

The
BILERICO
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daily experiments in LGBTQ

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Leadership Awards kickoff in Manhattan

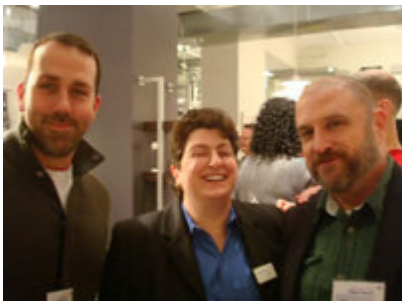
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You know you are back in New York City when you are already running late for something while waiting for the fasten-seatbelt sign to go off. (In Fort Lauderdale, I am never late for anything because there's nothing to schedule. It's the land where cars and cosmetics outlive their owners.)

I dropped off my bag, threw on a pair of G-Stars and a vintage Versace tee yanked down to earth with a corduroy blazer, and took the #1 train down to the Design Within Reach store on 14th Street for the kick-off of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's 2009 New York Leadership awards.

Pictures and more after the jump.

The Task Force's Leadership Awards events pay tribute to community leaders, allies and organizations that fight for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people through their leadership, advocacy and action.



I was delighted finally to meet the Task Force's Director of Special Events, Janice Thom, flanked in this pic by my friends, the perpetually hot and squeezable Craig Marquis and the intrepid JoeMyGod who brought me up to speed on all the local gossip and news.

(While Joe was out of earshot, I discussed with other friends present the progress being made by a committee of which I am a member planning the October celebration of a significant birthday for Joe. You can email me for details.)



Standing next to Joe in the next pic is photographer Frank de Leon who also happens to be the husband of Bilerico contributor and past Task Force Executive Director Matt Foreman who was in Iowa.

I think the Task Force is one of the sturdiest and most effective LGBT orgs going, and damn they throw a good party. And speaking of their parties, expect to find my coverage of their 2009 Winter Party here on Bilerico as it unfolds. That is something I *do* have on my Florida calendar.