

## National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to honor San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and fashion designer John Bartlett

*New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn and actor Lucy Liu will present at the New York Leadership Awards*

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One of the nation's key champions of marriage equality, a cutting-edge fashion designer, an A-list actor and the speaker of the New York City Council comprise the powerhouse lineup that will be featured at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's New York Leadership Awards on April 6.

The lineup of San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, a galvanizing force for marriage equality, and top fashion designer John Bartlett will be honored at this premier lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) event. Christine Quinn, who as New York City Council speaker is one of the country's highest-ranking LGBT elected officials, will present the award to Newsom. Actor Lucy Liu, star of the *Charlie's Angels* films and TV's *Ally McBeal*, will present the award to Bartlett.



"Each of these honorees and presenters are the tops in their respective fields. They are leaders who inspire through action, creativity, imagination and boldness," says Rea Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "This is going to be an incredible night."

Newsom has been a courageous and outspoken leader for LGBT rights for many years. In 2004, he gained worldwide attention when he directed the San Francisco County Clerk to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

Bartlett is being recognized for his creative leadership in the area of fashion design and his openness, honesty and playfulness regarding sexuality as represented in both his design collections and his public life. Bartlett has also been very involved with organizations such as Bailey House, which provides housing for homeless people living with HIV, and Live Out



Loud, which works with LGBT youth.

The 2009 New York Leadership Awards will be held April 6, 6:30-10 p.m., at New York University's Kimmel Center for University Life.

For details about becoming an event sponsor or host, or to purchase tickets, visit [www.theTaskForce.org/nyla](http://www.theTaskForce.org/nyla) or contact Task Force Special Events Director Janice Thom at 646.358.1467.