



October 7, 2019

The Four Seasons Hotel
Washington, D.C.



The
Media
Institute

40th
1979 - 2019

Verizon is proud to support The Media Institute

**We thank the featured speaker,
FCC Commissioner Geoffrey
Starks and congratulate this
year's honorees:**

Fred Ryan,
Publisher and
CEO of The
Washington Post

Caroline Beasley,
CEO of Beasley
Media Group



verizon✓



PROGRAM

2019

★ Welcoming Remarks

Richard T. Kaplar
President
The Media Institute

Richard E. Wiley
Chairman Emeritus
Wiley Rein LLP

★ Keynote Remarks

FEATURED SPEAKER

The Honorable Geoffrey Starks
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission

★ American Horizon Award

PRESENTER

Senator Gordon Smith
President & CEO
National Association of Broadcasters

HONOREE

Caroline Beasley
Chief Executive Officer
Beasley Media Group, Inc.

★ Freedom of Speech Award

PRESENTER

Pamela Brown
Senior White House Correspondent
Cable News Network

HONOREE

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.
Publisher & CEO
The Washington Post

**LG ELECTRONICS USA,
Proud Supporter of
The Media Institute,
Salutes Tonight's Honorees:**

CAROLINE BEASLEY
American Horizon Award

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
Freedom of Speech Award



PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies

★ Richard E. Wiley

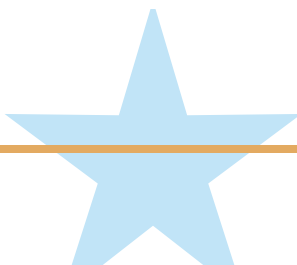
Richard E. Wiley, long-time Chairman of The Media Institute Board of Trustees, co-founded Wiley Rein LLP, a law firm in Washington, D.C., with one of the nation's largest communications practices, in 1983. Mr. Wiley served as a Chairman, Commissioner, and General Counsel of the Federal Communications Commission from 1970 to 1977, and was recognized as a leading force in the agency's initial efforts to foster greater competition and reduced regulation in the media industry.



Since 1985, Mr. 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*, *Los Angeles Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Globe and Mail*, and *American Lawyer*.

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 has also received awards from numerous industry-related groups including the National Association of Broadcasters, North American Broadcasters Association, Library of American Broadcasting, Broadcasters Foundation of America, Consumer Electronics Association, and *Broadcasting & Cable* magazine.

Mr. Wiley graduated with distinction from Northwestern University (B.S. and J.D.) and holds a Master's degree in Law (LL.M.) from Georgetown University. He also holds Honorary Doctor of Law degrees from Catholic and John Marshall law schools.





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AND SALUTES THE
2019 FREE SPEECH AMERICA
GALA HONOREES**



KEYNOTE REMARKS

Featured Speaker

★ **Commissioner Geoffrey Starks**

Geoffrey Starks was unanimously confirmed as a Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission by the U.S. Senate on Jan. 2, 2019. He was sworn into office on Jan. 30, 2019.



Commissioner Starks has a long career of public and private sector experience. This experience informs his commitment to ensuring that no American is left behind in this era of transformative innovation. Most recently, Commissioner Starks served as Assistant Bureau Chief in the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, where he focused on protecting consumers, promoting network security, and preserving the integrity of the Commission's Universal Service Fund programs. Previously, he served as Senior Counsel in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice. At DOJ, he received the Attorney General Award for Exceptional Service — the highest award a DOJ employee can receive.

Prior to his entry into federal public service, Commissioner Starks was an attorney at the law firm Williams & Connolly, clerked for the Honorable Judge Duane Benton on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, served as a legislative staffer in the Illinois State Senate, and worked as a financial analyst.

Commissioner Starks was born in Kansas City, Missouri. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard College with high honors and a law degree from Yale Law School. Commissioner Starks lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Lauren, and their two children.

Congratulations
CAROLINE BEASLEY
CEO, Beasley Media Group
on receiving the American Horizon Award



BMI is proud to support
The Media Institute and the 'Free Speech America' Gala



AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD

Presenter

★ **Senator Gordon H. Smith**

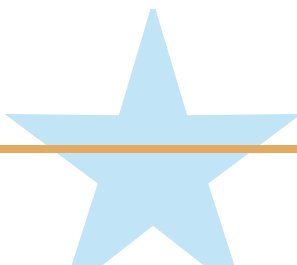
Gordon H. Smith joined the National Association of Broadcasters as President and CEO in November 2009. Prior to joining NAB, he served as a two-term U.S. senator from Oregon and later as senior advisor in the Washington offices of Covington & Burling LLP.



Sen. Smith's committee assignments in the U.S. Senate included the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, the panel that oversees all broadcast-related legislation. Sen. Smith's role on the Commerce Committee and as Chairman of a Senate High Tech Task Force helped foster his interest in new media and new technology issues.

Born in Pendleton, Ore., Sen. Smith attended Brigham Young University and received his law degree from Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles. He practiced law in New Mexico and Arizona before returning to Oregon to direct the family-owned Smith Frozen Foods business in Weston. Before his election to the U.S. Senate in 1996, he was elected to the Oregon State Senate, rising to the position of President of that body after only three years.

Sen. Smith and his wife, Sharon, live in Bethesda, Md., and are the parents of three children and five grandchildren.



NAB Congratulates Caroline Beasley



The National Association of Broadcasters congratulates American Horizon Award honoree and former NAB Joint Board Chair Caroline Beasley and Freedom of Speech Award honoree Fred Ryan for their continued commitment to advancing the ideals of the First Amendment.

NAB applauds The Media Institute's mission to protect free speech and its support of broadcasters committed to quality journalism.



AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD

Honoree

★ **Caroline Beasley**



Caroline Beasley was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Beasley Media Group, Inc. on January 1, 2017. She had held several senior-level positions within the company since 1994, including Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, and Secretary. In addition, she has served as a Director of Beasley Broadcast Group, Inc. since she joined the company in 1983. The company owns and operates 65 FM and AM radio stations in 15 large and mid-size markets.

Ms. Beasley most recently served as Joint Board Chair of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Board of Directors, and is a past Chairman of the NAB Radio Board. In addition, she is a member of the BMI Board of Directors and the Broadcasters Foundation of America Board of Directors.

In 2017, Ms. Beasley was honored by *Radio Ink* magazine as “Radio Executive of the Year.” She was named one of the “40 Most Powerful People in Radio” in 2011, 2012, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019. In addition, the radio veteran has been recognized in the magazine’s “Most Influential Women in Radio” listing on an annual basis since 2003.

Ms. Beasley received the 2016 “Distinguished Service Award” from the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters. She was the recipient of the 2012 “Frances Preston Trailblazer Award” from the Mentoring and Inspiring Women in Radio Group (MIW), a national organization dedicated to the advancement of women in the radio industry.

Ms. Beasley is a member of the Board of Visitors at her alma mater, the University of North Carolina, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree.

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AND
CONGRATULATES
TONIGHT'S HONOREES

CAROLINE BEASLEY
CEO OF BEASLEY MEDIA GROUP
AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD

AND

FRED RYAN
PUBLISHER AND CEO OF THE
WASHINGTON POST
FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD



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FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD

Presenter

★ Pamela Brown

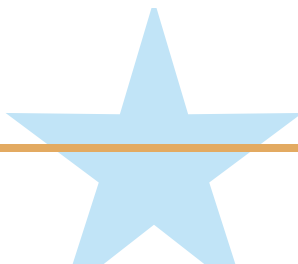
Pamela Brown serves as CNN's senior White House correspondent covering President Donald Trump and his administration for all of the network's programs and platforms. She also serves as a fill-in anchor for "CNN Newsroom."



Ms. Brown's reporting on the Trump Administration has covered key moments such as the controversial travel ban and child separation policies, missile strikes in Syria, and the firing of FBI Director James Comey. She was also a lead reporter on the Mueller investigation, looking at Russia's interference in the U.S. election and whether the president's campaign played any role, as well as the possibility of obstruction of justice.

Ms. Brown previously served as the network's Justice and Supreme Court correspondent covering law enforcement, as well as issues related to the Department of Justice and the U.S. Supreme Court. Before shifting to the justice beat, Ms. Brown was a national correspondent reporting on a variety of topics for the network and contributed to CNN's morning program, "New Day."

Ms. Brown grew up in Lexington, Ky., and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in broadcast journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



We applaud your outstanding leadership.

Congratulations to tonight's honorees.

Freedom of Speech Award

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.

Publisher & CEO, *The Washington Post*

American Horizon Award

Caroline Beasley

CEO, Beasley Media Group, LLC

Honored to support The Media Institute's 2019 "Free Speech America" Gala



FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD

Honoree

★ **Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.**

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr. is Publisher and CEO of *The Washington Post* and affiliated publishing businesses. During his time at *The Washington Post*, it has been recognized for excellence in journalism with multiple Pulitzer Prizes, and twice named by *Fast Company* magazine as the “World’s Most Innovative Media Company.”



Until August 2014, Mr. Ryan served as President and CEO of POLITICO, which he co-founded in 2007.

From 1995 to 2014, Mr. Ryan was also President and COO of Allbritton Communications, a top-performing and award-winning group of ABC Network affiliated broadcast and cable stations. NewsChannel 8, its local cable channel serving Washington, Maryland, and Virginia, became the most successful local news channel in America.

Mr. Ryan serves as Chairman of the White House Historical Association and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Foundation. He also serves on the boards of several other nonprofit organizations including the University of Southern California, Ford’s Theatre, and The National Geographic Society.

Mr. Ryan served at a senior level in the White House from 1982 to 1989 and later became Chief of Staff to former president Ronald Reagan. Mr. Ryan was responsible for overseeing all of former president Reagan’s activities, including domestic and international issues, government relations, political affairs, and public relations.

Prior to his government service, Mr. Ryan was an attorney at the Los Angeles law firm of Hill, Farrer & Burrill. He graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Southern California with a Bachelor’s degree in political science and speech communication in 1977, and received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Southern California Law Center in 1980.



Congratulations to
tonight's honorees

FRED RYAN

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD

CAROLINE BEASLEY

AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD

IAB proudly supports The Media Institute
and its mission to promote
free speech and fair media.

iab.com

Consumer Technology Association™

The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)®
congratulates this evening's honorees
for their dedication to free speech:

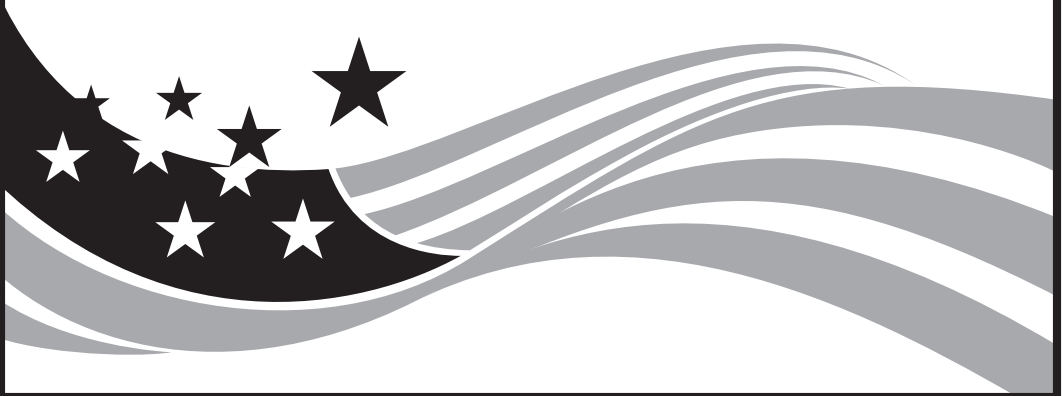
Fred Ryan

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AWARD

Caroline Beasley

AMERICAN HORIZON AWARD

Let's Celebrate Free Speech
And the technology that helps create open societies
and promote journalism.



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Celebrates

Caroline Beasley



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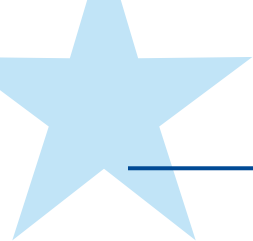
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**The Media Institute's
'Free Speech America' Gala**

and congratulates this year's honorees:

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., *Publisher & CEO | The Washington Post*
Caroline Beasley, *CEO | Beasley Media Group*

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T-Mobile® is proud to support The Media Institute and its continued efforts to protect the First Amendment. We'd also like to congratulate Caroline Beasley and Fred Ryan for their contributions to public media.

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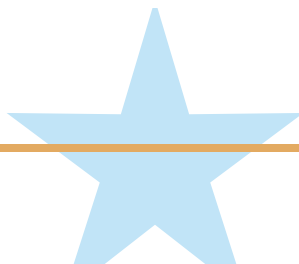
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We support freedom of speech
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Wiley Rein is a proud supporter of
The Media Institute and its efforts to promote
freedom of speech among all sectors of the media.

We congratulate this year's award recipients:

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., publisher and CEO

of *The Washington Post*
Freedom of Speech Awardee
and

Caroline Beasley, CEO of
Beasley Media Group
American Horizon Awardee

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WELCOME FROM THE MEDIA INSTITUTE

We welcome you to our “Free Speech America” Gala!

This year’s event marks a milestone for The Media Institute – our 40th anniversary. From its beginnings in 1979, the Institute has grown into one of the country’s leading non-partisan organizations that focuses on the First Amendment and communications policy.

The Institute exists to foster three goals: Promote freedom of speech. Encourage a competitive media environment and communications industry. Recognize excellence in journalism.

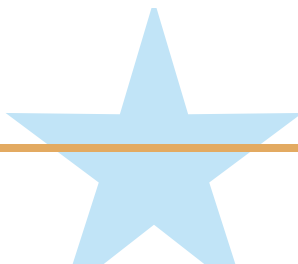
Our mission is clear. And our commitment to that mission is unwavering.

You may know the Institute through our Communications Forum Luncheon Series or Free Speech Week. But we hope you come to know the Institute for all the ways we are working to advance those three key goals.

We thank our awardees, their presenters, our featured speaker, and our master of ceremonies for being a part of this special evening. And we thank you, our generous supporters, for making our work possible. We are proud to share this remarkable 40-year legacy of achievement with you.

Richard T. Kaplar
President

Susanna Coto
Director of Public Events



The Washington Post

PRESS FREEDOM PARTNERSHIP

The Washington Post is committed to raising awareness of the rights of journalists worldwide who are in pursuit of the truth.

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FREE SPEECH WEEK

October 21 – 27, 2019

Free Speech Week is America's annual event celebrating our constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and freedom of the press. It's a pure celebration with no partisan, political, or ideological agenda.

Tonight's "Free Speech America" Gala kicks off this year's festivities early. Two weeks from now, media organizations, schools and universities, civic groups, and various organizations around the country will conduct activities to celebrate these essential freedoms. And if recent years are any guide, social media will light up with free-speech themes.

The Media Institute created Free Speech Week in 2005 and continues to publicize it through the FSW website, freespeechweek.org. Next year's Free Speech Week will be celebrated Oct. 19 – 25, 2020.

Free Speech: The Language of America



Covington is proud to support

The Media Institute's 2019 Free Speech America Gala

We commend The Media Institute for its commitment to
the advocacy of the First Amendment and congratulate this
year's honorees:

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.
Freedom of Speech Award

and

Caroline Beasley
American Horizon Award

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October 21 - 27, 2019



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for its efforts to protect
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WE CONGRATULATE

Freedom of Speech Award Recipient:

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.

Publisher and CEO, The Washington Post

American Horizon Award Recipient:

CAROLINE BEASLEY

CEO, Beasley Media Group

TEGNA

COMMUNICATIONS FORUM LUNCHEON SERIES

The Communications Forum Luncheon Series is one of The Media Institute's most popular programs. Luncheons take place eight times per year in downtown Washington and feature speakers from the top ranks of government and industry. With more than 30 corporate and organizational sponsors, the luncheons are a prime opportunity for Washington's media and telecom policy elite to enjoy lively discussion and congenial company. Programs this year have included:

Panel moderated by **Kurt Wimmer**, Covington & Burling:

Bruce Brown, Reporters Committee; **Tom Curley**, Gannett;

Jim McLaughlin, *The Washington Post*; **Ashley Messenger**, NPR

Meredith Attwell Baker, President and CEO
CTIA

Perry Sook, Chairman, President, and CEO
Nexstar Media Group

Thomas Johnson, General Counsel
Federal Communications Commission

Debate moderated by **Richard E. Wiley**, former FCC chairman:

Robert M. McDowell, former FCC commissioner;

Gigi Sohn, former FCC official

Senator Gordon Smith, President and CEO
National Association of Broadcasters

Commissioner Rebecca Slaughter
Federal Trade Commission

David Cohen, Senior Executive Vice President
Comcast Corporation

For information about becoming a 2020 luncheon series sponsor, please contact Susanna Coto at The Media Institute.



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Freedom of Speech Award

CAROLINE BEASLEY

American Horizon Award

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Caroline Beasley

on Her Well-Deserved Receipt of

The Media Institute's

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We Proudly Salute

Caroline Beasley

Recipient of The Media Institute's
American Horizon Award

For Her Dedication to Broadcasting
And Her Leadership Role in the Industry.



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