Roasting the most outrageously biased liberal reporting
and the
William F. Buckley, Jr. Award for Media Excellence
The Media Research Center

GALA 2016

Featuring the Dis.Honors Awards

#mrcgala2016
Menu

First Course
Orange Carpaccio with Arugula and Fennel, toasted Almonds, and a tangy Honey-Chili Vinaigrette

Main Course
Statler Chicken Breast stuffed with Fontina, Parmesan, Mozzarella, and Fresh Basil
Gnocchi with a roasted Tomato Fondue
Charred Broccolini with Alderwood Sea Salt and Olive Oil

Dessert
Tiramisu with Fior di Latte Gelato, Chocolate Sauce, crushed Amaretti cookies, and Pistachio Dust
Coffee and Tea
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
Charlie Daniels

Presentation of the DisHonors Awards

This Evening’s Presenters
Stephen Hayes | Deneen Borelli | Chris Plante

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Distinguished Panel of Award Judges

L. Brent Bozell III
Monica Crowley
Erick Erickson
Stephen Hayes
Laura Ingraham
Mark Levin
David Limbaugh
Rush Limbaugh
Cal Thomas
Walter E. Williams
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 a friend and political opposite Bob Beckel. The two also wrote the popular column for USA Today. Thomas is a veteran of broadcast and print journalism and he worked for NBC, CNBC, and Fox News Channel, where he is a contributor of political and cultural commentary.

This Evening’s Award Presenters

Stephen Hayes

Stephen F. Hayes is a senior writer at The Weekly Standard and author of two New York Times bestsellers: Cheney: The Untold Story of America’s Most Powerful and Controversial Vice President and The Connection: How al Qaeda’s Collaboration with Saddam Hussein Has Endangered America. He is a regular Fox All Stars panelist on Special Report with Bret Baier.

Before joining The Weekly Standard, Hayes was a senior writer for National Journal's Hotline. He also served for six years as Director of the Institute on Political Journalism at Georgetown University. His work has appeared in the New York Post, the Washington Times, Salon, National Review, and Reason. He has been a commentator on CNN, The McLaughlin Group, the Fox News Channel, MSNBC, CNBC, and C-SPAN.

A graduate of Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and DePauw University, Hayes was born and raised in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.
Deneen Borelli

Deneen Borelli is the Chief Political Correspondent at Conservative Review, a website holding politicians accountable through a limited government perspective. Deneen is a contributor with Fox News and has appeared regularly on “Hannity,” “American Newsroom,” “The O’Reilly Factor,” “Fox & Friends,” and “Your World with Neil Cavuto.” She has also appeared on Fox Business programs such as “Making Money with Charles Payne,” and “Lou Dobbs Tonight.” Deneen has also appeared on TheBlazeTV’s “The Glenn Beck Program.” Previously, Deneen appeared on MSNBC, CNN, the BBC and C-SPAN. Deneen has written for TheBlaze.com, TheDaily Caller.com, Newsmax Insider, and Fox News Opinion and her commentaries on the importance of freedom and limited government have been published by newspapers such as the Washington Times, Los Angeles Times, Philadelphia Inquirer, Chicago Tribune, Sacramento Bee, Baltimore Sun, Washington Examiner and Washington Times. Deneen is an official guest host with SiriusXM Patriot Satellite Radio and fills in for national broadcast radio shows including “The Sean Hannity Show,” “The David Webb Show,” and “The Wilkow Majority.” Deneen is a frequent speaker at Tea Party rallies and political events, including the FreedomWorks 9/12/2009 March on D.C. that drew a crowd estimated at over 800,000 people.

Deneen served on the Board of Trustees with The Opportunity Charter School in Harlem, New York. She has appeared in educational videos for children, worked as a runway fashion model, and auditioned for television commercials. Her interests include ancient history, pistol target shooting, photography, and volunteering at her church. Deneen currently resides in Connecticut with her husband Tom.

Chris Plante

Chris Plante joined the WMAL team after 17 years at CNN including nearly ten years assigned to the Pentagon covering the U.S. military and intelligence community. Chris was assigned variously as Pentagon Correspondent, Senior Producer for National Security Affairs, Military Affairs Producer and as an assignment editor. He traveled extensively for CNN covering defense related stories from Saudi Arabia in 1990 and Bosnia in 1995, to Vietnam, Indonesia, Africa and remote corners of the former Soviet Union. Chris received the Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio and Television News Directors’ Association (RTNDA) for his reporting from the Pentagon during the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001. Chris formerly hosted his own program on The American Life television network, and nowadays makes frequent appearances on various cable news networks including the Fox News Channel, CNN and MSNBC.

Representing the third generation of his family that has been “on-the-air” in radio and television, Chris brings a unique world-view, and largely conservative/libertarian values to his role as talk show host on WMAL. In his time with WMAL, Chris helped raise significant amounts of money for charities like the Fisher House Foundation.
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 Charlie Daniels

Hail Hillary
Presented by Stephen Hayes

Nominees
Tamara Keith..........................................................NPR, June 6, 2016
Lester Holt..............................................................NBC Nightly News, June 29, 2016
Joy Reid....................................................................MSNBC's Andrea Mitchell Reports, April 8, 2016

Damn Those Conservatives to Hell Award
Presented by Stephen Hayes

Nominees
Fareed Zakaria........................................................CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS, March 6, 2016
Jeremy Seahill..........................................................of The Intercept, on HBO's Real Time, May 13, 2016
Chris Matthews......................................................MSNBC's Morning Joe, February 10, 2016

Celebrity Dumbass Award
Presented by Deneen Borelli

Nominees
Jeff Daniels..............................................................Bloomberg's With All Due Respect, May 9, 2016
Joy Behar.................................................................ABC's The View, October 14, 2015
Bill Maher................................................................HBO's Real Time, June 24, 2016

Dan Rather Memorial Award for the Stupidest Analysis
Presented by Deneen Borelli

Nominees
Chris Matthews.......................................................MSNBC's Hardball, December 1, 2015
Nancy Cordes..........................................................CBS Evening News, June 16, 2016
Melissa Harris-Perry................................................MSNBC's Melissa Harris-Perry, October 24, 2015

Quote of the Year
Presented by L. Brent Bozell III

Funny Clips
Presented by Chris Plante
The William F. Buckley, Jr.
Award for Media Excellence

Charlie Daniels

An outspoken patriot, beloved mentor to young artists and still a road warrior at age 79, Charlie has parlayed his passion for music into a multi-platinum career and a platform to support the military, underprivileged children and others in need.

Raised among the longleaf pines of North Carolina, Charlie began his career playing bluegrass music with the Misty Mountain Boys. After moving to Nashville in 1967, he began making a name for himself as a songwriter, session musician and producer and in 1997 he launched Blue Hat Records. In 2014, Charlie Daniels founded The Journey Home Project, a 501(c)(3) non-profit to help Veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

Over the course of his career, Charlie has received numerous accolades, including induction into the Grand Ole Opry and Musicians Hall of Fame. He’s been presented the Pioneer Award by the Academy of Country Music and was honored as a BMI Icon in recognition of his songwriting. He’s received a star on the Music City Walk of Fame.

Any conversation with the legendary artist, however, rarely includes any of his accomplishments. He’d rather shine the spotlight on the many causes that are close to his heart. He’s always been a staunch supporter of the military, and for the past several years has headlined a special concert at David Lipscomb University benefiting the Yellow Ribbon Program which provides scholarships for veterans.

Charlie Daniels is an avid writer, committed to conservative principles and telling the truth. He has been penning weekly columns for the MRC’s CNSNews.com website for several years.

William F. Buckley, Jr.

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.

Previous Award Recipients:
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