CONGRATULATES
PERRY SOOK
Chairman, President and CEO of Nexstar Broadcasting Group, Inc.

This Year’s
American Horizon Award Recipient

ION Media Networks is Proud To
Support the 2016 Media Institute’s Friends
& Benefactors Awards Banquet

ION Media Networks
The Nexstar Nation salutes

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD HONOREE

AJIT PAI

A very special Congratulations to

AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD HONOREE

PERRY SOOK

Thank you, Perry, for your leadership, vision & commitment to excellence.
WE ARE BROADCASTERS

Whether it’s news about a local or national election, providing critical information during a storm, or uncovering government corruption, America’s broadcasters are committed to informing the public, no matter the cost or consequence.

The National Association of Broadcasters salutes The Media Institute for its commitment to protecting and promoting the ideals of the First Amendment, supporting radio and television broadcasters’ obligation to keep their local communities safe and informed.

WeAreBroadcasters.com
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Welcoming Remarks

Richard E. Wiley
Senior Partner
Wiley Rein LLP

Patrick D. Maines
President
The Media Institute

Keynote Remarks

FEATURED SPEAKER
The Honorable Patricia de Stacy Harrison
President & Chief Executive Officer
Corporation for Public Broadcasting

American Horizon Award

PRESENTER
Adonis E. Hoffman, Esq.
Chairman
Business in the Public Interest

HONOREE
Perry A. Sook
Chairman, President and CEO
Nexstar Broadcasting Group, Inc.

Freedom of Speech Award

PRESENTER
Robert McDowell
Partner
Wiley Rein, LLC

HONOREE
The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Thank you for your commitment to protecting the First Amendment.

Freedom of Speech Award
Ajit Pai
Commissioner, FCC

American Horizon Award
Perry Sook
Nexstar Broadcasting Group

Honored to support
The Media Institute
Richard E. Wiley

In 1983, Richard E. Wiley co-founded Wiley Rein LLP, a Washington, DC law firm with the largest communications practice in the United States. As a former Chairman, Commissioner, and General Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission (1970 – 77), he was a leading force in the agency’s initial efforts to foster increased competition and lessened regulation in the communications field.

Since 1985, Dick Wiley has been regularly recognized as one of the nation’s “100 Most Influential” lawyers by The National Law Journal. He also has been profiled in The New York Times (“Telecommunications’ Ubiquitous Man of Influence”), Los Angeles Times (“The Sixth Commissioner”), The International Herald Tribune (“Most Influential Media Lawyer in U.S.”), The Globe and Mail (“Father of HDTV”), and The American Lawyer (“Brand Name of Communications Law” and “Lifetime Achiever”).

Mr. Wiley was awarded an Emmy by the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for leading the development of the nation’s digital television transmission standard. He also has received numerous industry-related recognitions including: the National Association of Broadcaster’s Distinguished Service Award, the North American Broadcasters Association’s International Achievement Award, the Library of American Broadcasting’s “Giants in Broadcasting”, the Broadcasters Foundation of America’s Excellence in Broadcasting Award, the Consumer Electronics Association’s Gold Medal and Hall of Fame, and Broadcasting & Cable Magazine’s “100 Men of the Century”.

Mr. Wiley graduated with distinction from Northwestern (B.S. and J.D.) and holds a Masters Degree in Law (LL.M.) from Georgetown. He has received distinguished alumnus awards from each University as well as an Honorary Doctor of Law from Catholic and John Marshall Law Schools. He has served as President of the Federal Bar and Federal Communications Bar Associations and Chair of the ABA’s Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice Section.
TEGNA MEDIA

extends our thanks to The Media Institute for its work to advance the industry.
Patricia de Stacy Harrison

The Honorable Patricia de Stacy Harrison is the president and chief executive officer of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), the leading funder of public radio and public television programming for the American people.

Ms. Harrison is also chairman of the Leadership Council of Women and Girls Lead, an innovative public media initiative designed to focus, educate and connect women, girls and their allies across the globe to address the challenges of the 21st century. In 2012, she was included on the Forbes list of “Women Changing the World in Media” for establishing Women and Girls Lead and her continued leadership on the project.

Prior to joining CPB in 2005, Ms. Harrison served as Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs and Acting Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. She is the recipient of many awards and honors, including the 2008 Leadership Award from the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the U.S. Secretary of State’s Distinguished Service Award.

She sits on the boards of the National Italian American Foundation and the American University of Rome. She is also a member of the Board of Advisors at the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security.

Ms. Harrison is the author of two books, *A Seat At The Table: An Insider’s Guide for America’s New Women Leaders* and *America’s New Women Entrepreneurs*. 
ctia

congratulates
tonight’s honorees

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD

Ajit Pai
FCC Commissioner

AMESICAN HORIZON AWARD

Perry Sook
Chairman, President, and CEO
Nexstar Broadcasting Group, Inc.

proud supporter of The Media Institute
Adonis E. Hoffman

Adonis Hoffman is chairman of Business in the Public Interest and director of Ad Hoc Holdings, Inc. He is co-chair of the Advisory Council at Nielsen Media, adjunct professor at Georgetown University and a member of the First Amendment Advisory Council at The Media Institute.


Hoffman earned an A.B. from Princeton and a J.D. from Georgetown and is admitted to practice before the U.S. Court of International Trade and the U.S. Supreme Court. Adonis and Karla Hoffman have been married for 25 years and have a son and a daughter.
SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE MEDIA INSTITUTE

We Congratulate This Evening’s Honorees:

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD RECIPIENT
FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai

AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD RECIPIENT
Perry Sook, CEO of Nexstar Broadcasting Group
Perry A. Sook

Perry A. Sook has over 33 years of professional experience in the television and radio broadcasting industries, covering all facets of the business including ownership and M&A, management, sales, on-air talent and news. Sook is the founder, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Nexstar Broadcasting Group, Inc., a leading diversified media company that leverages localism to bring new services and value to consumers and advertisers through its traditional media, digital and mobile media platforms. Based in Irving, Texas, Nexstar was formed in 1996 and trades on NASDAQ under the symbol NXST. Pro-forma for the completion of all transactions Nexstar will own, operate, program or provide sales and other services to 171 television stations and their related low power and digital multicast signals reaching 100 markets or approximately 39% of all U.S. television households.

Prior to Nexstar, Mr. Sook was one of the principals of Superior Communication Group, and he previously spent five years with Cox Broadcasting. Early in his career, Mr. Sook was involved in local TV sales and radio sales, and also worked briefly as a television news anchor at the CBS affiliate in Clarksburg, W.V.

Mr. Sook did his undergraduate work at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and was an adjunct professor at Edinboro State University of Pennsylvania. He is a recipient of the NAB/BEA Harold E. Follow Memorial Scholarship, a Board Member of the National Association of Broadcasters, the Television Bureau of Advertising, the NBC Affiliate Board, and a Board Member and Trustee of The Ohio University Foundation.

He and his wife, Sandra, have three children; Laura, Victoria and Perry, Jr., and reside in Flower Mound, Texas.
We proudly support
The Media Institute
And Congratulate Tonight’s Award Recipients

Ajit Pai
Freedom of Speech Award

Perry Sook
American Horizon Award

Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Robert McDowell

Robert McDowell, former commissioner and senior member of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), has been an industry and government leader on a multitude of complex issues in the communications field throughout his career. A partner in the Communications Practice at Wiley Rein LLP, he provides strategic legal, business, and public policy advice to clients on important domestic and international matters in the telecommunications, media, technology, and digital media industries. Appointed to the FCC by presidents George W. Bush (2006) and Barack Obama (2009) and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate each time, Mr. McDowell was the first Republican appointed to an independent agency by President Obama. During his seven years as one of five FCC commissioners, he spearheaded the production of policies that directly affected all aspects of the Internet, wireless technologies, broadband competition, and communications equipment and devices, as well as radio and satellite services. Mr. McDowell also has 16 years of private sector experience in the communications industry. He is currently a senior advisor at Berenson & Co. and a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute’s Center for the Economics of the Internet. Mr. McDowell received his J.D. from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary.
Congratulations Commissioner Ajit Pai and Perry Sook

CBS is proud to support The Media Institute.
Ajit Pai

Ajit Pai is the senior Republican on the Federal Communications Commission. He was nominated to the FCC by President Barack Obama and was confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate on May 7, 2012.

Commissioner Pai has been an outspoken defender of First Amendment freedoms. When the FCC proposed to send researchers into newsrooms to question why reporters cover some stories and not others, Commissioner Pai sounded the alarm. Soon after, the FCC canceled the study. Commissioner Pai has also spoken out about threats to free speech here and abroad and has warned against government efforts to regulate the marketplace of ideas.

Commissioner Pai’s regulatory philosophy is informed by a few simple principles, among them that consumers benefit most from competition, not preemptive regulations, and that the FCC should do everything it can to ensure that its rules reflect the realities of the current marketplace and basic principles of economics.

Commissioner Pai graduated with honors from Harvard University in 1994 and from the University of Chicago Law School in 1997, where he was an editor of the University of Chicago Law Review and won the Thomas R. Mulroy Prize. In 2010, Pai was one of 55 individuals nationwide chosen for the 2011 Marshall Memorial Fellowship, a leadership development initiative of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

The son of immigrants from India, Commissioner Pai grew up in Parsons, Kansas. He now lives in Arlington, Virginia, with his wife, Janine; son, Alexander; and daughter, Annabelle.
CHARTER CONGRATULATES TONIGHT’S HONOREES, 
AJIT PAI & PERRY SOOK.

We proudly support the work of The Media Institute and its continued dedication to advancing excellence in journalism and free speech.
NCTA

Congratulates

this year’s honorees and salutes

THE MEDIA INSTITUTE

for its enduring support of a strong
First Amendment and
sound communications policy
The National Association of Broadcasters congratulates this year’s Media Institute honorees FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai and Perry Sook, chairman, president and CEO of Nexstar Broadcasting Group, and thanks them for their commitment to protecting and promoting the ideals of the First Amendment.

NAB applauds the Media Institute’s mission to protect free speech and their support of broadcasters who are dedicated to keeping their communities informed about the issues and events that impact them.
ION Media Networks

National Association of Broadcasters

Nexstar Media Group, Inc.
The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)™
congratulates tonight’s honorees

AJIT PAI
Freedom of Speech Award

and

PERRY SOOK
American Horizon Award
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Consumer Technology Association

LG Electronics USA

NCTA – The Internet & Television Association

Sinclair Broadcast Group

Verizon

The Walt Disney Company
The Media Institute as it celebrates their 2016 Friends & Benefactors Honorees.

**Congratulations to the Honoree of the 2016 Freedom of Speech Award, Commissioner Ajit Pai and the Honoree of the 2016 American Horizon Award, Perry Sook.**
21st Century Fox
AT&T Services Inc.
Charter Communications
Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Covington & Burling LLP
CTIA
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
iHeartMedia, Inc.
Interactive Advertising Bureau
Imagine Communications
News Media Alliance
TEGNA Inc.
USTelecom Association
Wiley Rein LLP
LG Electronics USA
Proudly Salutes
Tonight’s Honorees

AJIT PAI
Freedom of Speech Award

PERRY SOOK
American Horizon Award

Proud Supporter of The Media Institute
Wiley Rein proudly supports The Media Institute for its dedication to freedom of speech, a competitive media industry, and excellence in journalism.

We congratulate
FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai Freedom of Speech Awardee and
Nexstar Broadcasting CEO Perry Sook American Horizon Awardee
Proud to support tonight’s
Friends & Benefactors Awards Banquet.

We believe supporting The Media Institute’s efforts to
enhance freedom of speech, a competitive media and
communications industry, and excellence in journalism
is one of the best investments we can make.

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It is our great pleasure to welcome you this evening as we celebrate our distinguished awardees and recognize our friends and benefactors. Commissioner Ajit Pai is receiving our Freedom of Speech Award for his steadfast commitment to the First Amendment at the FCC. Perry Sook is receiving our American Horizon Award for positioning Nexstar as a leader in broadcasting during one of the industry’s most challenging eras.

Our awardees, along with their presenters Adonis Hoffman and Rob McDowell, and CPB’s Patricia Harrison, promise to make this a memorable event indeed. We invite you to enjoy the evening’s festivities and we thank you for your generous support, which makes our work possible.

Patrick D. Maines
President

Richard T. Kaplar
Executive Director
iHeartMedia salutes The Media Institute for all it does to preserve and protect freedom of speech, the cornerstone of American rights.

Congratulations to

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Freedom of Speech Award

And

Mr. Perry Sook
CEO
Nexstar Broadcasting Group
American Horizon Award
Tonight’s banquet is The Media Institute’s signature event in celebration of Free Speech Week (FSW), the national week-long event that gives everyone an opportunity to recognize this fundamental freedom.

New this year is a panel discussion co-hosted by The Media Institute and the Newseum Institute, titled “Free Speech: Still the American Way?” This affair will be held tomorrow, October 20, from 3p.m. to 5p.m. at the Newseum.

As always, a host of universities, media organizations, and community groups are conducting their own activities to promote freedom of speech.

The Media Institute, which created Free Speech Week in 2005, has continued to publicize FSW and to manage its website. Check it out at freespeechweek.org. Next year’s Free Speech Week will be celebrated Oct. 16–22, 2017.

Free Speech: The Language of America
Warner Bros.
Domestic Television Distribution
congratulates
Perry Sook
on receiving
The Media Institute
American Horizon Award
News Media Alliance

CONGRATULATES

FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai & Perry Sook

Thank you for your leadership and contributions to the media industry, and for your long-standing commitment to the First Amendment.
The Walt Disney Company

Joins The Media Institute in honoring

Ajit Pai
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission

Freedom of Speech Award Recipient

and

Perry Sook
CEO
Nextar Broadcasting Group

American Horizon Award Recipient

Congratulations!
Richard M. Bates
The Walt Disney Company

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Sinclair Broadcast Group

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Verizon

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The Media Institute

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iHeart Media, Inc.

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Wiley Rein LLP

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TEGNA Inc.

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CBS Corporation

Michael Regan

John I. Taylor
LG Electronics USA

Richard E. Wiley*
Wiley Rein LLP

Kurt Wimmer
Covington & Burling LLP

*Chairman
21st Century Fox salutes
The Media Institute

for its dedication to a fair and competitive media industry and continued excellence in journalism.

We honor

Commissioner Ajit Pai
Freedom of Speech Award Recipient
and

Perry Sook
American Horizon Award Recipient

for their leadership and commitment to the advancement and protection of free speech.
Floyd Abrams  
Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

Bruce D. Brown  
Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

John Bussian  
The Bussian Law Firm

Robert Corn-Revere  
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Adonis E. Hoffman  
Business in the Public Interest

Kathleen A. Kirby  
Wiley Rein LLP

Greg Lukianoff  
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education

Tony Mauro  
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Ashley Messenger  
NPR

Cliff Sloan  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Rodney A. Smolla  
Delaware Law School
Widener University

J. Joshua Wheeler  
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

Kurt A. Wimmer*  
Covington & Burling LLP

Laurence H. Winer  
Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
Arizona State University

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Davis Wright Tremaine
is proud to honor:

Commissioner Ajit Pai
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FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD

Perry Sook
Nexstar Broadcasting Group
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Prof. Randal C. Picker  
School of Law  
University of Chicago

Dean Rodney A. Smolla*  
Delaware Law School  
Widener University

*Chairman
The Interactive Advertising Bureau salutes
The Media Institute for another great year, and thanks
Patrick Maines for his amazing career and contributions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TONIGHT’S HONOREES

COMMISSIONER
AJIT PAI
FCC
&
PERRY SOOK
Nexstar Broadcasting Group
Free Speech Week Social Media Badge

freespeechweek.org
Covington congratulates
Friends & Benefactors Awards Banquet honorees

Perry Sook
American Horizon Award

and

Ajit Pai
Freedom of Speech Award
We’re sharing our technology to help communities realize the promise of a digital world.

Wherever the world needs technology to solve social issues, we’re there. We invest in our brightest minds to help make our communities better places to work, live and learn.

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Honorees

Ajit Pai
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
Freedom of Speech Award

and

Perry Sook
President & CEO
Nexstar Broadcasting
American Horizon Award

for their leadership and dedication to protecting
the freedoms of the First Amendment.

We thank The Media Institute for its continued
advocacy for the freedom of speech and press
and its support of the broadband industry.

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