

NEWS ALERT

September 20, 2011

**JANA MARCUS, ACCLAIMED BAY AREA DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHER,
TO ACCEPT THE COMMUNITY ACTIVIST OF THE YEAR AWARD
BY BAY AREA ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

What: Jana Marcus, acclaimed Bay Area documentary photographer to accept the Community Activist of the Year Award by Bay Area Elections Committee

Where: The San Jose Fairmont Hotel, Imperial Ballroom, 170 South Market Street, San Jose, CA

When: Saturday, September 24, 2011

Time: 6-7 pm Reception, 7-9:30 pm Awards

Why: Presented by the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC), is a four county lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered political action group advocating for civil rights of LGBT people since 1984. More than 700 guests including industry leaders, politicians, sports figures and other local luminaries are confirmed to be in attendance at this year's fund raising event, being hosted by comedian, Robert Parra and includes guest speaker, Chuck Wolfe, Executive Director of the Victory Fund.

Other Honorees Include:

Jose Antonio Vargas, BAYMEC Hero Award recipient is a Pulitzer Prize winning writer and reporter who covered the Virginia Tech shootings for the Washington Post, HIV and most recently wrote the essay, My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant which was published in 2011 in the New York Times Magazine. Mr. Vargas is an advocate for the DREAM act.

Honorable Mark Stone, Legislator of the Year recipient is the Supervisor for the City of Santa Cruz, CA,

Jana Marcus, Community Activist of the Year award recipient is an award-winning documentary photographer. Her latest groundbreaking work, *Transfigurations*, explores gender identity. The book explores transsexuals and their notions of masculinity and femininity as they change gender identities.

About Jana Marcus

Jana Marcus has been creating award-winning documentary photography for over 20 years. Her work has been exhibited across the United States and extensively published in newspapers and magazines. Recently, named one of "50 Exceptional International Photographers" by Exposure of New York, her newest book, *Transfigurations* hits bookstores this month. For more information please visit www.janamarcus.com.