

THE MEDIA RESEARCH CENTER

# Gala 2015

FEATURING THE *DISHONORS AWARDS*

ROASTING THE MOST  
OUTRAGEOUSLY BIASED LIBERAL  
REPORTING

— AND THE —

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.  
AWARD FOR MEDIA  
EXCELLENCE

THE MEDIA RESEARCH CENTER

# Gala 2015

FEATURING THE *DISHONORS* AWARDS

**#mrcgala15**

**WELCOME AND DINNER**

*Master of Ceremonies*  
Cal Thomas

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PRESENTATION OF  
THE WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR. AWARD  
FOR MEDIA EXCELLENCE**

*Presented by*  
L. Brent Bozell III

*Honoring*  
Phyllis Schlafly

**PRESENTATION OF THE DisHONORS AWARDS**

*This Evening's Presenters*  
Martha Zoller | Chris Plante | Joe Piscopo

# *Master of Ceremonies*

Cal Thomas



Cal Thomas is among America's most widely syndicated columnists. His latest book, *"What Works: Common Sense Solutions For A Stronger America,"* goes beyond the familiar partisan shots to focus on real solutions. Thomas co-authored, *"Common Ground: How to Stop the Partisan War That Is Destroying America,"* with friend and political opposite Bob Beckel. The two also write a popular column for *USA Today*. Thomas is a veteran of broadcast and print journalism and has worked for NBC, CNBC, and the Fox News Channel,

where he is a contributor of political and cultural commentary.

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## *Distinguished Panel of Award Judges*

L. Brent Bozell III

Monica Crowley

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Erick Erickson

Sean Hannity

Laura Ingraham

Lawrence Kudlow

Mark Levin

David Limbaugh

Rush Limbaugh

Chris Plante

Cal Thomas

Walter E. Williams

Thomas S. Winter

# This Evening's Award Presenters

## Martha Zoller



Martha Zoller is the State Policy Director for the Office of Senator David Perdue. She joined the official team in January. In September, 2014, Martha left a 20 year media career to join the campaign of David Perdue as Senior Policy Advisor. Until 2014, Zoller hosted radio programs in Georgia and was named to the *Talkers* Top 100 Radio Shows in America multiple times. She was a regular contributor on cable and broadcast news during that time. She was also a long time panelist on Fox 5 Atlanta's *The Georgia Gang* from 2000 to 2010. Zoller attended JCOC 69 and travelled to Iraq in 2005 and 2007 to cover the GWOT. Martha ran for Congress in 2012 and made it to the runoff. In 2013, she launched *zpolitics.com* as editor in chief and hosted *Georgia's Morning News* for the Georgia News Network.

## Chris Plante



Chris Plante is a rising star in conservative radio and known for his sharp wit and hard-hitting rhetoric on the Chris Plante Show. Chris joined Washington, DC's premier talk radio station WMAL after 17 years at CNN, including nearly ten years assigned to the Pentagon covering the U.S. military and intelligence community. Chris traveled extensively for CNN covering defense related stories from Saudi Arabia to Vietnam to the remote corners of the former Soviet Union. Having previously worked in the trenches at CNN, he is all too familiar with the anti-conservative bias that pervades the national news media. Today, Chris makes frequent appearances on cable news.

## Joe Piscopo



For over 25 years, Joe Piscopo has proven to be one of show business' brightest lights. In 1980, he was chosen to join a newly formed ensemble charged with one of the most difficult tasks in TV history -- replacing the original cast of *Saturday Night Live*. His work on SNL naturally led to Hollywood and starring rolls in smash hits such as *Wise Guys* (with Danny DeVito) and *Johnny Dangerously* (with Michael Keaton). Joe also pioneered some of the most innovative television commercials on the air. Starting with his unforgettable Miller Lite campaign to GNC, Bally's, and even touting Ragu (with his Italian Mom's permission, of course!) You might have seen Joe as a guest on The FOX News Channel, or co-hosting the Columbus Day Parade each year in NYC with Maria Bartiromo or on the Late Show with David Letterman. Joe has since merged his foundation, "The Positive Impact Foundation," with the Boy's and Girl's Clubs of New Jersey and is their proud statewide spokesman. Although Joe's impressive career and public service include several major accomplishments, he insists his proudest achievement of all is twice being named Father of the Year -- in 1983 by the National Father's Day Council, and in 1989 by the New Jersey Council of Children's Rights. Joe is currently the host of "Piscopo in the Morning" on AM970 THE ANSWER, live from New York City.

# The William F. Buckley Jr.

## William F. Buckley Jr.



*William F. Buckley Jr. 1925-2008*

The conservative movement lost its intellectual cornerstone in 2008 with the passing of William F. Buckley Jr. His founding of *National Review* magazine in 1955 provided the home-base for conservatives in an America seemingly overrun by liberalism. With *National Review*, and as host of television's *Firing Line* for 33 years, Buckley spread the cause, helped rally conservatives during the Cold War, was instrumental in helping Ronald Reagan win the presidency — twice — and continued to provide the intellectual ammunition, along with grace and

wit, to strengthen conservatives in the on-going battles to preserve liberty, peace, and justice in America.

In addition to *National Review*, Mr. Buckley had written more than 40 books, published a regular column syndicated in 300 newspapers, and penned articles for magazines and other outlets. He educated and inspired thousands of conservatives, especially young men and women, through his articles, books, and TV appearances. These young conservatives have followed Mr. Buckley's example and relayed the conservative message across the country and through various media, particularly the New Media: cable TV, talk radio, and the Internet.

William F. Buckley Jr. circumvented the liberal media's "Berlin Wall" of bias with imagination and tenacity. His intellectual progeny today now populate the airwaves and cyberspace, leaving the old liberal media in the dustbin of history. To recognize and honor very the best of these new conservative leaders, the Media Research Center is proud to present the annual William F. Buckley Jr. Award for Media Excellence.

# *Award for Media Excellence*

## Phyllis Schlafly

2015 Honoree

Phyllis Schlafly has been a national leader of the conservative movement since the publication of her best-selling 1964 book, *A Choice Not An Echo*. President Reagan appointed Mrs. Schlafly a member of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, 1985-1991. He paid tribute to Mrs. Schlafly at a national meeting in 1984, saying that the Eagle Forum has set a high standard of volunteer participation in the political and legislative process.



"You've been out front on so many of the most important issues of our time," said President Reagan of Mrs. Schlafly. "Your work is an example to all those who would struggle for an America that is prosperous and free. . . Our Nation needs the kind of dedicated individual volunteer service you and the Eagle Forum have demonstrated over the last 20 years."

Mrs. Schlafly is the author or editor of 25 books on subjects as varied as family and feminism, nuclear strategy, education, child care, and phonics. She is the co-author, with George Neumayr, of a current *New York Times* Best-Seller titled "*No Higher Power: Obama's War on Religious Freedom*." She founded the Eagle Forum, a national volunteer organization, in 1972 to defeat the so-called Equal Rights Amendment and help men and women become leaders involved in the battle to keep America free and independent.

### PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Rush Limbaugh (2007), Tony Snow (2008), Brit Hume (2009), Stan Evans (2010), Cal Thomas (2011), Andrew Breitbart (2012), Dr. Charles Krauthammer (2013), and Mark Levin (2014)

# *Schedule of Events*

*Master of Ceremonies*

Cal Thomas

## **PRESENTATION OF THE WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR. AWARD FOR MEDIA EXCELLENCE**

*Presented by*

L. Brent Bozell III

*Honoring*

Phyllis Schlafly

## **PUPPY LOVE AWARD**

Martha Zoller

### **NOMINEES**

Rachel Maddow.....MSNBC's *The Rachel Maddow Show*, July 14, 2015

Charlie Rose.....PBS's *Charlie Rose*, July 17, 2014

Lawrence O'Donnell.....MSNBC's *The Last Word*, February 3, 2015

## **DAMN THOSE CONSERVATIVES TO HELL AWARD**

Martha Zoller

### **NOMINEES**

Ayman Mohyeldin.....MSNBC's *Morning Joe*, January 29, 2015

Sally Kohn.....CNN *Newsroom with Carol Costello*, July 21, 2015

Chris Matthews.....MSNBC's *Hardball*, October 21, 2014



**DAN RATHER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR  
THE STUPIDEST ANALYSIS**

Chris Plante

**NOMINEES**

Melissa Harris-Perry.....MSNBC's *Melissa Harris-Perry*, March 22, 2015  
Sally Kohn.....*CNN Newsroom*, December 13, 2014  
Brianna Keilar and Mark Halperin.....CNN's *New Day* and MSNBC's  
*Morning Joe*, April 14, 2015

**THE CELEBRITY DUMBASS AWARD**

Chris Plante

**NOMINEES**

George Takei.....Fox 10, KSAZ-TV, in Phoenix, June 30, 2015  
Ashley Judd.....*Larry King Now*, January 30, 2015  
Bill Maher.....HBO's *Real Time*, July 25, 2014

**QUOTE OF THE YEAR**

L. Brent Bozell III

**FUNNY CLIPS**

Presented by Joe Piscopo

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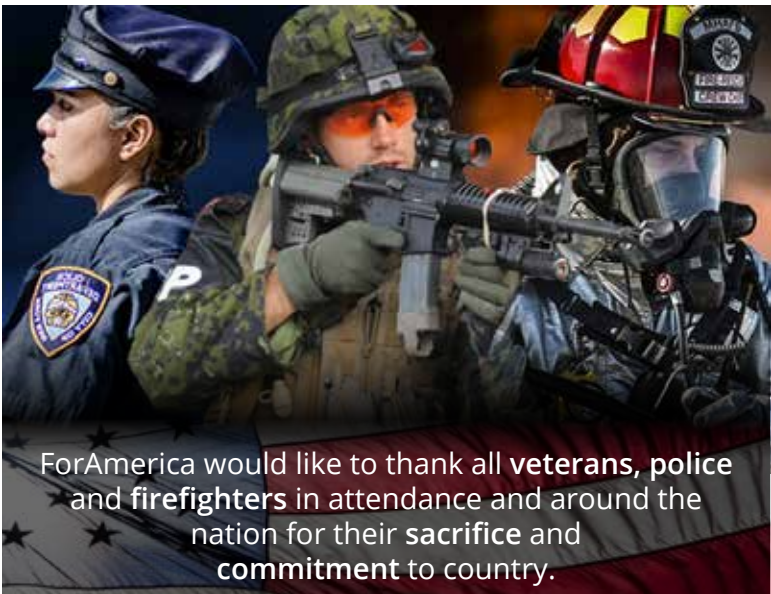
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