



Moderator **Cliff Kelley** has been active in Chicago's political arena for 30+ years. He is an attorney, political commentator & Chicago radio talk show host on WVON, now at 1690 AM, 3 -7PM M-F.



Paul Street – author, "Segregated Schools: Educational Apartheid in Post-Civil Rights America" (2005) and "Racial Oppression in the Global Metropolis" (upcoming - 2007)



Beauty Turner - Residents' Journal's Assistant Editor, Robert Taylor Homes resident for more than a decade, columnist for the Hyde Park Herald and elsewhere.



La'Keisha Gray - Journalist and media consultant, Midday producer and newsletter editor at WVON-AM, Chair of Media Relations for 2006 National Hip Hop Political Convention.



Steve Macek, author of "Urban Nightmares: The Media, the Right and the Moral Panic over the City" (2006), assistant professor of speech communication at North Central College.

The news media's coverage of America's inner cities and of the nation's most important urban issues has arguably never been worse than it is today. Major newspapers and local TV news broadcasts in most big cities openly cater to wealthy, mostly white, suburban audiences; meanwhile, "alternative weeklies" are skewed to the interests of young middle-class hipsters who are rapidly gentrifying working class black and Latino urban neighborhoods. As a result -- with the exception of small, independent publications like Residents Journal and The Chicago Reporter here in Chicago-- the media largely ignore the concerns of city residents who are poor, working class, immigrants or people of color. Even more disturbing, on those rare occasions when mainstream news organizations do cover the inner city, they tend to portray inner city communities as deviant, dysfunctional, dangerous and a threat to the rest of society.

TRANSPORTATION & PARKING Call the CTA at 312-836-7000. All rail AND multiple bus lines stop within two blocks. You can park at your local CTA stop and take public transportation into the downtown area.
PARKING: Limited street parking available along Clark and Washington Streets. Multiple parking garages are within two blocks. Bicycle racks across the street.

A PANEL DISCUSSION SPONSORED BY CHICAGO MEDIA ACTION:

Coverage of the Inner City and the Urban Poor: The Media and Urban Issues

Forum moderator: **Cliff Kelley**, host of *The Cliff Kelley Show*, WVON 1690AM

DATE: Wednesday October 4th , 2006

TIME: 7:30-9:00PM

PLACE: 77 W. Washington, Chicago
 First United Methodist Church (The Chicago Temple), Chicago, IL
 (across from the Daley Plaza Picasso sculpture)

ADMISSION: Free. Donations appreciated.

The speakers on this panel will explore -- and criticize -- the mainstream media's biased and inadequate treatment of social realities in American cities and of problems like affordable housing, inner city poverty & joblessness, central city de-industrialization, racial segregation and gentrification. And they will discuss ways of challenging media institutions to provide better coverage of urban issues.

The panel will be followed by brief question and answer period and a free ranging audience "speak out" about the mainstream media's reporting on inner city neighborhoods and the issues facing their residents.



cma@chicagomediaaction.org ; toll-free 1-866-260-7198
 www.chicagomediaaction.org ; P.O. Box 14140 Chicago, IL 60614

Chicago Media Action (CMA) is an activist group dedicated to analyzing and broadening Chicago's mainstream media and to building Chicago's independent media.