

Black Media Awards Oakland

November 26th 2012: Last night, Gail and I attended the Black Media Appreciation Awards at Yoshi's Jazz nightclub in Jack London Square in Oakland. The event was put together by the BayView newspaper in SF. One of the main organizers was JR of KPFA radio and a big supporter of the Black Panther Party Legacy. The best of the Bay area Black Media people were there last night, including Don Lacy of KPOO radio, David Roach of the Oakland International Film Festival, Sister Wanda Sabir of the BayView, DJ X1 of Hip Hop radio, and James Earl Rockefeller III for Community TV.

Our Comrade, Mumia Abu Jamal received an award for Human Rights reporting. Emory Douglas accepted the award and spoke on behalf of Mumia. Sister Phavia Kujichagulia did libations and performed. She was at her best and her band was hot. Walter Turne, another former Panther, received an award for his radio program on KPFA - "Africa Today".

The Black Panther Party Newspaper received the Black Resistance Media Legacy Award for educating and organizing the people. Emory Douglas, Ducho Dennis and Elbert "Big Man" Howard of the BPP newspaper staff were noted for the great work they did on the newspaper. Big Man was the first editor and national spokesperson and wrote many articles for the BPP newspaper.

I was asked to do a display on the BPP newspaper for the event which I put up in the lobby of Yoshi's. Before the awards ceremony, Emory, Carol, Big Man, Sabrina Gail and I had dinner together at Yoshi's fine restaurant. Emory was telling us about his recent trip to Chiapas. Big Man spoke of his new radio program about Political Prisoners. Big Man is doing readings from Marshall Eddie Conway's book "Marshall Law". I spoke of working with the Smithsonian on a couple of projects. When we were on stage receiving the award, I spoke about Brother Ducho Dennis. Ducho was the photographer for the BPP from 1969-1972. Many of the photos you see in the Panther paper were photos he took.

I would like to thank Willie and Mary Ratcliff for sponsoring this event and for putting out the BayView newspaper. Even in 2012, the BPP Legacy is growing strong.









