

National Lawyers Guild #Law4ThePeople 2026 Awards Celebration



Katherine Franke
Law for the People Award



Marc Van Der Hout
Ernie & Bill Goodman Award



Matthew McLoughlin
Karen Jo Koonan Award



Samantha Santoro
CB King Award



Suzanne Adely
Debra Evenson
"Venceremos" Award



Tribute Journal
Friday, April 10th, 2026

Program

Friday, April 10, 2026
7 PM-10 PM

7:00 PM Doors Open

DJ Electric Messiah

7:30 PM Welcome by NLG President Suzanne Adely

7:40 PM Presentation of C.B. King Award to Samantha Santoro

7:50 PM Presentation of Karen Jo Koonan Award to Matthew McLoughlin

8:00 PM Special Guest Steven Donziger

8:15 PM Presentation of Ernie & Bill Goodman Award to Marc Van Der Hout

8:30 PM Presentation of Law for the People Award to Katherine Franke

8:45 PM Testimonials

9:15 PM DJ Electric Messiah

10:00 PM Program Concludes

Many thanks to our emcees for the evening: Sara Habbo and Mitchell Bonga of the Detroit & Michigan NLG Chapter

***Note: all times are listed in ET**

Welcome Letter



Hi NLG Homies!

My name is Emma Howland-Bolton and I am a proud public school teacher and legal worker in the city of Detroit. It's my honor to serve on the Board of the Detroit/Michigan Chapter of the NLG as well as 1/2 of the Legal Worker Caucus VP on the NEC!

We are so honored to be hosting the 2026 #Law4ThePeople Convention! In a time when the triplicate horrors of heteropatriarchy, white supremacist delusion, and capitalism ravage the people and places we love, trust me, it's more important than ever that we come together in solidarity and work to strengthen our movements.

And, as we all know and feel, this is a moment when lawyers, legal workers, law students, jail house lawyers, regular humans, and organizers of all stripes who are committed to justice are being called upon to act with clarity and courage. And so it's also a time when we need to gather, talk about the horrors, share tactics, learn from each other, and have fun together damn it!

Across the country, and globally, human beings are confronting intensified repression (against protesters and passers by alike), attacks on civil liberties, genocide, ICE rampages, fucking unending military aggression, and rapidly escalating inequality.

We're meeting this moment as NLG members and activists in movements for racial justice, labor rights, immigrant defense, environmental survival, and democratic freedoms the same way we always do, by building power.

In moments like this, it is vital that those of us in the moment who work in and around the legal system come together—to share tactics, strengthen relationships, and fortify ourselves and each other for the struggle ahead. In times of political uncertainty and in the face of increasingly bold attacks on dissent, the role of movement lawyers and legal workers is ever more critical.

The National Lawyers Guild was founded by a bunch of badassess in 1937 in the midst of economic crisis and rising authoritarianism, and here we are again in 2026! Still badassess, still facing down the maw of the slaving twin beasts of endstage capitalism and perpetual war.

Throughout our nearly 90 year history, the Guild has stood with movements when other legal institutions and the Federal Government have been used as a cudgel to suppress them. Nothing has changed today—this moment calls for solidarity, courage, and a renewed commitment to using the law in service of people's struggles. It also calls for opportunities to celebrate and collectively rest and restore ourselves as best we can, whenever we can.

Allow me to posit there are few places more fitting for our annual gathering in this political moment than Detroit.

Detroit is a city with a deep and proud radical history. As the heart of the U.S. auto industry, Detroit was the site of transformative labor struggles that reshaped the relationship between workers and corporate power. The 1936–37 Flint sit-down strike against General Motors helped secure recognition for the United Auto Workers and inspired waves of militant organizing throughout the industrial Midwest. In Detroit itself, rank-and-file organizing continued to push the labor movement forward through formations like the Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement and the League of Revolutionary Black Workers, which challenged racism within industry and the labor movement while articulating and embodying a powerful vision of Black working-class leadership.

Detroit has also been central to the ongoing Black freedom struggle. The 1967 Detroit rebellion—one of the most significant urban uprisings in U.S. history—was a powerful expression of resistance to police brutality, racial segregation, and economic exclusion. In the years that followed, Detroit became a center of radical political thought and grassroots organizing. This city has also been relentlessly punished for its participation in the uprising and the scars are still visible today in neighborhoods intentionally blighted by the onslaught of the National Guard and subsequent racist statewide policies that were only applied to Michigan's majority-Black cities.

Visionaries like Grace Lee Boggs and James Boggs helped cultivate generations of organizers through political education, community organizing, and a powerful philosophy rooted in place, responsibility, and revolutionary transformation. Their work emphasized that lasting change grows from communities themselves—and Detroit continues to embody those lessons and continue the work through the Boggs Center and Boggs School.

The city has also played a critical role in radical legal advocacy. Detroit has long been home to lawyers who understand the law as a tool in service of movements. The Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice—named for legendary labor lawyer Maurice Sugar and his partner Jane Sugar—has carried forward that tradition for decades, supporting workers, community organizations, and social justice movements. Lawyers like Bill Goodman and others connected to the center have helped defend civil liberties, support organizing campaigns, and demonstrate what movement-centered legal practice can look like in action. To say nothing of moonlighting in viral NLG PSAs.

NLG Know Your Rights reminder: Shut the f*** up!

And of course Detroit's radical spirit has also been expressed through art and music that has shaped culture far beyond the city itself. The sound of Motown, emerging from Berry Gordy's legendary Hitsville studio, brought the voices and creativity of Black Detroit to the world during the height of the civil rights era. Later, Detroit became a birthplace of techno, pioneered by artists whose futuristic sound reflected both the city's industrial landscape and its spirit of innovation. Detroit has also long nurtured powerful traditions of jazz, soul, hip hop, punk, and experimental art—cultures that have often intersected with movements for liberation and community expression.

Today, that creative legacy remains vibrant and undeniable. Across the city, artists, musicians, and cultural workers are continuing to build spaces for radical imagination and collective expression. Community art collectives, neighborhood galleries, grassroots music venues, incredibly dope murals and graffiti, and myriad cultural institutions are now (and always have been!) creating platforms for new generations of Detroit artists while honoring the traditions that came before them. Festivals, public art projects, and community cultural spaces continue to maintain Detroit's neighborhoods as sites of creativity, resistance, and possibility in the face of repression from the state.

That same spirit of innovation and collective care is visible in Detroit's contemporary organizing. Community groups and grassroots coalitions are fighting for housing justice, resisting displacement, defending water access, organizing workers, and building community-based economic alternatives. Detroiters continue to lead national conversations about water rights, municipal democracy, community land stewardship, and the future of urban organizing. From neighborhood-based mutual aid networks to citywide campaigns for economic justice, Detroit remains a place where people are building new models of solidarity and collective power.

Holding the National Lawyers Guild Convention here is both an honor and a responsibility. Detroit reminds us that legal advocacy is most powerful when it is in service to and accountable to movements—when lawyers work alongside organizers and communities, and when the law is used not as an end in itself but as one tool among many in the broader struggle for justice.

The Guild has always been a home for people who believe that the law must serve the people, not power.

Gathering together allows us to learn from each other, build relationships across regions and movements, and strengthen the networks that sustain our work. Whether you are a longtime Guild member or someone exploring the organization for the first time, this convention is a space to connect with others who share a commitment to movement lawyering, collective liberation, and principled resistance. And critically, FUN! Detroit offers the perfect backdrop for that work and for celebration as we continue the struggle. Here, the lessons of the past—from militant labor organizing to the rebellion of 1967 to the radical intellectual and legal traditions that followed—continue to inform the present.

Coming together in this city reminds us that transformative change has always depended on people willing to organize, to challenge unjust systems, and to imagine something better. When we refuse to let our hopes be dimmed and keep dancing even in the moments that feel darkest. We hope you will join us in Detroit—not only to learn and strategize, but to be part of a community committed to building the world our movements deserve. Together we can deepen our collective capacity, support one another in unprecedented times, and leave the convention energized for the work ahead.

I know I speak for a lot of dope folks when I say, we are so thrilled to welcome you to Detroit.

Stay dangerous,

Emma



Law for the People Award Katherine Franke



Katherine Franke is the James L. Dohr Professor of Law (retired) at Columbia University, where she served on the law faculty for 25 years, and where she also founded and directed the Center for Gender & Sexuality Law. She served on the Executive Committees of Columbia's Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender, and the Center for Palestine Studies. She also led a research team that documented Columbia Law School's relationship to slavery and its legacies. She is among the nation's leading scholars writing on law, sexuality race, and religion drawing from feminist, queer, and critical race theory.

Professor Franke currently serves on the Advisory Board of Palestine Legal, the steering committee of the Academic Advisory Council of Jewish Voice for Peace, the Board of the Solidaire Network, the editorial board of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, and on the Advisory Board of Columbia University's Center for Justice. Prior to 2018, before she was permanently banned from entering the state of Israel, she served as an academic mentor for the human rights faculty at Al Quds University in East Jerusalem. She was also the National Director of the National Lawyers Guild from 1990-1991.

Her first book, *Wedlocked: The Perils of Marriage Equality* (NYU Press 2015), considers the costs of winning marriage rights for same sex couples today and for African Americans at the end of the Civil War. She was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2011 to undertake research for *Wedlocked*. Her second book, *Repair: Redeeming the Promise of Slavery's Abolition* (Haymarket Press 2019), makes the case for racial reparations in the United States by returning to a time at the end of slavery when many formerly enslaved people were provided land explicitly as a form of reparation, yet after President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated the land was stolen back from freed people and given to former slave owners.

The Law for the People Award is the highest honor granted by the NLG. Each year the National Lawyers Guild gives the Law for the People Award to an NLG member or member-affiliated organization whose work embodies the values that our membership holds dear. This award honors those who use the law in service of the people and the planet and who have dedicated their work towards creating a transformed world wherein all living beings and ecosystems are free from oppression. Recent recipients include the Water Protector Legal Collective, Walter Riley, Noura Erakat, Lennox Hinds, and Community Movement Builders.

Ernie & Bill Goodman Award

Marc Van Der Hout



Marc Van Der Hout, is a practicing attorney and the founding member of Van Der Hout, LLP. He is a California State Bar Certified Specialist in Immigration and Nationality Law. Founded in 1980, Van Der Hout, LLP, is a nationally-recognized, full-service immigration law firm representing individuals, families, and companies in the San Francisco Bay Area and throughout California. Their clients come from across the country and across the globe and their cases cover a broad range of immigration litigation and visa concerns.

Mr. Van Der Hout has been recognized by bar associations throughout the country for his innovative and resourceful representation of immigrants. He has twice received the American Immigration Lawyers Association premier award for outstanding litigation in the field of immigration law and twice received the Carol Weiss King Award of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers' Guild for outstanding immigration litigation. Among his many other awards, Mr. Van Der Hout was selected by the San Francisco Chronicle in 2003 as one of San Francisco's top 25 attorneys; was named by the Los Angeles Daily Journal as one of California's Top 100 Lawyers in 2007; received a 2008 Attorney of the Year Clay award from California Lawyer Magazine for outstanding achievement in his field and that same year was named one of the top 100 lawyers in Northern California by Super Lawyers Magazine; received the San Francisco Lawyers' Committee Robert G. Sproul Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Services in the Legal Field in 2009 and has been named by Woodward/White's Best Lawyers in America every year since 1993.

Mr. Van Der Hout attended the University of Michigan, where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology in 1970. He then went on to Golden Gate University School of Law, where he earned his Juris Doctorate (JD) in 1977. He was national president of the National Lawyers Guild in 1985-86. Currently, Mr. Van Der Hout is an active member of the Board of Governors of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association (AILA) and has served on its Board every year since 1989. He is a past chair of the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild and has served on its governing board for the past 38 years. Mr. Van Der Hout has lectured extensively on the subject of immigration law throughout the country and has served as an adjunct professor at both Hastings College of the Law and Berkeley School of Law.

Ernest "Ernie" Goodman (1906-1997) of Detroit was a founding member of the National Lawyers Guild and an influential civil rights and First Amendment lawyer. In 2024, this award was renamed the Ernie and Bill Goodman Award to honor his son, Bill Goodman (1940-2023), who carried on the family legacy of fighting for human rights and civil liberties. Each year this award honors a Guild Lawyer who, within the past several years or currently, is engaged in legal struggle against financial, political, or social odds to obtain justice with and for those who are poor, powerless, or persecuted. The Goodman Award is given by the National Lawyers Guild Foundation.

Karen Jo Koonan Award
Matthew McLoughlin



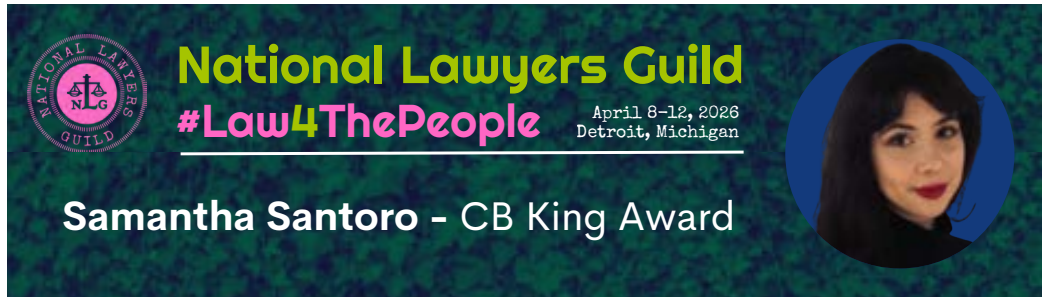
Matthew McLoughlin is an activist and legal worker. Cutting his teeth as an organizer with Occupy Chicago, Matt has continued to organize around key issues in Chicago including public school closures, immigrant rights, and racial justice. For the past 14 years, he has helped lift up, document, and support local and national movements to end mass incarceration, including organizing jail support and solidarity actions.

For the last decade, Matt has worked on ending money bond and reducing pretrial jailing in Illinois. In 2015, he co-founded the Chicago Community Bond Fund. During his time at the Bond Fund, Matt led the process of establishing the intake hotline response and post-release support systems as well as playing an essential role in the campaign to abolish money bond. In 2021, Matt helped lead efforts with the Illinois Network for Pretrial Justice to pass the Pretrial Fairness Act, legislation that made Illinois the first state in the country to end wealth-based jailing. He currently serves as the Network's Campaign Coordinator and has spent the last several years working on implementing the Pretrial Fairness Act, ending the Cook County Sheriff's Electronic Monitoring Program, and passing two more related pieces of legislation that funded voluntary services for people awaiting trial and will create Illinois's first statewide public defender for trial-level representation.

Since 2016, Matt has also served as NLG Chicago's Mass Defense Coordinator. During the 2014-2016 Black Lives Matter movement, 2020 George Floyd Uprisings, protests of the genocide in Palestine, and Trump's recent attack on Chicago's immigrant communities, Matt coordinated Chicago chapter members to provide legal support for the movement, including facilitating representation for more than 1,500 people arrested at protests. In 2024, Matt coordinated legal support for protests of both the Democratic and Republican National Conventions. Two years ago, he stepped into the Chicago chapter's Director of Operations role, and last year became the NLG Legal Worker Vice President.

The annual Karen Jo Koonan Award is given to an NLG legal worker member who teaches, leads, and learns alongside others in the fight for social justice and liberation. This award honors a legal worker who embodies the selfless and principled leadership of Karen Jo Koonan (1945-2023). Karen Jo was a trailblazer at the legendary Bar Sinister law collective, the National Jury Project, and the NLG San Francisco-Bay Area Chapter, all of which informed her bold leadership as the first legal worker to serve as national NLG President. Throughout her life, Karen Jo embodied the political and legal leadership which made the NLG the movement resource it is today. Legal workers are "any person who is currently working, or who has worked, or who is training to work, for pay or as a volunteer, in any office, collective or other institution, which has as its primary function the provision OR administration of legal services, information or education; or who, as an individual, provides or administers legal services, information, or education as a major component of their paid or volunteer work."

C.B. King Award Samantha Santoro



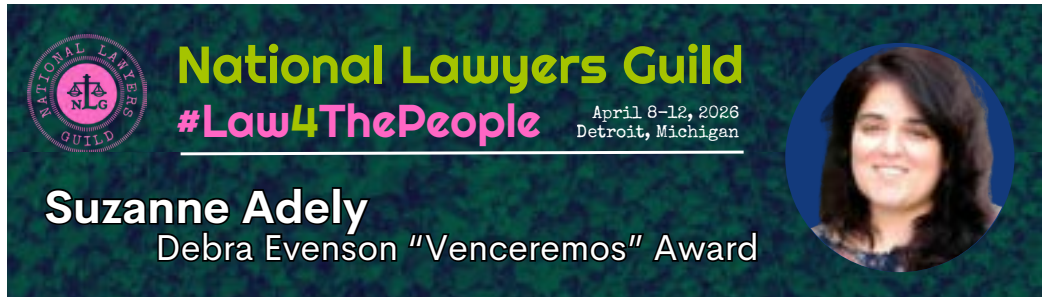
Samantha Santoro (they/she) is from Toronto, Canada. Samantha worked in the areas of racial and disability justice before law school, most recently at the National Association of Friendship Centres as a Project Coordinator working on the Decent Work for Youth: Urban Indigenous Youth Leadership Development project. During their 1L summer, Samantha split their time at Make the Road NY (MRY) in their Immigration Unit and Community Justice Project Miami (CJP). Their work with MRY demonstrated the connection between the criminal punishment system and the immigrant detention and deportation system and at CJP, their work involved doing legal advocacy and client interviewing with families experiencing mass evictions in Black and Latine communities in South Florida.

As a Wilf Scholar at NYU Law, they are active in the areas of immigrant justice, youth defense, disability and racial justice, and prison abolition. They're an active member of NYU NLG. They have interned with the Neighbourhood Defender Services' Immigration Defense Practice, supporting immigrants experiencing immigration consequences as a result of interactions with the criminal legal system, and the Louisiana Center for Children's Rights, supporting with all facets of their holistic youth defense work impacting young people in Louisiana. Throughout law school, they've represented incarcerated people in their Tier III disciplinary hearings through the Solitary Confinement Project and young people in their suspension hearings through the Suspension Representation Project. Samantha always sees their work as attempting to materially work towards people's freedom and wants to divert as many people as possible from the criminal legal system while working towards the abolition of all carceral and colonial logics and systems, from Turtle Island to Palestine and beyond. This summer, Samantha will be interning with the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project in Phoenix, Arizona, on the Adult Program - Detention Action & Response Team.

The C.B. King Award honors a law student whose commitment to justice is an example to others. The student furthers the mission of the NLG and honors the memory of C.B. King through organizing and agitating on academic and local levels. Throughout their time at the NLG, this person has demonstrated the kind of skill and passion that inspires other members and significantly contributes to our organization. The C.B. King Award is given to an NLG law student in honor of Chevene Bowers King (1923-1988), one of the country's most prominent and courageous civil rights lawyers. For over 30 years, he practiced law in Albany, Georgia, where he was a major figure in the civil rights movement. C.B. King was also a great teacher who taught several generations of law students and young lawyers how to practice law with a commitment to the poor, the disenfranchised, and the oppressed.

Debra Evenson "Venceremos" Award

Suzanne Adely



Suzanne Adely is a past and current president of the National Lawyers Guild (NLG) and a member of the Bureau of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), where she also serves as an alternate delegate to the United Nations. She has been one of the co-chairs of the NLG's International Committee for many years, where she has worked to use the law to expose and build accountability for the U.S. Imperialist policies.

Suzanne has led and participated in several human rights delegations to Egypt, Palestine, Cuba, Venezuela, the Philippines, and elsewhere. She has also served as a juror and prosecutor for people's tribunals covering the use of Sanctions, Economic Blockades, and Economic Coercive Measures around the world, Ecocide as part of the Genocide in Palestine, and on Human Rights in the Philippines, and other issues.

Suzanne is the daughter of Arab immigrant workers, a former public school teacher, and a long-time Arab community organizer, with a background in international labor organizing and global human rights. For eight years she worked with the Food Chain Workers Alliance (FCWA), a movement of over 35 worker-based organizations focused on building the infrastructure of the food worker movement, to increase organized worker density in the food economy while advancing broader movements for justice. Suzanne is a member of the National Coordinating Committee of the U.S. Palestinian Community Network and a co-convener of Labor for Palestine and a 2025-2026 Castenea Fellow, for leaders of color in the food system.

The Debra Evenson "Venceremos" Award is presented by the NLG International Committee in recognition of brave work extending justice beyond borders. Former Guild President Debra Evenson (1942-2011) was one of the visionary architects of Cuba's legal system, and a staunch defender of the country at home.

The 2026 Debra Evenson "Venceremos" International Award was presented on Wednesday, April 8th at the joint International Committee and Labor and Employment Committee Reception.

In Memoriam

The NLG honors the lives and legacies of those we have lost since our last convention in October 2024.



ANN FAGAN GINGER
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
1925-2025



C. PETER ERLINDER
Minnesota Chapter
1948-2024



DAN SIEGEL
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
1945-1925



JESSIE COOK
Indiana Chapter
1953-2025



JOHN FOSTER "CHIP" BERLET
Massachusetts Chapter
1949-2026

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list. The NLG invites you to join us in paying tribute to all of our beloved members who have passed.



National Lawyers Guild 2026 #Law4ThePeople

April 8-12, 2026 - Detroit, Michigan



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NLG-NYC Salutes the 2026

Honorees, with a special

shout out to NYC's own

Katherine Franke, Samantha

Santoro and NLG Interim

President Suzanne Adely.



CONGRATULATES THE NLG 2026 HONOREES!

We are deeply honored to stand in solidarity with you, steadfast in our support as you tirelessly defend the Movement and keep fighting for Justice!



Katherine Franke

We are so grateful for you, Katherine - our partner in the struggle, our former Board Chair, and our dear friend!

Law for the People Award



Marc Van Der Hout

Thank you to our friend Marc for fighting alongside us in some of our biggest battles, and carrying on Bill and Ernie's legacy!

Ernie & Bill Goodman Award



Matthew McLaughlin

Karen Jo Koonan Award



Samantha Santoro

CB King Award

JUSTICE TAKES A FIGHT.



Suzanne Adely

**Debra Evanson
"Vanceremos" Award**

PALESTINE LEGAL PROTECTS VOICES FOR PALESTINIAN FREEDOM

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL NLG
HONOREES! THANKS FOR YOUR
UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR
PALESTINIAN FREEDOM AS PART
OF OUR COLLECTIVE FREEDOM!

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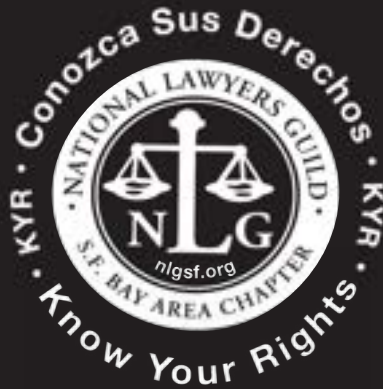
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR JUSTICE

Congrats!
**Katherine
Franke**

**ON BEING HONORED
WITH THE LAW FOR THE
PEOPLE AWARD. YOUR
COURAGE INSPIRES US
EVERY DAY.**

WITH LOVE,

*The Center for Justice at
Columbia University Team*



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER
CONGRATULATES

MARC VAN DER HOUT

IN RECOGNITION OF HIS WORK AND
DEDICATION TO THE CHAPTER
AND
HIS COMMITMENT TO
IMMIGRATION RIGHTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2026 HONOREES

KEEP UP THE GOOD FIGHT!

THE NLG FOUNDATION CONGRATULATES THE 2026 HONOREES



**The NLG Foundation is the 501(c)(3)
arm of the National Lawyers Guild.
Tax-deductible donations to support
the NLG can be made at:**

nlg.org/donate2026

BY INCLUDING THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD FOUNDATION IN YOUR
WILL OR TRUST, YOU CAN MEMORIALIZE A LIFETIME OF PEOPLE'S
LAWYERING AND GUARANTEE THAT YOUR VOICE FOR PEOPLE AND THE
PLANET OVER PROPERTY WILL CARRY ON.

BEQUESTS CAN BE DIRECTED TO:

**NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD FOUNDATION
P.O. BOX 1266
NEW YORK, NY 10009**

For more information, please contact
nlgfoundation@nlg.org

Congratulations to Samantha Santoro!



Thank you for all of your
amazing work that you do to
make our world and the Guild
a better place!

- Law Student Caucus

**The National Office Congratulates
all of the honorees!**

**The work that you and all our
members do everyday is vital during
these unprecedented times.**

Thank you.



We salute

MARC

for his extraordinary and continuing
contribution over all these many years

**Rabinowitz, Boudin, Standard,
Krinsky & Lieberman, P.C.**

New York, New York

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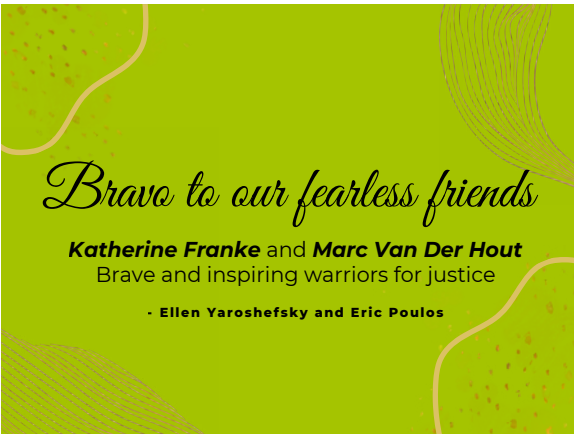
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Congratulations to all 2026 Awardees

Special thanks and appreciation to Marc, who led 1980's NLG
Central America Task Force and still fights for immigrant justice;
and to Suzanne for her amazing international solidarity work.

¡ BRAVO !

Sending love from Costa Rica, Emily Yozell





Maurice & Jane

**SUGAR
LAW CENTER**

FOR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Detroit, Michigan

CONGRATULATES & HONORS:

**Marc Van Der Hout
Ernie & Bill Goodman Award**

&

**Suzanne Adely
Debra Evenson "Venceremos" Award**

&

**Matthew McLoughlin
Karen Jo Koonan Award**

&

**Katherine Franke
Law for the People Award**

&

**Samantha Santoro
CB King Award**

Thank you for all your work!!!!



Staff Members:

John Philo, Tony Paris, Liz Jacobs, Jacob Fallman, Shannon Stuckey & Diane Kotze

Board Members:

**Herb Sanders, Ria Julien, Julie Hurwitz, Joan Hill, Joe Lipofsky,
Denzel McCampbell, Jeanne Mirer, Jerome Reide, David Whitaker,
Cathy Ferguson, Renée Quintero Sánchez, Tonya Myers Phillips**

2026 Karen Jo Koonan Awardee

MATT McLOUGHLIN'S

ADVOCACY TOUR



2011: Participates in Occupy Chicago



2015: Co-founds Chicago Community Bond Fund



2016: Becomes NLG Chicago's Mass Defense Coordinator



2021: Passes the Pretrial Fairness Act, abolishing money bail in Illinois



2023: Recognized with Chicago Appleseed's Partner in Justice Award

2023: Becomes NLG Chicago's Director of Operations

2025: Elected NLG Legal Worker Vice-President

2026: Receives the Karen Jo Koonan Award!

Congratulations to Matt McLoughlin for winning the Karen Jo Koonan Award! Matt has contributed greatly to the fight for justice in Chicago & nationally as a legal worker & organizer. For the past 10 years, he has worked relentlessly to strengthen NLG Chicago's mission of supporting liberation movements. NLG Chicago is immensely grateful for Matt's work & very proud of his achievements. Congratulations to Matt and all of the awardees!

In Solidarity,
NLG Chicago & the NLG Chicago Foundation





When I was at Columbia Law School
it seemed we were always
congratulating Katherine and the
Guild.

May it ever be thus!

- Mary Marsh Zulack



*Congrats to Marc! Thank you for the love and
care that you and Fody have shown to me,
Peter and Alexis over the decades.
All my love to you both.
Onward!*

- Melinda Bird



People's Law Office celebrates
the 2026 awardees, particularly
Matt for his contributions to the
Chicago chapter and Suzanne
for her Chicago roots and her
internationalism.

You all set the bar high and
make us proud to work at your
side to end the occupation of
Palestine and fight fascism here
at home.



CONGRATULATIONS MARC!

The AILA Northern California
Chapter proudly honors you for
your unwavering commitment to
immigrant justice. Your fierce
advocacy and leadership inspire
us all. Congratulations on this
well-deserved recognition.



**Congratulations to all of the
honorees, you keep the
NLG flame alive.**

**Dear Marc, you
uphold the torch
raised by Ernie and
Bill with your lifetime
commitment to
justice.**

Love, Barbara Kessler & Dick Soble



International Committee Members

<i>Audrey Bomse</i>	<i>Jeannie Mirer</i>	
<i>Steven Goldberg</i>	<i>Marjorie Cohn</i>	<i>Jeffrey Frank</i>
<i>Bruce Nestor</i>	<i>Richard Koch</i>	<i>Ken Montenegro</i>
<i>Mark Stern</i>	<i>Judith Mirkinson</i>	<i>Judy Somberg</i>
	<i>Jan Susler</i>	<i>Emily Yozell</i>

**Congratulate our bold
comrade & leader
Suzanne Adely for her
tireless work on behalf of
international human rights.
A well-deserved honor.**

National Lawyers Guild
Mass Defense Committee
congratulates

Matthew McLoughlin

on being named the

2026 Karen Jo Koonan Awardee

In recognition of your dedication as a legal worker, your defense of protest and collective action, and your commitment to the people and movements this work serves. We are proud to be in struggle with you.



Congratulations!

We are proud to join the NLG in honoring **Marc Van Der Hout** with the **Ernie and Bill Goodman Award**.

Marc is a courageous and relentless litigator, an outspoken advocate, a creative and brilliant mentor, and, most of all, a cherished and loyal friend.

We love you and celebrate you, Marc!

Amy, Tom, Jeanne, Al, Denyse, Roger, Sharryn, Jon



**Congrats to Marc Van Der Hout
long for the struggle in support
of immigrants rights & justice!**

Love from your family fans!



**★ Jody, Jackie, Jacob,
Christian, Cathy, Anna Molly**



Marc, from the beginning of your career, you have been a steadfast advocate for immigrants, and a powerful voice for justice. Through your leadership, compassion, and unwavering commitment, you have transformed lives and strengthened the pursuit of justice for countless individuals and families.

It is a true honor to celebrate you, Marc.

Your work continues to inspire our firm and the broader community, and the ripple effect of your mentorship and stewardship will continue to shape immigration law for years to come.

With deep respect and appreciation— your colleagues at Van Der Hout LLP

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*Congratulations to our
pal Marc and all the
honorees!*

You make us proud.

Jonathan Siegel & Aixa Gannon

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Please send any corrections to Daniel McGee at nlgfoundation@nlg.org.



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