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**Sidney Hillman Foundation's 2009 Prizes for Exemplary Reporting on Social Justice Issues
Awards Ceremony May 27th in New York City**

The 2009 Hillman Prize winners will be lauded at an event on May 27 in New York City. The Hillman Prizes are given for the best book, magazine, newspaper, documentary photography, broadcasting, and blog. This is one of the most prestigious prizes given to work that fosters social and economic justice.

This year's winners are:

Books:

Steven Greenhouse

The Big Squeeze, *Knopf*

and

Jane Mayer

The Dark Side, *Doubleday*

Newspaper:

Nina Bernstein

"Death in Immigrant Detention"

The New York Times

Special Mention:

Alexandra Berzon

"Construction Worker Deaths on the Las Vegas Strip"

The Las Vegas Sun

Magazine:

The Nation

Special Issue – The New Inequality

Special Mention:

Jonathan Cohn

"Auto Destruct"

The New Republic

Broadcast:

Robert Bahar & Almudena Carracedo

"Made in LA"

POV

Special Mention:

Peter Noyes & John Schwada

"House Thefts"

KTTV-FOX, Los Angeles

and

Larry Adelman, Llew Smith & Christine Herbes-Sommers

"Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?"

California Newsreel with Vital Pictures

Photography:

Carol Guzy
"Birth and Death"
The Washington Post

Special Mention:

Sonya Hebert
"At the Edge of Life"
The Dallas Morning News

Blog:

Marcy Wheeler
Emptywheel.Firedoglake.com

Sol Stetin Award for Labor History:

Jim Green, Professor History and Labor Studies, University of Massachusetts Boston

Since 1950, the Sidney Hillman Foundation has celebrated the legacy and vision of union pioneer and New Deal architect Sidney Hillman. As founder and president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, and a founder of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), Hillman is considered one of America's greatest labor leaders. His tireless efforts to bring dignity and respect to working people left a lasting legacy for the American public.

These awards give recognition to journalists and public figures demonstrating a similar sense of social responsibility, investigating and telling the difficult stories that need to be told. In an era when serious journalism is being threatened and newspapers are folding, these writers and photographers seek out stories that change lives. The awards go to practitioners in traditional and new media. Past winners include prominent figures in their field, as well as young journalists or publications that have yet to receive adequate recognition. Murray Kempton was the first recipient in 1950. Each winner receives \$5,000.

This year's distinguished panel of judges consists of Hendrik Hertzberg, senior editor, *The New Yorker*; Harold Meyerson, editor-at-large, *The American Prospect* and columnist for the *Washington Post*; Katrina vanden Heuvel, executive editor, *The Nation* magazine; Susan Meiselas, Magnum photographer and author; and Rose Marie Arce, senior producer, *CNN*.

"The Hillman Foundation is dedicated to promoting the role that journalism and the world of ideas play in making a difference in the lives of ordinary people. These awards are proof that journalism, at its best and most professional, can change the world," said Bruce Raynor, president of the foundation.

The award ceremony will be held May 27, 2009, 5:30-8:00 PM, at the Hudson Theatre at the Millennium Broadway Hotel in New York City.

For more information and to find out about upcoming activities of the Foundation, go to:
www.hillmanfoundation.org