

independent Women's Forum®

2021
Annual Awards
Gala

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021
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WASHINGTON, DC

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Independent Women's Forum is the leading national women's organization dedicated to developing and advancing policies that are more than just well-intended, but actually enhance people's freedom, opportunities, and well-being.

Independent Women's Forum®

*2021
Annual Awards
Gala
Honoring*

**WOMAN OF VALOR
Janice Dean**

**RESILIENCE AWARD
Asra Nomani**

**GENTLEMAN OF DISTINCTION
Senator Tim Scott**

with

**EMCEE
Lisa Boothe**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2021
ANDREW W. MELLON AUDITORIUM | WASHINGTON, DC**

Program

The National Anthem
Gracie Terzian

Welcome
Lisa Boothe
Emcee

A Message From
IWF's President
Carrie Lukas

Presentation of the
Gentleman of Distinction Award
to Senator Tim Scott
Abby Moffat
Diana Davis Spencer
Foundation

Dinner

Presentation of the
Barbara K. Olson
Woman of Valor Award
to Janice Dean
Heather R. Higgins

Chairman of Independent
Women's Forum and CEO of
Independent Women's Voice

Dessert and Coffee

Presentation of the
Resilience Award to Asra
Nomani
Julie Gunlock
Independent Women's Forum

Farewell
Lisa Boothe

Reception

Featuring Alex Donner Entertainment

Menu

FIRST COURSE

Gorgonzola & Pecan Crunch Salad

Lolla Rosa | Frisée | Bibb Lettuce | Caramelized Pecans
Hazelnut Orange Dijon Vinaigrette

ENTRÉE

Quick-Smoked Beef Short Rib

Charred Butternut Squash Risotto
Snap Peas | Sorghum Reduction

DESSERT

Chocolate Souffle Cake

Salted Caramel Cream | Almond Nougatine
Gilded Poached Pear | Pear Chip | Port Wine Sauce

WINES

La Vallee des Vignes Sancerre-2020
The Prisoner Cabernet Sauvignon-2021

DEMITASSE CAFÉ AND TEA

Cream | Sugar | Sweetener | Lemon

The Awards

THE BARBARA K. OLSON WOMAN OF VALOR AWARD

The Barbara K. Olson Woman of Valor Award has been bestowed upon some of the most influential female leaders in the country since 2004. It recognizes extraordinary women who have demonstrated a firm commitment to fearlessly standing for what is right, and whose work has helped make significant improvements to the lives of women and their loved ones.

Past Honorees

Maria Bartiromo

U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos

Ambassador Nikki Haley

Kellyanne Conway

Carly Fiorina

The Honorable Barbara Comstock

Ayaan Hirsi Ali

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers

The Honorable Mary Bono

The Honorable R. Gaull Silberman

The Honorable Nancy G. Brinker

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao

The Honorable Lynne V. Cheney

The Awards

THE RESILIENCE AWARD

The Resilience Award recognizes an individual who exhibits bravery, courage, and inner strength and helps create stronger, more vibrant communities by encouraging more respectful dialogue and civic engagement.

Past Honoree

Kristy Swanson

THE GENTLEMAN OF DISTINCTION AWARD

The Gentleman of Distinction Award celebrates a gentleman who has worked to create a stronger society that protects and encourages human flourishing through individual liberty, while strengthening relationships and providing opportunities for women, men, and their families.

Past Honorees

Rep. Dan Crenshaw

Larry Kudlow

Mike Rowe

Mark Steyn

Ed Gillespie

Steve Forbes

Honoree



BARBARA K. OLSON **WOMAN OF VALOR**

Janice Dean

Janice Dean currently serves as senior meteorologist for FOX News Channel (FNC) and morning meteorologist for FNC's *FOX & Friends* (weekdays 6-9AM/ET). Since joining the network in January 2004, Janice has covered a slew of devastating storms including Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Sandy, Irene, Igor, Earl and Katrina.

Janice stepped up early during the course of the pandemic to demand transparency about what was happening at New York nursing homes and senior residential facilities. Because of her activism, New York citizens learned of the policy mistakes that led to the death of tens of thousands and how government officials sought to obscure this information from the public.

In addition to her role at FOX News Channel, Janice is the author of "Freddy the Frogcaster," a series of children's books tailored towards teaching the weather and she has contributed the earnings from her book to Team Rubicon, an organization that provides relief to those affected by natural disasters.

Prior to joining the network, Janice served as the news editor and entertainment reporter for "Imus in the Morning," and numerous other radio programs. Janice received an honors diploma from Algonquin College in Radio & Television Broadcasting. Janice is a member of the American Meteorological Society and was awarded the AMS Seal of Approval in 2009. She lives in New York with her husband and two sons.

Honoree



RESILIENCE AWARD

Asra Nomani

Asra Nomani is the Vice President for Strategy and Investigations at Parents Defending Education, where she is the editor of the IndoctriNation database and FOIA work. She is also cofounder of Coalition for TJ, a group of parents and community members in Virginia, a former reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*, codirector of the Pearl Project, and cofounder of the Muslim Reform Movement.

Asra was born in 1965 in Bombay, India, to a Muslim family. She moved to the United States at the age of 4, earned a bachelor's in liberal studies from West Virginia University and then a master's in international communications from American University.

After college, Asra traveled from city to city as a reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*. In addition to her work with *The Wall Street Journal*, she wrote pieces for *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and *Time Magazine*, and became a correspondent for Salon.com while embedded in Karachi, Pakistan, during 9/11.

Asra has been an outspoken advocate of women's rights within the Muslim faith, and was a lead organizer of a woman-led Muslim prayer in New York City in March 2005, which was described as "the first mixed-gender prayer on record led by a Muslim woman in 1,400 years."

Asra is a fearless advocate for civility, tolerance, and opportunity, whether it's against intolerant religious leaders, murderous jihadists, or Virginia's corrupt school boards and education systems.

Honoree



GENTLEMAN OF DISTINCTION

Senator Tim Scott

Growing up in a poor, single parent household, a young Tim Scott grew accustomed to frequent moves and his mom working long hours. After failing four classes his freshman year of high school, Tim's path forward was murky at best.

But thankfully, he had a mom who stuck with him, and met a mentor that showed him the wisdom of conservative principles. Tim got his grades back on track, graduated from Charleston Southern University, and eventually built his own successful small business. Through the lessons taught by his mentor, Tim developed his mission statement: to positively affect the lives of a billion people. That led him to public service, where he was elected to the Charleston County Council, the South Carolina House of Representatives, the United States House of Representatives, and the United States Senate.

Since joining the Senate in 2013, Tim has been a national leader in bringing opportunity to every American family. His signature legislation creating Opportunity Zones passed in 2017, and has the potential to bring billions of dollars of private investment into distressed communities across the country.

Tim also plays a critical role in issues regarding workforce development, education and diversity. Whether it's tackling the skills gap, making sure children have access to the educational environment best suited for them, or bringing everyone to the table to find solutions, Tim keeps fighting for South Carolinians in the U.S. Senate.

Chairman



Heather R. Higgins

Heather Higgins is the CEO of Independent Women's Voice and the Chairman of Independent Women's Forum. She has a background in finance, public policy, and media, all happily combined with an inclination to make trouble.

Heather has been recognized as one of Campaigns & Elections 50 Most Influential People for her issue advocacy and a leader who will shape future election cycles.

In addition to receiving numerous awards for her innovative approaches to campaign messaging, in 2016 Heather also received the American Spectator's first "Lifetime Service to the Movement" Award. She writes, most frequently for *The Wall Street Journal*, where she used to be an editorial writer and does television and radio to discuss public policy and politics.

IWF President



Carrie Lukas

Carrie Lukas is the President of Independent Women's Forum and Vice President of Independent Women's Voice. Carrie is the author of *Checking Progressive Privilege* and *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Women, Sex, and Feminism*, and co-author of *Liberty Is No War on Women*. Her writing has appeared in numerous publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, and *The New York Post*. She has appeared on numerous television shows and

testified before Congress.

Before joining IWF in 2003, Carrie worked on Capitol Hill as the senior domestic policy analyst for the House Republican Policy Committee and at the Cato Institute. She is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. She lives with her husband and five children in Virginia.

Emcee



Lisa Boothe

Lisa Boothe joined FOX News Channel (FNC) in 2016 as a network contributor, providing political analysis and commentary across FNC's daytime and primetime programming.

In addition to her role at FNC, Lisa is the founder and president of High Noon Strategies, a boutique political communications and public affairs firm. She is also a contributing writer for *The Washington Examiner* and a senior fellow at Independent Women's Voice.

Prior to her current positions, Lisa was part of the executive team of WPA Research where she led the polling efforts for political campaigns across the country. Additionally, Lisa has led communications efforts for congressmen, senators and Super PACs.

Lisa graduated with a B.A. in political science and government from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Presenter



Abby Moffat

Abby Moffat is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation.

After her formal education, Abby entered the private sector where she built a successful career in executive recruitment. After founding several businesses, Abby turned to her true passion: making a difference to our country.

Following a family tradition of philanthropy, Abby now charts the 21st Century course for the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation, the organization she took from a moderate-sized foundation to the large-scale, high-impact, grant-making organization it is today.

Abby's entrepreneurial drive continues to influence her philanthropy. Having seeded The Daniel Morgan Graduate School—a much-needed National Security Institute in the nation's capital—Abby successfully negotiated its merger with the Texas A&M Bush School of Government and Public Service, where she now serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Advisory Board. She also sits on the boards of The Heritage Foundation, the Media Research Center and the Independent Women's Forum, and is Chairwoman of One Generation Away.

Abby is a graduate of The Masters School and George Washington University and holds an honorary Doctor of Laws from Wheaton College.

Presenter



Julie Gunlock

Julie Gunlock is the Director of Independent Women's Network and IWF's Center for Progress and Innovation. She is a regular co-host of WMAL's O'Connor and Company.

Julie is the mother of three sons, who she recently pulled from the public schools in Alexandria, Virginia. She now homeschools her oldest son and is sending her other two sons to a local Catholic school. She and her husband

are deeply proud to now be Catholic school and homeschooling parents.

Before joining IWF, Julie served as a professional staff member on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and on the House Homeland Security Committee. She also worked for Ohio Senators Mike DeWine and George Voinovich, for Oklahoma Senator Tom Coburn, and served on the leadership staff of U.S. Representative Christopher Cox from California.

She has written about innovation, food and nutrition, parenting, and science-based issues for the *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Post*, *The Washington Post*, *New York Daily News*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *National Review*, and *The Huffington Post*. She has offered political commentary on FOX News, PBS, CNN, and other networks and is a regular guest on radio programs around the country.

Singer



Gracie Terzian

A native of the Washington, D.C. area, Gracie Terzian is a singer, songwriter, and harp ukulelist now living in New York City who has toured and performed at venues and festivals all over the globe. She first gained attention in the jazz world with the release of her debut EP, *Saints and Poets*, which debuted at #23 on the Billboard jazz charts and quickly became the #3 jazz album on iTunes. She also released a Christmas album called *Bells & White Branches* which features her unique instrument, the harp ukulele.

Gracie has a growing YouTube channel with over 52,000 subscribers, which she started during the recent COVID-19 lockdown. She shares a combination of music performance and music theory education videos on her channel. Her original music has been featured in film and theatre, and she is currently working on her next album, which is a blend of folk music and jazz.

Gracie has also worked extensively in theatre and film as an actor and composer. She has performed at many theatres including the Kennedy Center, Ford's Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Folger Theatre, and the American Theatre of Actors. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia.

She is also an IWF offspring. Her mother, Grace Paine Terzian, former IWF senior vice president and one of a group of early founders of the organization, raised Gracie in the midst of producing IWF's celebrated *Women's Quarterly*.

Thank You

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Do you worry about the country? Do you want to engage with fellow patriotic women (men too!) who aren't triggered by honest debate? Do you want to bring back civility, free speech, and economic liberty?

That's why we created Independent Women's Network (IWN). IWN is a community to help:

- ▶ **Inspire:** Discuss the most important issues affecting our lives, communities, and country;
- ▶ **Interact:** Meet and form lasting bonds with like-minded women;
- ▶ **Influence:** Engage in informed, open, and civil debate and dialogue;
- ▶ **Impact:** Work together to advance the principles we share, while having fun and doing life together.

By joining IWN,
you'll receive
access to:

- ▶ Exclusive content and events like messaging workshops and virtual happy hours with newsmakers and policy-makers you love.
- ▶ Resources to be an effective leader and advocate for your loved ones.
- ▶ A home where you can freely express your opinions in chat rooms and member forums without fear of being silenced, shamed, or canceled.
- ▶ A support system of allies from across the country.



Join us at iwnetwork.com
Questions? info@iwnetwork.com



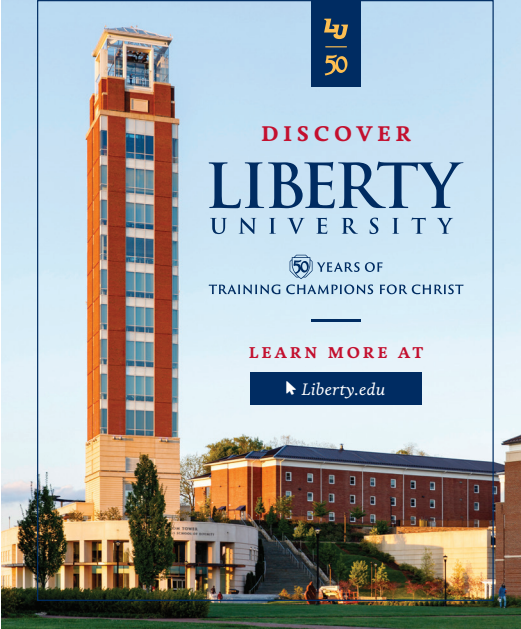
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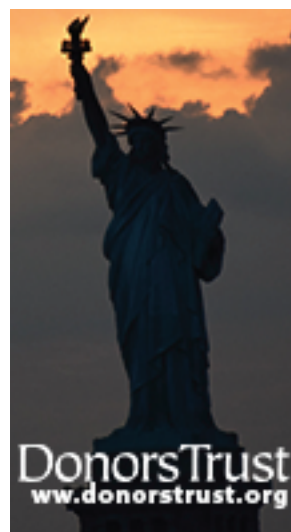
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