

MAGA LINK'S DIDI PETERS TO RECEIVE VESTA AWARD

DiDi Daniels Peters will receive the Vesta Award for achievements in media the arts on October 18th at the Sixth Annual Women's Building Brunch. Mrs. Peters is Vice President and founder, with her husband ACTOR-PRODUCER Brock Peters, of Maga Link, Inc., the video training and production company. Recently awarded a three-year contract by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to provide Black Programming to the PBS radio and television networks nationally.

One of the first Black female radio and television producers in the country. Mrs. Peters is being honored for her pioneering professional career as well as for her work to build organizations with social and cultural concerns in media and the arts.

In a broadly diverse career, she has been a producer, writer, publicist, radio station owners, concert promoter, corporate and government executive, and was often the first Black female in the job. "I came along at a time when one really had to try everything and," she noted, "being both Black and female, you did so to stay alive, independent and viable."

After completing her M.A. at Howard University and a Foreign Exchange Fellowship in Denmark, she started in television as Assistant to Producers/Directors Norman Jewison and Stan Harris at the Canadian Broadcasting System in Toronto. Three years later she came to Eli Landau's Channel 13 in New York as the producer of "Jazz Party," the first all-jazz weekly television show. In its two year run it featured live performances by most of the modern jazz greats of the late 50's and early 60's. Although the show was nominated for local Emmy awards, at its end there were still no jobs for this Black female producer.

Fortunately, her work was noticed by United Artists' Max Youngstein and Monte Kaye. They recommended her to fill the post as Assistant Publicity Director to Bob Alshuler, and she became one of the first female executives in the record industry.

Several years later, she and record producer Tom Tell left U.A. to start the first all-jazz radio station at New York's WNCN. The ground-breaking programming featured legendary musicians and critics as disk

jockeys of their own shows. Cannonball Adderley, Horace Silver, Duke Ellington, Lennie Bruce, Leonard Feather, Nat Hentoff and Martin Williams III, were among those hosting weekly shows. "We were so far ahead of our time, we didn't make a dime," Mrs. Peters comments, "Most sponsors thought modern jazz was jibberish at that time, but we started the kind of all jazz programming that is now standard."

Just after a year National NAACP Executive Director, Ray Wilkins created a new promotion department for Mrs. Peters where she developed the National Celebrity Bank, producing touring companies from a roster of stars to promote the NAACP national membership drives.

The Peters started their own production company DelBro Enterprises of which Mrs. Peters is President. One of the first DelBro productions, co-produced with actor Michael Tolan, was the feature film "Five On the Black Hand Side," a family comedy break from the Blaxploitation era of the late '70s. DelBro has also produced numerous concerts and shows, among them the award-winning "This Far By Faith" documentary for PBS.

In a remarkable partnership, the Peters have combined their social and artistic concerns to create and support many organizations. Mrs. Peters was on the founding board of the Museum of African American Art. As part of the founding group of Arthur Mitchell's Dance Theatre of Harlem, they produced the nationally noted "Harlem Homecoming" benefit series; for Free Southern Theatre they produced the "Soulfood at the Walford" benefits with Broadway's Hal Prince; and as trustees of Los Angeles' Dance Gallery (the first theatre in history being built specifically for Dance), they produced "American Tap," a week of shows for the 1984 Olympic Arts Festival.

The Peters started Maga Link, Inc. in 1982 with the creation of Communications Bridge Institute to provide professional training in video technology for low-income youth, minorities and women. The combination of Communications Bridge training and studio facility with the PBS Consortium for Black Programming puts Maga Link "in the position of doing what I've always wanted to accomplish in television,"

CALL FOR ENTIRES TO 1988 FILM COMPETITION

The Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame, Inc. announces its 1988 national film competition for independent Black Filmmakers. The deadline for applications is December 19, 1987. Only 16mm and 35mm films, and 3/4" U-Matic format videotapes produced since 1984 are eligible for competition. For applications contact the BFHFI at 477 15th Street, Suite 200, Oakland, California 94612, (215) 465-0804.

AWARDS: A plaque and cash prize of \$1,000 will be awarded to Best of Competition film selection. A \$500 cash prize will be awarded to the first runner-up, and a \$250 cash prize will be awarded to second runner-up film, in the general competition. These cash prize awards have been donated by CABLE OAKLAND, prize sponsor, BFHFI Film Competition. Certificates will be presented to Best Category awarded films.

EXHIBITION: BFHFI requests the right to screen awarded films and selected other entries at one public screening and on the local origination channel of CABLE OAKLAND.

Veteran Black film director Michael Schulz ("Cooley High," "Car Wash," "Carbon Copy," "Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Heart's Club Band," "Greased Lightning," "Which Way is Up," etc.), is the 1988 Competition chairperson and will select and convene a jury of industry professionals to screen the films entered in the competition.

The award-winning filmmakers will be recognized as part of the 15th annual Oscar Micheaux Award Ceremony on Sunday afternoon, February 21, 1988, at the historic Paramount Theatre, Oakland, California.

This competition has been established as a necessary extension of the annual Oscar Micheaux Awards Ceremony. The primary objectives are: to discover and encourage filmmakers who address the rich complexity and variety of Black culture; to provide a forum for maximum exchanges between filmmakers and viewers; to define and emphasize the place and importance of film in Black

Mrs. Peters noted, "to use the incredible portability of video as a communications bridge to training, information, cultural and artistic programming for the community at large on a national scale."

history and culture; to foster an appreciation of film as art; to assist in expanding opportunities for Black filmmakers.



SAHARA/HACIENDA FIRST ANNUAL EMPLOYEE TALENT SHOW ALREADY IN REHEARSALS AWAITING THE BIG DAY ON MON., NOV. 30

The Congo Theatre is the place to be every Monday night between now and Nov. 30 — wait, you say, isn't that the 'dark' night for "Ain't Misbehavin' "?

The talented cast of "Ain't Misbehavin' " is indeed enjoying a well-deserved day off each Monday evening, however the 'just-as-talented' staffs of both the Sahara and Hacienda hotels will be using those nights to polish their trades, tune their voices, work the kinks out of

their dance steps, and get their nerve up — all in preparation for the two properties' First Annual Employee Talent Show.

The event will take place at 8:00 p.m. on Monday night, Nov. 30. Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. and drinks will be available for the nervous audience.

The public is welcomed free of charge to join all hotel employees from both the Hacienda and the Sahara for a night of fun and comraderie!




ENTERTAINER BILLY PAUL, famous for his smash hit, "Me and Mrs. Jones," and special guest Cat Miller highlighted "The Romantic Cruise on the Bay," held recently in San Francisco. Sponsored by King Cobra Premium Malt Liquor, the gala event attracted over 400 people from the East Bay and San Francisco. Standing from left to right are Ces Butner, Horizon Beverage Company; Cat Miller; Mrs. Billy Paul; Billy Paul; and Derek Frederickson, area manager, Anheuser-Busch, Inc.

BOOK


FROM PAGE 7

interact with one another will ruffle the feathers of many feminists, but it's good to hear a male point of view on these matters that isn't just a parroting regurgitation of the feminist view. Read this book; it's bound to be a hot topic of conversation.





Milton "Soul Joe" Miller
Owner, Soul Auto Body & Paint Shop





SOUL
OLD FASHION QUALITY
BODY & PAINT SHOP

BUSINESS
385-4421

MOBILE
385-4940

FREE
PICK-UP
&
DELIVERY

926 NO. MAIN ST. LAS VEGAS, NEVADA