



## RE-LIVE THE PARTY!

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, we gathered at the beautiful Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco to celebrate Public Advocates 44th Anniversary. In attendance were over three hundred close friends and allies from California's vibrant legal and social justice community.

The evening was filled with powerful imagery and messages about the hardships and beauty involved in the struggle for civil rights. Drawing inspiration from the triumphant Caldwell/Jorgenson climb of [The Dawn Wall](#), we reflected on our own journey as we climb together – one step at a time – towards the mountaintop envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



We listened to **Patricia Muñoz**, an immigrant mother, testify how she discovered her own strength to win more funding for her children's schools by linking arms with Public Advocates and awardee [CCISCO](#). Together, we celebrated winning \$1 million in additional services for high-need students in Antioch, California.

In a Q&A with American progressive icon, [Tom Hayden](#), he reminded us how Democracy is won inch by inch, and the urgency of maintaining a progressive multi-racial, multi-class electoral majority in the next Presidential election. He commended Public Advocates for being a leading voice for climate change solutions that simultaneously address poverty, segregation and inequality.



We closed the evening by paying homage to the inspirational work of the [Reverend Dr. William Barber II](#) and the thousands of participants of the Moral Mondays grassroots movement sweeping the South (see the [video](#)).

In his [acceptance letter](#), Rev. Barber commends Public Advocates for “set[ting] a model for fighting systemic exploitation, racism [and] classism ” through “surgical litigation that supports the grassroots work.”

We thank the many people who made this celebration a night to remember – from our marvelous [staff](#), [board](#) and volunteers, to our many generous [sponsors](#), to our many guests (see the [photos](#)!). Our work would not be possible without your steadfast support.