

Independent Women's Forum®



2019 ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

Honoring

Woman of Valor

**U.S. Secretary of Education
Betsy DeVos**

Resilience Award

Kristy Swanson

Gentleman of Distinction

Larry Kudlow

with

Master of Ceremonies

Tammy Bruce

November 13, 2019

DAR Constitution Hall | Washington, DC

Special Thanks to Our Gala Program Sponsor
Claudette M. Lajam, M.D.

WELCOME

Good Evening,

More freedom, more opportunity, more flourishing: Independent Women's Forum's mission is to enlist more people to support the rule of law, economic liberty, and limited government so we can create a fair and flourishing society with opportunity for all.

For more than 25 years, IWF has been reaching women and those outside of the conservative base, correcting misperceptions about how policy works in practice, challenging stereotypes about champions of freedom, and encouraging more people to join our cause.

This year, we launched Independent Women's Law Center. While the Left has several resource-rich feminist legal groups, until now there has been no organization providing a center-right female perspective on legal issues. Independent Women's Law Center fills that gap. The center's talented female lawyers will weigh in directly on key court cases, provide media analysis and commentary on legal issues, support the confirmation of constitutionalist judges, and build a greater appreciation for our constitutional system.

Independent Women's Forum also took our work directly to key states to build awareness of how proposed state paid leave entitlements, the Equal Rights Amendment, and efforts to undermine the Electoral College would backfire on Americans. We are proud of our impact. As Colorado State Senator Rep. Susan Beckman put it, "I truly believe that without Independent Women's Forum, the FAMLI Act entitlement program would be a done deal in Colorado."

Independent Women's Forum advocates for more choice in education; a robust, transparent healthcare marketplace; and a dynamic economy that provides opportunity for all.

The principles we advance improve lives, not only in the United States, but across the globe. That's why IWF's Claudia Rosett went to Hong Kong to report on their incredible fight for human freedom, and why IWF has been sharing stories of women from North Korea, Guatemala, Senegal, and elsewhere, who are dedicating their lives to advancing individual liberty, economic freedom, and basic human rights.

Thank you for joining us for IWF's 2019 Annual Awards Gala to celebrate honorees who exemplify our values.

Tonight, we honor Secretary Betsy DeVos as our Woman of Valor. Secretary DeVos has been a champion of greater educational freedom throughout her career. As Secretary of Education, she has taken a principled stand to restore fairness to the campus disciplinary process and worked to encourage innovation in higher education and our K-12 system to give students and parents better options and more control.

As our Gentleman of Distinction, we honor Larry Kudlow, current White House advisor and esteemed economic analyst. Mr. Kudlow has been a tireless advocate for economic liberty as the key to helping people pursue their own visions of happiness. He has helped craft economic reforms that have led to greater employment, rising wages, and a better quality of life for millions of people.

Finally, renowned actress Kristy Swanson receives our inaugural Resilience Award. As a faithful advocate for more freedom and smarter government, Ms. Swanson has shown grace in the face of hateful political attacks. She treats her adversaries with respect and models the kind of civil discourse that we need to restore.

We are thrilled to have you with us tonight. We appreciate your partnership in creating a better, fairer, freer society, and are thankful for your support of Independent Women's Forum.

With gratitude,

Carrie Lukas

Carrie Lukas

President, IWF

PROGRAM

The National Anthem
Gracie Terzian

God Bless America
Friendship Public Charter
School Woodridge International
Concert Choir*

Welcome
Tammy Bruce
Master of Ceremonies

A Message from
IWF's President
Carrie Lukas

Dinner

Presentation of the Resilience
Award to Kristy Swanson
Cynthia Fisher
PatientRightsAdvocate.org

Presentation of the
Gentleman of Distinction
Award to Larry Kudlow
Abby Spencer Moffat
The Diana Davis Spencer Foundation

Dessert and Coffee

Presentation of the
Barbara K. Olson Woman
of Valor Award to U.S. Secretary
of Education Betsy DeVos
Heather R. Higgins
Chairman of Independent Women's
Forum and Chairman & CEO of
Independent Women's Voice

Farewell
Tammy Bruce

Reception in
Constitution Hall Lobby
featuring Alex Donner Entertainment

***Friendship Public Charter School Woodridge International Concert Choir**

Friendship Woodridge's mission is to provide a world-class education that motivates students to achieve high academic standards, enjoy learning, and develop as ethical, literate, well-rounded and self-sufficient citizens who contribute actively to their communities. The concert choir is currently fundraising to attend a Broadway show this school year.

MENU

FIRST COURSE

Charred Romanesco

Saffron Velouté | Bergamot Marmalade | Baby Rocket
Shaved Ricotta | Quinoa Praline

ENTRÉE

Quick Smoked Beef Short Rib

Creamy Polenta | Roasted Butternut Squash
Snap Peas | Sorghum Reduction

Focaccia

DESSERT

Chocolate Praline Rock

Chocolate Hazelnut Cremeux | Dark Chocolate Glaze

WINES

Chateau St. Michelle Sauvignon Blanc, 2017
14 Hands Cabernet Sauvignon, 2016

DEMITASSE CAFÉ AND TEA

Cream | Sugar | Sweetener | Lemon

AWARDS

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, and recognizes extraordinary women who have demonstrated a firm commitment to liberty, limited government, personal responsibility, and whose work has helped make significant improvements to the lives of women and their families.

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.

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.

HONOREE



Woman of Valor

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos

Betsy DeVos serves as the 11th U.S. Secretary of Education. For more than three decades, she has been on the front lines of the fight for better and more options for students of all ages. She has already helped expand opportunities for students in 25 states and the District of Columbia.

As Secretary, she recognizes that every student is unique and each one needs the freedom to pursue education in ways and places that work for them. Her focus is on expanding education freedom, transforming Federal Student Aid, opening multiple pathways to higher education, and returning power to students, parents, teachers, and local communities. Her leadership has already resulted in expanding 529 education savings plans, restoring year-round access to Pell Grants, creating new partnerships for apprenticeship opportunities, increasing innovative options for higher education and pulling back federal overreach by the Department.

Prior to being confirmed, Secretary DeVos served as chairman of the Windquest Group, an enterprise and investment management firm. She also served on the boards of numerous national and local education, charitable, and civic organizations.

The daughter of a public school teacher, Secretary DeVos received a B.A. from Calvin College and has been married to her husband Dick DeVos for 40 years. Together they have four children and eight grandchildren.

HONOREE



Resilience Award Kristy Swanson

Kristy has been acting for over 35 years in television, film, and theatre. A few of her many highlights are Ferris Beuller's Day Off, Pretty in Pink, The Chase, Higher Learning, The Phantom, and so many more iconic films. Most recently, Kristy played Lisa Page in the epic on-stage reading with Dean Cain of original transcripts between Lisa Page and Peter Stroke, in the production called FBI Lovebirds.

Kristy spends considerable time lending her name and personality to help with Veterans, First Responders, Police, Firemen and all Military personnel in whatever way she can. This includes traveling to Afghanistan on a USO Tour with Gary Sinise, assisting in the clothing line called Nine Line, and taking part in many charity motorcycle rides to help raise funds for our fallen.

Kristy has appeared on Fox News to discuss Hollywood's treatment of the President and their condemnation of those who hold and voice different political beliefs.

In spite of the risk of industry censure, Kristy is an outspoken advocate for her own political beliefs, employing wit and civility, even when others in Hollywood use far less tact and humility.

Kristy is happily married and lives with her husband and son in California.

HONOREE



Gentleman of Distinction Lawrence A. Kudlow

Lawrence A. Kudlow serves as Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Director of the National Economic Council. He leads the coordination of President Donald J. Trump's domestic and global economic policy agenda.

During President Trump's campaign, Mr. Kudlow served as a tax and economic advisor.

Prior to the White House, Mr. Kudlow was a CNBC Senior Contributor and host of CNBC's primetime show "The Kudlow Report." He also served as chief economist and senior managing director of Bear Stearns & Company.

During President Reagan's first term, Mr. Kudlow was associate director for economics and planning at the Office of Management and Budget, where he was engaged in the development of the Administration's economic and budget policy.

Mr. Kudlow is the author of "JFK and the Reagan Revolution: A Secret History of American Prosperity" and "American Abundance: The New Economic and Moral Prosperity."

CHAIRMAN



Heather R. Higgins

Heather's background is in finance, public policy, and media, all happily combined with an inclination to make trouble.

She serves as chairman of Independent Women's Forum (IWF), as well as being Chairman and CEO of its advocacy arm, Independent Women's Voice (IWV). In addition, she serves on the boards of both the Philanthropy Roundtable and the Hoover Institution. She is also a commissioner on the Women's Suffrage

Centennial Commission helping to coordinate the nationwide 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment.

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 she 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 she often does television and radio to discuss public policy and politics—indeed if you are ever up early, you may see her co-hosting "Mornings with Maria" on Fox Business.

IWF PRESIDENT



Carrie Lukas

Carrie is the president of Independent Women's Forum and vice president at Independent Women's Voice. She is the author of *Checking Progressive Privilege*, an Encounter Broadside released summer 2019, and co-author of *Liberty Is No War on Women*, and author of *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Women, Sex, and Feminism*, which was published by Regnery Publishing.

Lukas's writing has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, and *The New York Post*. She contributes to the National Review and Forbes.com. She's testified before the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security and House Committee on Education and the Workforce subcommittee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on paid leave.

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

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



Tammy Bruce

Tammy is the president of Independent Women's Voice, IWF's advocacy arm. Tammy is also a Fox News Channel and Fox Business Network Political Contributor, *New York Times* bestselling author, columnist for the *Washington Times*, and the host of the "Tammy Bruce Show," a New Media radio program streaming worldwide focusing on culture and politics through an Independent Conservative prism.

A Democrat up until 2008 when she officially became an Independent, Tammy was a 'community organizer' through the 1990s as president of the Los Angeles chapter of NOW (she's sorry), and worked on a number of Democratic campaigns. In the mid-1990s, she saw the light and embraced libertarian and conservative ideals.

Her first book, *The New Thought Police*, which focused on free speech and the rise of left-wing McCarthyism, was published in 2001. Her second book, *The Death of Right and Wrong*, also for Random House, addresses the rise of moral relativism in society and quickly became a New York Times best seller. Tammy's latest work, *The New American Revolution*, was published by Harper Collins/Morrow and is now available in paperback.

Tammy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Southern California, from which she graduated cum laude, and is a PhD candidate at Claremont Graduate University.

A native of Los Angeles, Tammy now spends most of her time in New York for work.

PRESENTER



Abby Spencer Moffat

As a young adult, Abby was fortunate enough to meet Margaret Thatcher. The British Prime Minister and conservative icon told her: "Young lady, you have a voice. You need to use it."

She has.

As chief executive officer of the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation, Abby has built the foundation into a leading innovator in the national security field. She channeled her entrepreneurial spirit to lead the foundation's support for the Daniel Morgan Academy, a graduate school serving the nation's intelligence community.

A fervent believer in free markets and human ingenuity, Abby is particularly proud of her efforts to revolutionize how society helps and views those with special needs. She played an instrumental role in the creation of Chapel Haven's sustainable, scalable employment program that provides elderly, developmentally disabled adults with opportunities for personal fulfillment.

Abby has a long history of entrepreneurship and relationship building. After graduating from Mount Vernon College, she cultivated an extensive network of corporate contacts as the top head-hunter for CWI/SAI, an executive search firm. Abby later refined her talents as the owner of an event planning start-up.

Abby is actively involved with her family and church.

PRESENTER



Cynthia Fisher

Cynthia A. Fisher is a life sciences entrepreneur, independent investor, and corporate board director. Cynthia founded PatientRightsAdvocate.org, an advocacy organization for the American public and employers seeking to greatly reduce the cost of healthcare and coverage through systemwide price transparency and creation of a functional, competitive marketplace in healthcare. She also serves on the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee as the former Speaker of the House's appointee.

Cynthia is a public company Director of The Boston Beer Company (SAM), and Easterly Government Properties, Inc. (DEA).

Cynthia founded the pioneering cord blood stem cell banking company, ViaCord, Inc., in 1993 and served as CEO. In 2000, Cynthia co-founded the cellular medicines company, ViaCell, Inc, of which ViaCord became a division. She served as President and on the Board of Directors. ViaCell went public, was acquired by PerkinElmer, and exists today under the ViaCord brand.

Cynthia co-founded and is chairman of FitMoney.org, providing schools and teachers curriculum for K-12 financial literacy. She is a Director of the National Park Foundation, Board Advisor to Boston Children Hospital's Micheli Center for Sports Injury Prevention, and formerly served on the Board of Water.org.

Cynthia holds an MBA from Harvard Business School, as well as an Honorary Doctorate of Science and BS in Biophysics from Ursinus College.

SINGER



Gracie Terzian

A native of the Washington, D.C. area, Gracie Terzian is a singer, songwriter, ukulelist, and actor now living in New York City. She 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. As an ukulelist, she is known for playing unusual instruments, including the harp ukulele and electric ukulele.

Terry Teachout, jazz critic and author of *Duke: A Life of Duke Ellington*, says, "Don't let the cool, sophisticated surface of *Saints and Poets* fool you: Gracie Terzian is a deep-dyed romantic who tells her tales of modern love with quiet delicacy and an inborn musicality that's impossible to overlook. Of such debuts are great careers made."

A member of Actors' Equity Association, Gracie has worked extensively in theatre and film as an actor, singer, dancer/acrobat 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.

Gracie 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*, and other duties.

PAST RECIPIENTS

Barbara K. Olson Woman of Valor

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

Gentleman of Distinction

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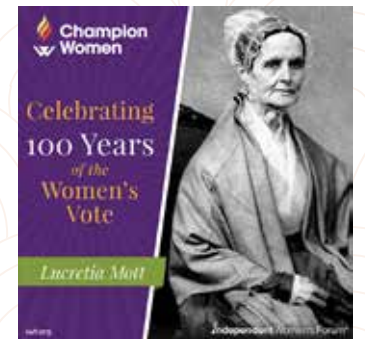
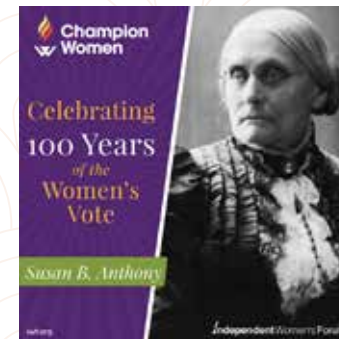
IN CELEBRATION



Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment

You may notice that the decorations tonight revolve around yellow roses. Representing light and life, the yellow rose has become the symbol of the Women's Suffrage Movement.

To commemorate the upcoming 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote, Independent Women's Forum has been profiling leaders of the fight for women's suffrage each month. Please visit iwf.org to view some of these wonderful profiles already published.



IWF is also proud that our chairman, Heather Higgins, serves as a commissioner on the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission. The Commission's mission is to commemorate and coordinate the nationwide celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment and to educate the American people about the efforts and undertakings of the women's suffrage movement in the United States in a nonpartisan fashion.

IWF is proud to celebrate the dedicated women who fought to advance women's equality, and seeks to honor that legacy by continuing to work to create a society with more freedom, civility, and opportunity for all Americans, regardless of sex.

THANK YOU

To Our Generous Host Committee

Yvonne Boice
Giovanna Cugnasca
Annie Dickerson
Lisa Gable
Cathy and Ed Gillespie
The Hon. Nan Hayworth
Clark Judge
Fred Klipsch
Claudette Lajam
Stephanie Lips

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Abby Moffat
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Erica Stein
Kaitlin Trinh and Myles Pollin
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CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING AWARDED
WOMAN OF VALOR

BETSY DEVOS

WITH LOVE,

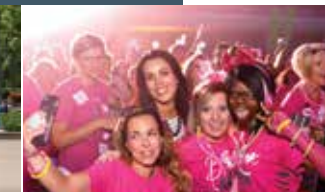
DICK, RICK & MELISSA, ELISSA & NATE,
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**BUILDING
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ONE PARTNERSHIP AT A TIME.

Herbalife Nutrition is committed to improving communities around the world. We're proud to support the Independent Women's Forum and their dedication to equal opportunity.

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thirty-one
A *mission* that
empowers women

Thirty-One Gifts was founded on a simple mission to celebrate, encourage and reward women for who they are. We proudly support and empower our sisterhood of 60,000+ Independent Sales Consultants, helping them reach their dreams one step at a time.

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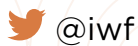
ALL ISSUES ARE WOMEN'S ISSUES

iwf.org

Join the conversation online
using the hashtag

#IWFGala

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