Center in Clayton, MO.

"Laura is a lone wolf who decided, after learning about charter schools, that Missouri had to have them," said Jeanne Allen, CER Founder and President. "She daily wrestled and cajoled legislators for several months until she got the result she wanted, a law that will aid the underprivileged children of Kansas City and St. Louis. Because of Laura's efforts, our shared goals have been met hundreds of times in hundreds of ways in communities across the country."

The Center for Education Reform celebrated its fifth anniversary with a special salute to the six award winners. The evening was capped off by a special musical presentation by the Colin Powell Academy of Detroit (a charter school) children's choir and a pathbreaking speech by national scholar, author and education leader, E.D. Hirsch.

The Center continues its celebration Wednesday with an all day education reform conference, American Education: The Next 15 Years, also at The Four Seasons Hotel, in Washington, DC.

Founded in 1993, the Center has grown to become an authoritative voice for innovative education reform, an active broker for change, and a leader in the battles that have fundamentally altered the national debate on what true education reform means, how it can be achieved, and who is responsible for achieving it.

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