

**Remarks by Cesar Conde
Presenting The Media Institute's
2020 American Horizon Award
To David L. Cohen
October 14, 2020**

It is my honor to present David Cohen with the American Horizon Award.

I would like to thank The Media Institute for their continued support in protecting and promoting journalism. The values you stand for are at the core of the daily work we do.

It is fitting that tonight's event is entitled "A Voice for Everyone," as David has made providing access to free speech and communication priorities throughout his career. I have had the privilege of knowing David for over 10 years and during that time I have seen first-hand the commitment and passion he has for serving the most needy in our communities.

Nine years ago, David created "Internet Essentials," a program dedicated to making sure everyone has access to the Internet, regardless of income. Since its creation, "Internet Essentials" has been the largest Internet adoption program in the U.S., connecting more than 8 million low-income Americans with low-cost, high-speed Internet. The program also offers free training and computers.

In addition to the creation of Internet Essentials, David paved the way as Comcast's first Chief Diversity Officer, where he oversaw the creation of the Joint External Diversity Advisory Council, which guides the senior executive teams at Comcast and NBCUniversal.

He has also championed Comcast Cares efforts across the country. Just this year, Comcast NBC Universal was recognized 7th among the "50 Companies That Care" list from *People* magazine.

It was David who gave and inspired others to give, to organizations like the United Way. And it was David's words that led many of our annual values reports, which supported and showcased our corporate diversity efforts.

He's been a driving force behind our mission to build a diverse, equitable, and inclusive company – a priority that we uphold at the NBCUniversal News Group. In July, we announced the News Group's Fifty Percent Challenge, an industry-leading initiative with two specific aspirations: that 50% of the news organization employees be women and 50% of the total workforce be people of color.

I've been fortunate to work with David multiple times in the past, including at national conferences like the National Council of La Raza or when he hosted the groundbreaking for Telemundo's new global headquarters. On a personal note, David's been a mentor and someone who has helped so many people throughout the years. He is a man of action and a man of principle. I am proud to call him a friend.

We sincerely appreciate what he has done for our company and it is my great pleasure to introduce David Cohen and present him with the American Horizon Award.