TODAY’S PRESENTERS INCLUDE

Welcoming and Closing Remarks
Karen Bordeleau
NEFAC President and
Former Executive Editor of The Providence Journal

Antonia Orfield Citizenship Award
Edward Fitzpatrick
NEFAC Director and
Staff Writer for The Boston Globe

Michael Donoghue Freedom of Information Award
Mike Stanton
NEFAC Director and
Professor at the University of Connecticut

Stephen Hamblett First Amendment Award
Walter V. Robinson
NEFAC Director and
Editor at Large for The Boston Globe
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

U.S. Constitution, First Amendment

@Five Freedoms  #NEFAC2020

Join today at nefac.org/join

The New England First Amendment Coalition defends, promotes and expands freedom of information and public access to the government and the work it does. NEFAC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Learn more about NEFAC at nefac.org.

Tax-exempt contributions can be made at nefac.org or sent to NEFAC, 111 Milk Street, Westborough, MA 01581.

New England First Amendment Coalition
Tenth Annual First Amendment Awards Luncheon
February 7, 2020
Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel — Boston, Mass.

Featuring

A. G. Sulzberger
The New York Times
First Amendment Award

Also Honoring

Hearst Connecticut Media Group
Michael Donoghue
Freedom of Information Award

Cook v. Raimondo
Student Activists
Antonia Orfield Citizenship Award

New England First Amendment Coalition
www.nefac.org
# Luncheon Sponsors and Table Hosts

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# Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Luncheon Begins</td>
<td>12:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
<td>12:40</td>
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<td>Karen Bordeleau, NEFAC president and former executive editor of The Providence Journal</td>
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<td>Luncheon Served</td>
<td>12:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation of the Antonia Orfield Citizenship Award</td>
<td>1:00</td>
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<td>Acceptance and remarks on behalf of 2020 Citizenship Award recipients the <em>Cook v. Raimondo</em> Student Activists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation of the Michael Donoghue Freedom of Information Award</td>
<td>1:10</td>
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<td>Acceptance and remarks by the staff of 2020 FOI Award recipient Hearst Conn. Media Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation of the Stephen Hamblett First Amendment Award</td>
<td>1:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acceptance and remarks by 2020 First Amendment Award recipient A. G. Sulzberger of The New York Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>2:00</td>
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**Please Join Us After the Luncheon**

NEFAC Presents

**Libel, Invasion of Privacy and Other Legal Questions**

Feb. 7 | 2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

**Effective Interviews: Planning and Execution**

Feb. 8 | 10:30 a.m. - Noon
ABOUT THE
NEW ENGLAND FIRST AMENDMENT COALITION

Mission
The goal of the New England First Amendment Coalition is to defend, promote and expand public access to government and the work it does. The coalition is a broad-based organization of people who believe in the power of transparency in a democratic society. Its members include lawyers, journalists, historians, librarians and academics, as well as private citizens and organizations whose core beliefs include the principles of the First Amendment. The coalition aspires to advance and protect the five freedoms of the First Amendment, and the principle of the public’s right to know, in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. In collaboration with other like-minded advocacy organizations, NEFAC also seeks to advance understanding of the First Amendment across the nation and freedom of speech and press issues around the world.

History
NEFAC was formed in 2006 by a group of journalists concerned that citizens, to say nothing of reporters, are routinely denied access to the work of government: public documents, meetings, hearings. Efforts in each of the six New England states to combat this growing trend had up until this point been marginally effective. The founders saw a need for a unified, region-wide organization that would speak in one robust voice across the six New England states. We’ve been making strides ever since.

What We Do
In addition to our three-day annual investigative journalism institute and awards luncheon, NEFAC advocates for improved access laws and provides expert testimony on important legislative reform. NEFAC mentors law school students, helping them learn how to defend journalists and counsel them during their legal battles. We publish the NEFAC Report, a free monthly newsletter with original reporting from journalists and publishers within New England. We draft and join advocacy letters and amicus briefs and write white papers on FOI and First Amendment policies.

Congratualtions to

A. G. Sulzberger
Publisher
The New York Times
Collaborator with WBUR on Modern Love: The Podcast

WBUR is proud to support New England First Amendment Awards in honoring A. G. Sulzberger

Congratulations to
A. G. Sulzberger
On his NEFAC First Amendment Award

--From Roy Harris & Columbia University Press, publisher of Pulitzer’s Gold: A Century of Public Service Journalism
www.pulitzersgold.com
ABOUT STEPHEN HAMBLETT AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD

Stephen Hamblett’s first newspaper job was as a summer reporter at his hometown paper, the Nashua Telegraph. It must have been a rewarding experience because soon after he graduated from Harvard, he signed on at The Providence Journal. That was in 1957, and Hamblett never looked back.

Hamblett rose from advertising department clerk to publisher in a career fueled by qualities for which he became famous — quick wit, dedication to excellence, warmth, good humor, passion for his community and a deep-seated belief in the wonder of newspapers.

During his leadership, The Providence Journal prospered financially and journalistically, the two most fundamental measures of a newspaper’s success. The Journal’s strong financial health drew the attention of the Belo Corporation, which acquired The Providence Journal Co. in 1997.

The publisher’s job is a tightrope act, at once community booster and — via the newsroom — community watchdog. Hamblett walked that rope with skill and integrity for 12 years, from 1987 to 1999, never flinching at either responsibility.

Howard G. Sutton, who succeeded Hamblett in 1999, said, “Steve Hamblett ran The Providence Journal during an era of hectic change in the media business. He did so with vision, compassion, decisiveness, ingenuity, and calm, leading the firm around numerous economic shoals as it became a truly national media company, all the while maintaining the Journal’s long commitment to high-quality journalism and community improvement.”

One of the many proofs of the newspaper’s commitment to journalistic excellence came on Hamblett’s watch in 1994 with the award of a Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting on “pervasive corruption within the Rhode Island court system.”

“The Journal newsroom held Steve in high regard,” said Thomas E. Heslin, former executive editor of The Providence Journal. “He was widely respected as a great businessman, but he knew that good journalism is good business. The newsroom always knew it had his support.”

A national figure as well as a local one, he served on the boards of the Associated Press, Inter-American Press Association and the Smithsonian Institution.

He was a single-minded and hardworking executive but left plenty of room for his family, friends, an occasional drink, a good cigar and a joke. His passing in December 2005 at age 71 generated obituaries from coast to coast (the Los Angeles Times) to coast (The New York Times) and all points in between.

Hamblett’s memory lives on in dozens of ways. Add to them The Stephen Hamblett First Amendment Award, which is given each year to an individual who has promoted, defended or advocated for the First Amendment throughout his or her career.
Local news.
National impact.


Hearst commends the 2020 New England First Amendment Coalition’s honorees.

HAMBLETT FIRST AMENDMENT AWARD RECIPIENT
A. G. SULZBERGER

A. G. Sulzberger is publisher of The New York Times. As publisher, he is the principal steward of the editorial independence and ambition of journalism at the Times and oversees both newsroom and company operations.

Sulzberger was a reporter at The Providence Journal and The Oregonian before joining The Times’s Metro desk in 2009.

He later worked as a National correspondent, covering the Midwest as head of the Kansas City bureau.

Sulzberger has been one of the architects of The Times’s digital transformation and was the principal author of the 2014 Innovation Report, which focused on growing and engaging The Times’s digital audience.

He is a graduate of Brown University. Sulzberger is the sixth member of the Ochs/Sulzberger family to serve as publisher since the newspaper was purchased by Adolph Ochs in 1896.

2019 Stephen Engelberg | Founding managing editor of ProPublica from 2008-2012, Engelberg became editor-in-chief in 2013. He is a frequent lecturer on journalism and the need for government accountability.

2018 Jane Mayer | A writer for The New Yorker since 1995, Mayer is perhaps best known for her accountability journalism and her ability to expose the underpinnings of powerful institutions.


2016 Patrick Leahy | A U.S. senator from Vermont, Leahy is well-known for his work to strengthen the federal Freedom of Information Act and improve transparency within the court system.

2015 Nancy Gertner | Gertner is a retired federal judge and advocate for the First Amendment and increased transparency within the judicial system.

2014 James Risen | Risen is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist formerly of The New York Times who’s done ground-breaking work on domestic spying and faced legal peril for refusing to disclose a source.

2013 Philip Balboni | Balboni co-founded GlobalPost, which provides original international reporting. Earlier in his career, Balboni conceived and launched New England Cable News.

2012 Martin Baron | Baron has been executive editor of The Washington Post since 2012. He was previously editor of The Boston Globe, which won six Pulitzer Prizes under his leadership.

2011 Anthony Lewis | Lewis, who died in 2013, was a journalist, teacher and a long-time New York Times columnist. He won the Pulitzer Prize twice and is credited with creating the field of legal journalism.
ABOUT MICHAEL DONOGHUE AND THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AWARD

Michael Donoghue is an award-winning news and sports writer. He worked for more than 40 years at the Burlington Free Press and now is a freelancer.

He was selected as the 2013 New England Journalist of the Year by the New England Society of News Editors and in 2015 received the Matthew Lyon First Amendment Award. Donoghue has been an adjunct professor of journalism and mass communications at St. Michael’s College in Colchester, Vermont since 1985.

Donoghue has served as an officer, including executive director, with the Vermont Press Association since 1979. He is a former board member of the New England Press Association and has served continuously as state chairman of Project Sunshine in Vermont since it was started by the Society of Professional Journalists in 1990.

Donoghue is often credited as being a driving force behind the improvement to Vermont’s open government (public records and meetings) legislation. He has made his own successful legal arguments to judges about keeping courtrooms open and not sealing court documents.

Donoghue and the Free Press have been honored for his work on a local, state, regional and national level. Donoghue was selected in 2007 as the winner of the Yankee Quill Award, the top lifetime honor for print and electronic journalism in New England.

He has been inducted into five Halls of Fame, including as a charter member for the New England Press Association’s Hall of Fame and as a charter member for the Society of Professional Journalists/National Freedom of Information Coalition Hall of Fame. Donoghue is the first vice president of the New England First Amendment Coalition.

The FOI Award is given each year to New England journalists who protect or advance the public’s right to know under federal or state law.
We would like to acknowledge

THE ROBERTSON FOUNDATION

for its generosity and continued support of the First Amendment and the public’s right to know throughout New England.

Your support makes us a stronger organization and will help us honor First Amendment heroes across the region for years to come.

Thank you.

PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE DONOGHUE FOI AWARD

2019 Hartford Courant | The Courant successfully fought a legal battle at the state Supreme Court for information related to the 2012 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.
2018 Todd Wallack | An investigative reporter for The Boston Globe’s Spotlight Team, Wallack’s work included stories about online accessibility to criminal records and the overuse of certain public record law exemptions to keep information secret.
2017 Sun Journal | The Sun Journal of Lewiston, Maine, uncovered and successfully fought a state court policy that required all dismissed criminal cases to be sealed after 30 days in violation of the public records law.
2016 Jenifer McKim | A reporter for the New England Center for Investigative Reporting, McKim was recognized for her series “Out of the Shadows,” an investigation into child abuse.
2015 James W. Foley (posthumously) | A seasoned war correspondent, New Hampshire native Foley worked in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria, reporting on the lives of the disadvantaged and their suffering.
2014 Brent Curtis | A reporter for the Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Curtis fought for access to certain police records and helped make Vermont police departments more transparent.
2013 Don Stacom | Stacom, of the Hartford Courant, pursued stories about police misconduct through the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission, prompting a shakeup of the New Britain, Conn., police department.

DONOGHUE FOI AWARD RECIPIENT
HEARST CONNECTICUT MEDIA GROUP

A team of seven journalists at Hearst Connecticut spent more than six months investigating allegations of sexual abuse connected to Boys & Girls Clubs nationwide.

They filed more than 100 public records requests and dug through 1,600 pages of documents. The team found more than 100 cases of abuse involving 280 victims in 31 states over the course of 70 years.

Using the documents they obtained, the team created a public database that allows parents sending a child to a local Boys & Girls Club to look up information about incidents and how they were handled by the organization.

As a result of the reporting, Boys & Girls Clubs of America — which oversees 4,600 local affiliates — announced it will hire a third-party firm to review how it responds to complaints related to abuse and will provide additional safety training.

Pledge your annual support to First Amendment freedoms and the public’s right to know about government today!
nefac.org/join
The Providence public school students filed a federal lawsuit in November 2018 against Rhode Island state officials — including the governor, legislative leaders and the education commissioner — arguing that the state is failing to provide the civics education they need to be engaged citizens. Arguments began last December.

This lack of education, they argued, violates their rights under the U.S. Constitution. It deprives them of the knowledge necessary to “function productively as civic participants” and leaves them without “the basic minimal skills necessary for the enjoyment of the rights of speech and of full participation in the political process.”

After decades of schools throughout the country neglecting civics education, according to the lawsuit, a 2014 national study showed only 23 percent of eighth graders reaching the “proficiency” level.
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U.S. Constitution, First Amendment

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