

The Hip-Hop Summit Action Network (HSAN) Issues Call To Action At The 2008 Democratic National Convention In Denver

The Hip-Hop Summit Action Network (HSAN), the world's largest coalition of hip-hop artists and recording industry executives, is heading to the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver next week to call to action youth voters across America. HSAN CEO/President Dr. Benjamin Chavis and Executive Director Valeisha Butterfield will be at the Convention representing the organization. They will be speaking about their ongoing get out the youth vote (GOTV) programs and initiatives. "One of the most important, undisputed realities of the 2008 election will be the powerful impact of the youth vote. All national polls confirm this as well as the record youth voter turn-out during the 2008 primaries," Dr. Chavis declared. "The Hip-Hop Summit Action Network will be in Denver and in Minneapolis to ensure that the GOTV work among all of the numerous organizations is well coordinated. We are proud to witness the hip-hop generations contribution to the political transformation of American society."

On Wednesday, August 27 HSAN will team up with IMPACT and Rock the Vote for a panel discussion "Change Agents: Access, Influence, Empowerment" which will be on Wednesday, August 27, 2008 8:00-10:00 AM at the Colorado Convention Center, 700 14th Street (Colfax Avenue and Speer Boulevard.)

Moderated by CNN political analyst and journalist, Roland Martin the discussion will engage emerging and current political leaders, corporate executives, community activists

and entertainers to address the current state of politics and define the roles of people of color in business and government.

Confirmed panelists include Congresswoman Maxine Waters; Congressman Bennie G. Thompson; CEO Sheila C. Johnson; Journalist and Activist Jeff Johnson; Commissioner Andrew Gillum; Alderman Kacie Starr Triplett and a surprise celebrity guest who will begin to dispel the notion of "young versus old" in politics and determine ways that individuals can better navigate the political process and influence public policy.

For more information or to register to attend visit:
<http://www.2008changeagents.com>

To close out the day on Wednesday, August 27 HSN is teaming up with Progressive Future for the Progressive Future Dance Party at Beta Nightclub in Lodo (at 19th and Blake St) from 10:00pm to 1:00am. Doors open at 9:00pm. In recognition of the hard work young people are doing to mobilize others in their generation to take action on progressive issues, Progressive Future is throwing a dance party during the DNC. At the dance party, Progressive Future, HSN and the host committee will celebrate young emerging leaders and will recognize five or six youth as members of the "Youth Engagement Honor Roll."

In addition, HSN is joining forces with Rock the Vote for a major awareness campaign that will take place each day of the DNC in Denver next week. The campaign plans to show the real power of the youth vote. Be on the look out!

Valeisha Butterfield stated, "As a young woman executive in the recording industry, I know first-hand the undeniable, determinative influence of the hip-hop vote on the 2008 election. Young voters will stand up, speak out and take the necessary action to determine the next President of the United States. Our presence in Denver is to serve as a catalyst

leaving an indelible imprint on the outcome of this election.”

About Hip-Hop Summit Action Network

Founded in 2001, HSAN is the largest non-profit, worldwide coalition of hip-hop artists, entertainment industry leaders, education advocates, civil rights proponents, and youth leaders united in the belief that hip-hop is an enormously influential agent for positive social change which must be responsibly and proactively utilized to fight the war on poverty and injustice.