

THE Center for Education Reform



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PRESS ADVISORY

OMAR WASOW, PRESIDENT OF BLACKPLANET.COM TO LEAD DISCUSSION ON TECHNOLOGY AND LITERACY AT CER'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

(Washington, DC 10/28/03) Jeanne Allen, president of the Center for Education Reform announced today that Omar Wasow, president of BlackPlanet.com will participate in CER's 10th Anniversary Conference, "*The Best is Yet to Come... A Look at the Next Ten Years of Education Reform in America*" scheduled from 8:30 am - 2:00 pm. Wasow will lead the discussion, "**From the Digital Divide to Literacy Divide,**" beginning at 9:00 am.

Omar Wasow is the President of BlackPlanet.com at Community Connect Inc. and a technology analyst for WNBC and NPR. BlackPlanet.com was launched in September 1999 and has grown to become the leading site for African Americans and reaches a million people a month. As a result of his active participation in a number of social issues, particularly the charter school movement, Wasow was selected to be a fellow in the Rockefeller Foundation's Next Generation Leadership program.

The day's other panels include:

From the Front Lines: Maybe School Choice is a Panacea, with Jim and Fawn Spady of Washington State and Co-Directors of the Education Excellence Coalition, Cleveland City Councilwoman Fannie Lewis, and Townsend McNitt of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

Addressing the Skeptics and Scare Tactics: Education Management on the Offensive, with Mark Thimming, CEO, White Hat Management, OH, Mike Sandler, CEO, EduVentures, MA and Washington's own Donald Hense, Pres. & CEO Friendship-Edison Public Charter Schools.

Twenty Facts: Non-Fiction in a Land of Dreams, (luncheon speech) the Honorable William J. Bennett, Chairman of K-12, Inc.

Call Mary Kayne Heinze at CER at 202-822-9000 or go to or click here for more information on the 10th Anniversary conference. <http://www.edreform.com/>

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