

A Dinner Honoring

THE 2009 RECIPIENTS

AMERICAN BALLET
DYLAN
EASTWOOD
GLASER
LIN
MORENO
NORMAN
OBERLIN CONSERVATORY
RILEY
STELLA
THOMAS
WILLIAMS

THE NATIONAL
MEDAL OF ARTS

THE NATIONAL
HUMANITIES MEDAL

CARO
GORDON-REED
LEWIS
McNEILL
DE MONTEBELLO
SMALL
SORENSEN
WIESEL

Honoring

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DYLAN
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the Arts & Humanities

THE NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT FOR
THE ARTS

THE NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT FOR
THE HUMANITIES

CARO
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WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 24, 2010
THE SMITHSONIAN
NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF AMERICAN HISTORY



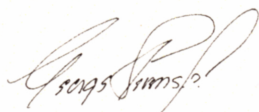
We welcome you

ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES,
WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR INAUGURAL DINNER
IN HONOR OF THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE NATIONAL MEDAL OF ARTS AND
THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES MEDAL.

As we honor these outstanding individuals, along with the exciting new leadership of the Endowments that selected them, we are reminded of the power of the arts and humanities to connect us to each other and to the world we share.

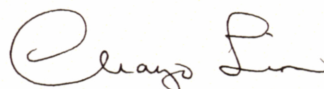
The National Medal of Arts was established by Congress in 1984 upon the recommendation of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities to President Reagan. The Medal of Arts honors individuals and organizations who are deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to the excellence, growth, support and availability of arts in the United States. The National Humanities Medal, added in 1997, honors those whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities and broadened our engagement with America's intellectual and civic life.

The President's Committee is privileged to join with the Smithsonian Institution in celebrating our partners, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the 2009 Medalists. As we honor these recipients, living examples of highest achievement and standards of excellence in their fields, we affirm the value of the arts and the humanities for all Americans, not as a luxury, but as the lifeblood of our Nation.



GEORGE STEVENS, JR.

Co-Chairman



MARGO LION

Co-Chairman

Evening's Program

WELCOME

GEORGE STEVENS, JR.

*Co-Chairman, President's Committee
on the Arts and the Humanities*

G. WAYNE CLOUGH

Secretary
Smithsonian Institution

TOASTS TO THE 2009 RECIPIENTS

of the National Medal of Arts and the National Humanities Medal

ROCCO LANDESMAN

Chairman

National Endowment for the Arts

JIM LEACH

Chairman

National Endowment for the Humanities

KEYNOTE

TONY KUSHNER

INTRODUCTION BY MARGO LION

Co-Chairman, President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

CONCLUSION

MARY SCHMIDT CAMPBELL, PH.D.

Vice Chair, President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities

THE CASE FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

We begin with the body, our instrument.
We begin with the limbs and torso of a dancer,
the cadenced breath, the voice of a poet,
the eye and dexterous hand of a painter,
the sculptor's skin against sculptor's clay,
the ear where melody and harmony play.

Our long discourse is corporeal, be it
of philosophy or society, law or the psyche,
events physical or metaphysical.

We know by how a thing smells, we learn
by sweet and sour, by rough and smooth,
by every common sense, and by heart, too,
and by brain, that soft-tough muscle,
wherein we seek those truths beyond our Age.

While warships move slowly and world events
sway our conscience and pain our hearts,
let us think what we shall leave to entropy.

We who use the world must revisit it.

Let our works, like our words, express in time
the truth of our nature, for good or bad,
for the jury is out and the foreman has asked
for a fully detailed, illuminated transcript.

— Marvin Bell, Iowa Poet Laureate

Dinner Menu

IN HONOR OF THE 2009 RECIPIENTS OF THE NATIONAL MEDAL OF ARTS
AND THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES MEDAL AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR
THE ARTS AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

GRILLED WHITE AND GREEN ASPARAGUS
WITH TRUFFLED GOAT CHEESE AND BABY BEETS

WINE BRAISED SHORT RIBS
POTATO PARSNIP PUREE
CHEESY POPOVERS

DECONSTRUCTED BROWNIE SUNDAE

MORRO BAY CHARDONNAY 2008
KENWOOD MERLOT 2007

SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY
KENNETH E. BEHRING CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C., FEBRUARY 24, 2010

Medalists

NATIONAL MEDAL OF ARTS

BOB DYLAN is a singer-songwriter, musician, painter and poet. He has been a major figure in popular music for five decades and his work has amplified and personalized various musical genres—from folk, blues and country to gospel, rock and roll and rockabilly. His songs have inspired movements and pushed musical boundaries. Dylan has received numerous awards, including Grammy, Golden Globe and Academy Awards, and he has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and Songwriters Hall of Fame. The Pulitzer Prize jury in 2008 awarded him a special citation for his profound impact on popular music and American culture, “marked by lyrical compositions of extraordinary poetic power.”

CLINT EASTWOOD has a lifetime of accomplishments as a director and actor. He has received five Academy Awards, five Golden Globe Awards, a Screen Actors Guild Award and five People’s Choice Awards. One of the most recognizable of American actors,

Eastwood is an icon for his action and western hero roles, and displays range and depth in his comedic and romantic roles. In addition, Eastwood exhibits a deft mastery of storytelling and narrative in the many critically acclaimed and commercially successful films he has directed. These include the Oscar-winning or nominated *Unforgiven*, *Million Dollar Baby*, *Mystic River* and *Letters from Iwo Jima*.

MILTON GLASER is recognized for his outstanding accomplishments as a graphic artist. As an artist, Glaser turned ideas, data and the abstract into immediately recognizable icons, such as the “I (Heart) NY” logo. Through innovation in graphic design, Glaser redefined the way people communicate, and created memorable visual artifacts that challenge contemporary artists and delight all. He is the only graphic artist to have had one-man shows at both the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



MAYA LIN is extraordinary as an architect, an artist and an environmentalist. Best known for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial that launched her career, Maya Lin's architectural creations have dramatically redefined the idea of monument and place. Later works include the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama, and large-scale outdoor sculptures in Indiana, San Francisco and Las Vegas. Shaped and influenced by the natural environment, her works create places of refuge and reflection in highly public places.

RITA MORENO is a legend of the stage and screen. She is one of a select group of performers to have won all four of the most prestigious show business awards: an Oscar, an Emmy, a Tony and a Grammy. Her films include some of Hollywood's most influential and popular musicals, including *West Side Story*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *The King and I*. As the first Hispanic actress to win an Academy Award, Rita Moreno opened new opportunities for Latinos in the entertainment industry. Her contributions have served as inspiration to millions of Americans and were recognized with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2004.

JESSYE NORMAN is one of the world's most celebrated sopranos, recognized for her achievements as a singer and for broadening contemporary operatic repertoire. Norman is renowned for her unparalleled voice and vocal phrasing, which is both spontaneous and passionate. She is equally adept performing American spirituals or French chansons, and is most famous for her many acclaimed operatic performances. For her

contributions to American music, she joined Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington and other stellar performers as a recipient of a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition to receiving many other awards and honorary degrees, Jessye Norman is also the youngest recipient of the Kennedy Center Honors. Norman's non-performance interests focus on assisting others, in particular, her beloved Jessye Norman School of the Arts which provides an after-school, tuition-free program in music performance, writing, drama, dance and graphic art for middle schoolers in her hometown of Augusta, Georgia.

THE OBERLIN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC is well known for its preparations of young musicians. A model for music education, Oberlin Conservatory of Music is the oldest continuously operating conservatory in the United States and is renowned for its success in training exceptional artists. Among those who have attained international stature as solo performers, composers and conductors are Denyce Graves, David Zinman, Lisa Saffer and numerous other graduates who can be found in major orchestras and opera companies throughout the world.

MAYOR JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR. is a visionary in the field of urban design and the creation of livable cities. In nine terms as Mayor of Charleston, South Carolina, he has drawn on and nurtured the city's historic and artistic resources to restore and reinvigorate it, setting a national standard for urban revitalization in the process. His success spurred him to create, with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mayors' Institute

on City Design in 1986, which has brought more than 800 mayors together with acclaimed architects, urban planners, developers and others to help transform communities through design and stewardship.

THE SCHOOL OF AMERICAN BALLET is one of the world's central institutions of ballet teaching and among America's foremost ballet schools. Founded by the legendary ballet choreographer George Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein, an important figure in the development of 20th-century American culture, the school since its inception has been recognized for instilling Balanchine's methods and techniques in its students, many of whom form a "who's who" of American dance. Alumni include, among others, Suzanne Farrell, Arthur Mitchell, Maria Tallchief and Darci Kistler, as well as Broadway stars Chita Rivera and Hinton Battle.

FRANK STELLA is acclaimed as one of the world's most innovative artists. His work often transcends boundaries between painting, printmaking, sculpture, and architecture, reinventing itself in consecutive series over the course of his five-decade career. In 1970 at the age of 34 he was the youngest artist ever to receive a retrospective of his art and he remains the only living American artist to be honored with two retrospectives at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. His work is represented in all the major museums and collections around the world. In 2001, a monumental Stella sculpture from his Kleist Dramas series, was installed outside the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. facing our nation's Capitol.

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS is a conductor, pianist and composer, and is currently Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony, Founder and Artistic Director of the New World Symphony and Principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra. He is renowned for his commitment to engaging new artists and audiences in the world of contemporary music. Over his career, Tilson Thomas enlivened the classical music field by staging works by such avant-garde artists as John Cage and Lou Harrison alongside classics by Beethoven and Brahms. He is well known as a passionate advocate of contemporary American music, launching the San Francisco Symphony's 2000 American Mavericks program, and joining up with YouTube in 2009 to help create the YouTube Symphony Orchestra, whose members were selected from 30 countries based on more than 3,000 internet auditions.

JOHN WILLIAMS is a composer, conductor and pianist. In a career spanning six decades, he has composed many of the most famous film scores in Hollywood history, including *Star Wars*, *Superman*, the first three *Harry Potter* movies and most of Steven Spielberg's feature films including *Close Encounters*, *Indiana Jones*, *Schindler's List*, *E.T.* and *Jaws*. He served as the Principal Conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra from 1980 to 1993, and is now the Laureate Conductor. Williams has been nominated for 45 Academy Awards and won five. He has also won four Golden Globe Awards, seven BAFTA Awards and 21 Grammy Awards. Inducted into the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame in 2000, he received a Kennedy Center Honor in 2004.

Medalists

THE NATIONAL HUMANITIES MEDAL



ROBERT A. CARO is a writer and Pulitzer-prize winning historian, renowned for documenting and interpreting the subtle machinations of political power in America. His biographies of Robert Moses and Lyndon Baines Johnson have shed light on how individuals accumulate and exercise power in local and national settings, from New York City to the Texas Hill Country to Washington, D.C.

ANNETTE GORDON-REED is a historian, lawyer and teacher, well-known for her groundbreaking examination of the life of Sally Hemings of Monticello. Her book, *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family* (2008) won the Pulitzer Prize for History and a National Book Award for Nonfiction. Gordon-Reed is currently a professor of law at New York Law School and a professor of history at Rutgers University.

DAVID LEVERING LEWIS is a historian and biographer, recognized for an extraordinary career of scholarship. His discerning examinations of W. E. B. Du Bois, the Dreyfus Affair, and the early history of Islamic-Christian relations in Europe have enriched our understanding of the figures and forces that have shaped world history. Lewis was awarded two Pulitzer Prizes (one for each volume of his Du Bois biography), a Bancroft Prize and a MacArthur Foundation fellowship. He is currently the Julius Silver Professor and professor of history at New York University.

WILLIAM H. MCNEILL is a scholar and historian, distinguished for a career devoted to teaching and exploring Western civilization. McNeill taught at the University of Chicago for more than fifty years, authoring in that time more than twenty books, including *The Rise of the West*, which traces the development of civilizations through 5,000 years of recorded

history. It received the National Book Award in 1964 and was later named one of the one hundred best nonfiction books of the twentieth century by the Modern Library.

PHILIPPE DE MONTEBELLO is a museum director and curator, legendary for his innovation and vision in bringing great art to an international public. Under his direction as the longest-serving director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art from 1977 to 2008, the museum doubled in size, renovated and installed new galleries, acquired 84,000 new objects, and fostered art education for all ages. When he joined the Met in 1963, its endowment was \$136 million; when he left it was at \$2.5 billion. Annual attendance surpassed five million in the 1990s.

ALBERT H. SMALL is a collector and philanthropist, celebrated for his remarkable generosity to a wide array of cultural and educational institutions, including Ford's Theater, the National Museum of American History, the National Gallery of Art and the White House Historical Society. A gift from Small and his wife, Shirley, to the University of Virginia and its library made it possible for the university to build a special collections library that bears their name.

THEODORE C. SORENSEN is an author and lawyer, distinguished for his contributions to our understanding of modern American politics. As a speech writer and adviser to John F. Kennedy, Sorensen helped shape that administration's message and policies. Sorensen is credited with crafting Kennedy's inaugural speech, which included the iconic "Ask not what your country can do for you—but what you can do for your country." After departing politics, Sorensen penned numerous books on foreign policy and the presidency. He has practiced international law for more than thirty-six years as a senior partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP.

ELIE WIESEL is a writer and teacher, universally recognized for his unwavering commitment to the survival of the memory of the Holocaust and its victims. Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, he has fostered compassion and understanding through his writing, his leadership in the creation of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and through his relentless advocacy for human rights. Wiesel and his wife Marion founded the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity in 1986. He has taught at Boston University since 1976 as the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities.

Keynote

TONY KUSHNER

Tony Kushner is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter and author. In addition to receiving a Pulitzer Prize for his play *Angels in America*, he is a recipient of an Emmy Award, an Oscar nomination, two Tony Awards, and three Obie Awards. His other theater credits include *Caroline, or Change*, *Slavs!* and *Homebody/Kabul*. His screen credits include Steven Spielberg's film *Munich* and Mike Nichols's film version of *Angels in America*. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and lives in Manhattan with his husband, writer Mark Harris.

