

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 18, 2019

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT media@claremont.org**

Claremont Institute Awarded Prestigious National Humanities Medal

Claremont, CA, November 18, 2019— The Claremont Institute is pleased to announce that it has been selected as a recipient of the prestigious National Humanities Medal. This high honor, bestowed by the President in consultation with the National Endowment for the Humanities, honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation’s understanding of the humanities, broadened citizens’ engagement with the humanities, or helped preserve and expand Americans’ access to important resources in the humanities.

“We are humbled by this honor and grateful to President Trump and NEH Chairman Peede,” said Claremont Institute President Ryan Williams. “The medal is more than anything a testament to 40 years of teaching and writing about the history and intellectual traditions of the American founding and their application to our politics today—and to our teachers, students, staff, and supporters whose dedication these past four decades has been essential to our work, success, and most importantly, to promoting and defending American greatness.”

Along with the Claremont Institute, which is only the second think tank to ever receive this high distinction, the President recognizes educator and philanthropist Dr. Teresa Lozano Long, chef Patrick J. O’Connell, and author James Patterson. Past recipients of the medal include luminaries such as Allen Bloom, Ken Burns, Tom Wolfe, Richard Peck, Thomas Sowell, Joseph Epstein, Harvey Mansfield, Victor Davis Hanson, and David McCullough.

Since its founding in 1979, the Claremont Institute’s mission has been to “restore the principles of the American Founding to their rightful, preeminent authority in our national life.” Claremont serves this mission in part through its four annual fellowship programs—Publius, Lincoln, John Marshall, and Speechwriters—which engage the most promising young thinkers and statesmen by examining the historical arc leading from the American Founding to today’s progressivism. Alumni of these prestigious programs today total more than 700, with many now in prominent positions in government, academia, and journalism. Claremont also provides the most thoughtful intellectual debate on the right through its flagship publication the *Claremont Review of Books*, a journal of political thought and statesmanship, and *The American Mind*, an online publication examining the ideas that drive American political life. Finally, we bring the natural law constitutionalism of the Founding to America’s courts through our Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence.

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ABOUT US

To return to limited government, conservatives must return to the principles of the American Founding. The Claremont Institute provides the missing argument in the battle to win public sentiment by teaching and promoting the philosophical reasoning that is the foundation of limited government and the statesmanship required to bring that reasoning into practice.

We are a think tank that teaches, writes, and litigates. Since our founding in 1979, our strategy has been to teach the principles of the American Founding to the future thinkers and statesmen of America. Those principles include the foundational doctrines of natural rights and natural law found in the Declaration of Independence; the ingenious political science of the Constitution; and the popular constitutionalism or reverence necessary for the maintenance of free government.

Rather than concentrate on policy like many other think tanks, the Claremont Institute teaches the principles and ideas that shape policy over time to the few that will go on to positions of leadership in media, politics, law, speechwriting, and academia.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Claremont Institute is to restore the principles of the American Founding to their rightful, preeminent authority in our national life.

WHAT WE DO

We teach. We educate the best and most promising young writers, lawyers, activists, academics, entrepreneurs, and public servants through our Publius, Lincoln, John Marshall and Speechwriters Fellowship programs, and engage this next generation of conservative leaders in a life-long study of the true principles of government and their application to today's policies.

We write. We engage policy at the level of ideas in the Claremont Review of Books, our flagship quarterly publication, which aims to reawaken in American politics a statesmanship and citizenship worthy of its noblest political traditions.

We litigate. We promote the application of first principles in the Courts and amongst legal practitioners through our Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence, which files legal briefs advancing the jurisprudence of the Constitution and the Founding, and engages in strategic constitutional litigation.

WELCOME TO THE CLAREMONT INSTITUTE: A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Watch: <https://youtu.be/s967BBddruI>

PRAISE FOR THE CLAREMONT INSTITUTE AND *CLAREMONT REVIEW OF BOOKS*

“I cannot tell you the delight I had when I discovered Claremont’s devotion to the Founders, the Framers, Lincoln, and Churchill; it is as if I had come home, as if I had discovered my anchor. Such an important task fulfilled by so few institutions, and by Claremont so well.”

—Mark Helprin

“How many love America as a nation? Secretary Pompeo does, and so does Claremont. I learned this as a Publius Fellow more than twenty years ago. It is still true today. As friends and students of Claremont, we know that our founding principles, simple patriotism and fellow citizens still have an exalted role to play in our politics. Claremont is almost unique as an institution because it promotes this healthy Americanism we all need it urgently in the years ahead to defend America in the realm of ideas.”

— Tom Cotton

“I’ve been a long admirer of the Claremont Institute. The Claremont Institute has been responsible for teaching and research and the promulgation of information about the founding principles upon which our country has been built. Those ideas, those principles, those basic precepts which formed the basics of our governmental and social structure have been an important part of the progress we’ve made over more than two centuries.”

— Ed Meese

“I began learning from Claremont Institute scholars and reading their papers back when I was a young staffer on Capitol Hill working for people like Sam Brownback, Jack Kemp, and Bill Bennet. They all held Claremont in such high regard and I quickly came to understand why. The Institute and its scholars are rooted in a belief in limited government and a need for modern day statesmen who can live up—or at least try and live up—to the example set by our Founding Fathers. The Claremont Institute’s work helped shape my views as conservative. And it continues to play a prominent role in the public policy debates of our day.”

— Paul Ryan

“The *Claremont Review of Books* is one of the very few existing publications actually worth hand distributing via mimeograph in the politically correct police state its enemies would like to see.”

—Peter Thiel

“The *Claremont Review of Books* is serious, lively, always sound yet delightfully unpredictable, a model of intellectual journalism as a source of education and of pleasure.”

—Joseph Epstein

"The *CRB*—or what my wife calls ‘the big, smart magazine’—is one of the best and most intelligent things to happen to the conservative movement. It's good and smart for America, too."

—William J. Bennett

“The *Claremont Review of Books* not only superbly serves the cause of constitutional liberty, but at the same time elevates the level of political discourse in our country. A national treasure.”

—Charles Krauthammer

“The *Claremont Review of Books* applies the principles of Western civilization to an astute analysis of current affairs. This unique synthesis of theory and political reporting keeps those foundational principles alive, while providing deeper insight into the turbulence of our present era than any Beltway-obsessed publication can hope to achieve.”

—Heather Mac Donald

“I read the *Claremont Review of Books* regularly because it is by far the best review of books around, both in its choice of books and topics and in its treating them in depth, in style, and—most unusual of all—with real thought, instead of politically correct rhetoric.”

—Thomas Sowell

NOTABLE ALUMNI

Media and Journalism



Dinesh D'Souza
Publius '83
Political
Commentator, *New York Times* Best-selling Author, and
Filmmaker



Mollie Hemingway
Lincoln '14
Senior Editor, *The Federalist*;
Commentator, Fox
News



Laura Ingraham
Publius '84
Host, The Laura
Ingraham Show;
Commentator, Fox
News



Mark Levin
Lincoln '96
Nationally Syndicated
Talk Radio Host, The
Mark Levin Show



James O'Keefe
Lincoln '17
Award winning
journalist, President of
Project Veritas and
Project Veritas Action



Ben Shapiro
Publius '06
Political
Commentator,
Nationally Syndicated
Columnist, Author,
Radio Host

Politics, Government, and the Courts



Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AK)
Publius '97
 U.S. Senator



May Davis
John Marshall '15
 Associate White House Counsel at The White House



Steven Menashi
Publius '02
 Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



Paul Teller
Lincoln '05
 Special Assistant to President Donald Trump



Russ Vought
Lincoln '11
 Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget



David Wilezol
Publius '12;
Speechwriters '17
 Chief Speechwriter to Secretary of State

Think Tanks, Foundations, and Academia



Phillip Munoz
Publius '95
 Tocqueville Associate Professor of Religion & Public Life, University of Notre Dame



Marion Smith
Publius '11
 Executive Director, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation



Charles Kesler
Publius '80
 Editor, *Claremont Review of Books*; Salvatori Professor of Government, Claremont McKenna College



David Azerrad
Publius '07
 Director, B. Kenneth Simon Center for Principles and Politics, The Heritage Foundation



Cheryl Miller
Publius '02
 Director, Hertog Foundation



Rebecca Heinrichs
Lincoln '14
 Senior fellow at Hudson Institute