

*— We Still Hold These Truths —*



8TH ANNUAL

**FREEDOM CONFERENCE & FESTIVAL**

STEAMBOAT GRAND – STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO AUGUST 26–27, 2016



# Letter from the Chairman

## Jennifer Schubert-Akin

***“We hold these truths to be self-evident...”*** These powerful words in our Declaration of Independence have been part of the foundation of America for 240 years. And, yet, now we must ask, “Do We Still Hold These Truths?”

In this time of great uncertainty for our country and for Western civilization in general, we must examine the core of who we are and what we are willing to do to preserve our right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

The theme of our 8th Annual Freedom Conference & Festival is “We Still Hold These Truths,” an affirmative statement of who we are as Americans and the title of the best-selling book by Dr. Matthew Spalding, who serves on our Board of Directors. We are proud to kick-off the conference with a special 2-hour seminar on “First Principles,” led by Dr. Spalding. On Saturday, we will close the conference with Dr. Spalding presenting “American Renewal: The Case for Reclaiming Our Future.”

In between, we will present thought-provoking discussions of serious issues: a plan to defeat radical Islamic terrorism, a plan to unleash American prosperity to increase opportunity for all, restoring freedom of speech on college campuses, and a host of other issues.

New this year is a robust speaker line-up in our Freedom Festival Tent, happening concurrently with the Freedom Conference in the ballroom at the Steamboat Grand. **We encourage you to make the short walk across the street to the Festival Tent** to check out the speakers and the display tables of some of our sponsors. The Festival Tent allows us to reach many more people, including many millennials, with the message of limited government, limited taxes and fiscal responsibility, personal responsibility, free market capitalism, and strong national defense.

We will also be presenting two very special awards this weekend: the 3rd annual Tony Blankley Chair for Public Policy and American Exceptionalism, which will be awarded to Hadley Heath Manning, and a special “Courage in Education” award to Bruce D. Benson, President of the University of Colorado. You can read more about these inspiring leaders in this program.

I would like to close with the wisdom of the late Tony Blankley, who served as Conference Moderator for our first three Freedom Conferences (2009-2011). In his last book, *American Grit*, Tony wrote:

*“What needs to be done to protect and strengthen our providential nation?... The very process of asking ourselves first a key question – ‘Does this proposal strengthen America or not?’ – creates a different frame of mind than the questions that most of us ask.”*

*“I don’t believe that America is stronger if we avoid offending every bizarre ideological faction at the price of failing to teach our children the patriotic and glorious history of our nation – and the principles that made us strong and good.”*

*“I don’t believe that America is stronger if we forego energy independence in hopes of fighting global warming...”*

*“I don’t believe that America is stronger if we insist on a democratic election that brings a terrorist group to official government power in the Gaza Strip.”*

*“What I do believe – with all the fervor of the immigrant and naturalized American citizen who I am – is this: when America is strong, the hope for individual freedom and human dignity yet lives in the breast of humanity.”*

Do we still hold these truths? I believe the answer is yes.

### **Jennifer Schubert-Akin**

Chairman, CEO and Co-Founder  
The Steamboat Institute

## FEATURING KEYNOTE DINNER SPEAKER



### CARLY FIORINA

Carly is a tested leader. She has battled breast cancer and buried a child. She started out as a secretary for a small real estate business and became a leader in technology, business and charity.

In 1999, Carly was recruited to HP to save a struggling company that had become a bloated, inept bureaucracy that had failed to meet expectations for 9 quarters. As CEO of HP, she was the first woman to lead a Fortune 50 business and the first outsider to lead HP. During the worst technology recession in 25 years, she focused on innovation and leading again. While lots of other tech companies went out of business altogether, Carly saved 80,000 jobs and would grow the company to 160,000 jobs.

Carly is now a leader in the conservative movement standing alongside all Americans who refuse to settle for the way things are and a status quo that no longer works for them. She believes we must end crony capitalism by fighting the policies that allow it to flourish. She believes we must fix our festering problems by holding our bloated, inept government bureaucracy accountable. And she believes Republicans must stand for conservative principles that lift people up and recognize all Americans have the right to fulfill their God-given potential.

Follow Carly @CarlyFiorina on Twitter.

## FESTIVAL MODERATOR

### KELLY MAHER,

Political Analyst for 9News (KUSA) in Denver

Named to "Forty Under 40" Best & Brightest Young Political Professionals by the American Association of Political Consultants



Kelly Maher provides the conservative perspective on politics for 9NEWS.

Kelly Maher is a nationally recognized political commentator and executive director for Compass Colorado, a center-right, free-market advocacy organization based in Denver.

Kelly has worked on every level of state and federal candidate and issue campaigns. With 15 years in politics, Kelly has established herself as a voice for good government, conservative issues - emphasizing the importance of individual freedoms without the interference of the controlling bureaucrats. On the national stage, Kelly has appeared on Fox News, *The Daily Show* and CNN.

A Colorado resident since childhood, Kelly received an Economics Degree from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. She entered the political arena because she believes advocating for the free market is the path to making people's lives better.

Follow Kelly @okmaher on Twitter.

# Welcome to the



The Steamboat Institute

8TH ANNUAL

## FREEDOM CONFERENCE & FESTIVAL

STEAMBOAT GRAND – STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO AUGUST 26–27, 2016



**The Steamboat Institute promotes America's first principles and inspires active involvement in the defense of liberty.**

**All sessions are in the Korbel Ballroom at the Steamboat Grand, unless otherwise noted.**

Please help us to ensure a respectful and enjoyable experience for all by following the below guidelines:

Kindly silence cell phones

Audio/videotaping is expressly prohibited

Please use event hashtag #Steamboatfreedom when tweeting

**Wifi access in Korbel Ballroom at The Steamboat Grand:**

User name: GrandConference

Password: HappyTrails



## 2016 FESTIVAL TENT

### **THE FREEDOM FESTIVAL TENT IS OPEN TO ALL CONFERENCE REGISTRANTS AT ANY LEVEL**

The Festival Tent is directly across the street from the Steamboat Grand and is located immediately adjacent to the Sheraton pool.

If you are registered for the Full Conference or VIP/Sponsor level, you may come and go between the Steamboat Grand ballroom and the Festival Tent, as you wish, to see the speakers of your choice.

*PLEASE NOTE: Freedom Festival Tent registration does NOT include admittance to the ballroom at the Steamboat Grand or to the Friday night keynote dinner featuring Carly Fiorina.*

<b>8:00 am</b>	Registration opens in foyer outside ballroom – Steamboat Grand Name badges available for pick-up
<b>9:00 - 11:00 am</b>	<b>“First Principles” seminar</b> featuring <b>DR. MATT SPALDING (Freedom Festival Tent)</b>
<b>OFFICIAL OPENING OF FREEDOM CONFERENCE</b>	
<b>11:00 am</b>	Doors to Korbel Ballroom open – Steamboat Grand
<b>11:45 am - 12:00 pm</b>	Welcome & Opening Remarks: <b>JENNIFER SCHUBERT-AKIN</b> , Chairman, CEO and Co-Founder of the Steamboat Institute  Presentation of the Colors: Local American Legion/VFW Honor Guard Featuring Our National Anthem performed by <b>GARY HOFMEISTER</b>
<b>12:00 - 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Kick-off Luncheon: “The American Idea after 2017” U.S. SENATOR BEN SASSE (NE)</b>
<b>1:00 - 1:15 pm</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>1:15 - 2:45 pm</b>	<b>“A Call to Unleash American Prosperity” panel, featuring:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>STEVE MOORE</b>, Chief Economist, The Heritage Foundation; senior economic adviser to Donald Trump</li> <li>• <b>ANDREW PUZDER</b>, CEO of CKE Restaurants</li> <li>• <b>AMITY SHLAES</b>, author of four New York Times bestsellers, including <i>The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression</i></li> <li>• <b>Moderator: MARY KISSEL</b>, <i>Wall Street Journal</i> editorial board</li> </ul>
<b>2:45 - 3:00 pm</b>	<b>BREAK</b> Amity Shlaes book-signing of <i>The Forgotten Man</i>
<b>3:00 - 4:15 pm</b>	<b>Bi-partisan Political Roundtable:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>KELLY MAHER</b>, Political Analyst for 9News (NBC – Denver)</li> <li>• <b>JAMES TARANTO</b>, <i>Wall Street Journal</i></li> <li>• <b>TED TRIMPA</b>, President of Trimpa Group, national political consulting firm</li> <li>• <b>Moderator: JILLIAN MELCHIOR</b>, Political Editor of <i>Heat Street</i>; Tony Blankley Fellow with the Steamboat Institute</li> </ul>
<b>4:15 - 4:45 pm</b>	<b>“A Closing Perspective” MARY KISSEL</b> , <i>Wall Street Journal</i> editorial board
<b>Friday Keynote Dinner on the Mountaintop</b> (Thunderhead Summit of Steamboat Ski Area)	
<b>6:00 - 6:30 pm</b>	Private reception for major sponsors with <b>CARLY FIORINA</b> (location will be provided to sponsors)
<b>6:30 - 7:30 pm</b>	VIP/Sponsor Reception and Photo Opp with <b>CARLY FIORINA</b> on outdoor deck at Thunderhead Summit of Steamboat Ski Area
<b>7:30 - 9:30 pm</b>	Dinner in Champagne Powder Room, <b>featuring keynote speaker</b> <b>CARLY FIORINA</b> <b>Special Presentation</b> to Award: 3rd Annual <b>“Tony Blankley Chair for Public Policy and American Exceptionalism”</b> Entertainment during dinner provided by String Quartet from Steamboat Symphony Orchestra

**8:00 - 9:00 am**

Festival Tent Registration  
Wristbands available for pre-registered attendees; on-site registration available.

**\*\*\*Idea Hackathon Board is open! Sign up and select your topic\*\*\***

**9:00 - 11:00 am**

**“First Principles” seminar** featuring **DR. MATT SPALDING**, Associate Vice President and Dean of Educational Programs, Hillsdale College:

**How can we get America back on course?** Join best-selling author Dr. Matt Spalding for an inspiring and thought-provoking discussion. Dr. Spalding is the author of the best-selling book, *We Still Hold These Truths: Rediscovering Our Principles, Reclaiming Our Future*, and is the Executive Editor of *The Heritage Guide to the Constitution*.

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Networking & Lunch on your own (**Festival attendees**)

Those who are registered for the **Full Conference** will proceed to the Steamboat Grand for the opening luncheon featuring Senator Ben Sasse.

**1:00 - 1:45 pm**

Remarks by **U.S. SENATOR BEN SASSE (NE)**, followed by meet & greet with Senator Sasse

**1:45 - 2:00 pm**

**NETWORKING BREAK**

**2:00 - 2:30 pm**

**“The PC Culture and Free Speech on Campus”** – a discussion with **JILLIAN MELCHIOR**, Political Editor of *Heat Street* and Tony Blankley Fellow with the Steamboat Institute

**2:30 - 3:30 pm**

**“Socialism vs Capitalism: Why do so many millennials ‘feel the Bern’?”** featuring **DR. YARON BROOK**, Executive Director of the Ayn Rand Institute

**3:30 - 3:45 pm**

**NETWORKING BREAK**

**3:45 - 4:30 pm**

**“The Art and Science of GOTV”** featuring **NED RYUN**, Founder and CEO of American Majority

American Majority is helping put in place the nation's new, conservative grassroots political infrastructure. American Majority uses cutting-edge training and technology to empower individuals and groups with the most effective tools for promoting liberty through limited government.

**4:30 - 5:15 pm**

**“In Technology We Trust: A New Narrative for Liberty”** featuring **AARON GINN**, co-founder of Lincoln Initiative

Uber and Airbnb have told liberty's narrative better than any think-tank, politician or pundit. Tech companies, arguably, have made more progress in reducing the size of government than most policy makers. If we truly believe that the private sector can do the job better than the government, then let's stand back and see what technology can do.

**5:30 pm**

Happy Hour on Yampa Street!

<b>8:00 am</b>	Breakfast Buffet Opens
<b>8:15 - 8:30 am</b>	Announcements, including Leadership Program of the Rockies
<b>8:30 - 9:30 am</b>	<b>Keynote breakfast speaker: YARON BROOK</b> – Ayn Rand Institute; author of <i>Equal is Unfair: America's Misguided Fight Against Income Inequality</i> (followed by author book-signing)
<b>9:30 - 9:45 am</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>9:45 - 11:00 am</b>	<p><b>“Field of Fight: How We Can Win the Global War Against Radical Islam and Its Allies” featuring:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LT. GEN. MICHAEL T. FLYNN</b>, former head of Defense Intelligence Agency</li> <li>• <b>MICHAEL LEDEEN</b>, Foundation for Defense of Democracies</li> <li>• <b>Moderator: MARY KISSEL</b> of <i>Wall Street Journal</i> editorial board</li> </ul>
<b>11:00 am - 12:00 pm</b>	<p><b>“The PC Culture and Free Speech on Campus”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EVERETT PIPER</b>, President of Oklahoma Wesleyan University</li> <li>• <b>CHARLIE KIRK</b>, Founder/Executive Director of Turning Point USA</li> <li>• <b>MARCUS FOTENOS</b>, CU Student Government President of External Affairs</li> <li>• <b>Moderator: JILLIAN MELCHIOR</b>, Political Editor of <i>Heat Street</i>; Tony Blankley Fellow with the Steamboat Institute</li> </ul>
<b>12:00 - 12:30 pm</b>	<p><b>GUESTS PROCEED THROUGH LUNCH BUFFET</b> Lt. Gen. Flynn and Michael Ledeen will sign copies of their book, <i>“Field of Fight”</i></p>
<b>12:30 - 2:00 pm</b>	<p>Closing Luncheon:- <b>Presentation of 1st prize to Idea Hackathon winner and 5-minute presentation by winner</b></p> <p><b>Presentation of “Courage in Education”</b> Award to Bruce D. Benson, President of the University of Colorado</p> <p><b>Keynote Luncheon Speaker: “American Renewal: The Case for Reclaiming Our Future”</b> featuring <b>MATTHEW SPALDING, PH.D.</b>, Associate Vice President and Dean of Educational Programs – Hillsdale College</p>
<b>2:00 - 4:00 pm</b>	<b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b>
<b>4:00 - 5:00 pm</b>	Leadership Program of the Rockies – Recruitment Party ( <b>Freedom Festival Tent</b> )
<b>5:00 - 7:00 pm</b>	<p><b>Coyote Gold Margarita Party and Concert, featuring “Mud Puppy”</b> Gondola Plaza at base of Steamboat Ski Area</p> <p>Show your Freedom Conference name badge or your Freedom Festival wristband and ID for complimentary margaritas, courtesy of Coyote Gold. The Sheraton’s outdoor umbrella bar will also be open for additional food/drink purchases.</p> <p><b>“Mud Puppy” live on the Steamboat Stage at Gondola Plaza!</b></p>

# Festival Tent

## Saturday, August 27

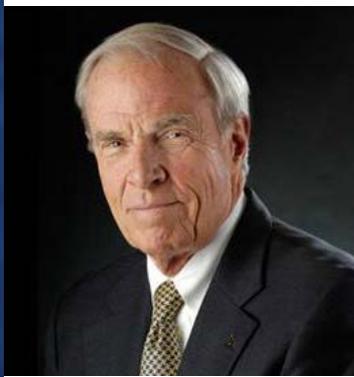
<b>9:00 - 10:00 am</b>	<b>Organizing on Campus - how to start a student movement for free markets, limited government and free speech on your campus</b> featuring <b>CHARLIE KIRK</b> , Founder and Executive Director of Turning Point USA, and <b>MARCUS FOTENOS</b> , CU Student Government President of External Affairs
<b>10:00 - 11:30 am</b>	<b>Freedom Inspired Idea Hackathon:</b> Each participant (individual or team) makes a 5-minute pitch for their idea to solve the problem they selected, followed by 5 minutes of Q&A from our celebrity panel of judges. Our judges – and the audience – will choose the winner.
<b>11:30 - 12:00 noon</b>	Judges deliberate and announce Hackathon winners by 12:00 Noon.*
<b>12:00 - 4:00 pm</b>	Optional Group Activities (hiking, mountain biking, golf or other)
<b>4:00 - 5:00 pm</b>	Leadership Program of the Rockies – Recruitment Party
<b>5:00 - 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Coyote Gold Margarita Party and Concert, featuring “Mud Puppy”</b> Gondola Plaza at base of Steamboat Ski Area  Show your Freedom Conference name badge or your Freedom Festival wristband and ID for complimentary margaritas, courtesy of Coyote Gold. The Sheraton’s outdoor umbrella bar will also be open for additional food/drink purchases.  <b>“Mud Puppy” live on the Steamboat Stage at Gondola Plaza!</b>

**IDEA HACKATHON**  
**2016 FREEDOM  
INSPIRED**

\*The top 3 Idea Hackathon participants will be invited to join the full conference in the ballroom at the Steamboat Grand for the closing luncheon, beginning at 12:30pm. The overall winner will make his/her 5-minute pitch to the audience in the ballroom and will be presented with the 1st prize check of \$500. The 2nd and 3rd place winners will also be presented with their prizes of cash or merchandise.

In recognition of his courage and leadership in promoting intellectual diversity on the CU-Boulder campus and in advancing conservative thought and policy, we are proud to present this award for

## *Courage in Education* TO



**Bruce D. Benson**

*President, University of Colorado*

The Steamboat Institute is proud to partner with CU by co-sponsoring speaker seminars on the Boulder campus and in Steamboat Springs, in conjunction with CU's Conservative Thought & Policy Program. This speaker series offers students and members of the Boulder and Steamboat Springs communities with an outstanding opportunity to meet and interact with the nation's leading experts on topics ranging from free market capitalism to Supreme Court appointments.

It is because of President Benson's leadership that the culture on the Boulder campus has evolved to welcome intellectual diversity and the free and robust exchange of ideas.

### **ABOUT BRUCE BENSON**

Bruce D. Benson became President of the University of Colorado in March 2008. Since taking the helm of his alma mater, Benson has enhanced CU's standing as one of the nation's leading public universities, advancing the economy, health and culture of Colorado and beyond. He is the longest-serving CU President in more than half a century.

During Benson's tenure, CU's research funding has reached record levels (including the most recent, \$878.3 million on 2014-15), supporting CU's research strengths in biotechnology, health care, energy, and aerospace engineering, among others.

Benson and his wife, Marcy, chaired CU's \$1.5 billion Creating Futures fundraising campaign, which exceeded its goal in November 2013. The campaign, the largest in university history, supports scholarships, academic enhancements (endowed faculty positions, programs), research projects and capital improvements across CU's campuses.

Benson oversees a system with four campuses (Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver, and Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora) where some 67,500 students pursue courses for credit. During his tenure, CU's four campuses have seen record enrollment. The university's annual budget is \$3.82 billion.

Before becoming CU's president, Benson had already made his mark in business, politics, philanthropy, education and civic endeavors. He founded Benson Mineral Group in 1965, a year after earning his bachelor's degree in Geology from CU. Throughout his business career, he has also been involved in banking, real estate, cable television and restaurants.

Benson was the Republican nominee for Colorado governor in 1994. He has received many honors recognizing his leadership in a variety of endeavors, but two are particularly notable: CU in 2004 granted him an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, and in February 2009, he was named to the Colorado Business Hall of Fame.

# Thank You **TO OUR SPONSORS**

## \$25,000 TITLE SPONSORS

Virginia & Richard Srednicki | Sagouspe Enterprises

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*"A CALL TO UNLEASH AMERICAN PROSPERITY"*

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## **The Steamboat Institute gratefully acknowledges the support of these foundations in carrying out our mission:**

**Adolph Coors Foundation  
The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation  
Diana Davis Spencer Foundation  
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Strake Foundation**

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## **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

**Accent Travel/Connie Sansom-Mott**

**Rick Akin, Allen Fuller & Caroline Stout – audio/visual/music programming**

**Jeanie & Rod Durham – Head Volunteers**

**Freedom Festival & Hackathon Committee:  
Greg Pulscher, Stephanie Muth, Kelly Maher, Krista Kafer and Danielle Brockman**



**And all of our amazing volunteers!**

# PANEL & SPEAKER *Bios*



## **Dr. Yaron Brook**

*Executive Director of Ayn Rand Institute*

Dr. Brook is the executive director of the Ayn Rand Institute. He is co-author, with Don Watkins, of the national best-seller *Free Market Revolution: How Ayn Rand's Ideas Can End Big Government*, and a new book, *Equal Is Unfair: America's Misguided Fight Against Income Inequality*.

He was a columnist at Forbes.com, and his articles have been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Investor's Business Daily* and many other publications. He is a frequent guest on national radio and television programs and is a contributing author to *Neoconservatism: An Obituary for an Idea*; *Winning the Unwinnable War: America's Self-Crippled Response to Islamic Totalitarianism*; and *Big Tent: The Story of the Conservative Revolution — As Told by the Thinkers and Doers Who Made It Happen*. He was also a recent guest on the Dave Rubin

show which has garnered over 68,000 views on YouTube. He is an internationally sought-after speaker and debater.

He is the host of his own radio shows: *The Yaron Brook Show*, a live BlogTalkRadio podcast airing Saturdays from 12:30 pm to 2 pm MT, as well as host of *The Yaron Brook Show* on AM560 Chicago, which can be livestreamed from iHeartRadio, also airing Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm MT.

Dr. Brook was born and raised in Israel. In 1987 he moved to the United States where he received his MBA and PhD in finance from the University of Texas at Austin; he became an American citizen in 2003. For seven years he was an award-winning finance professor at Santa Clara University, and in 1998 he co-founded BH Equity Research, a private equity and hedge fund manager, of which he is managing director and chairman.

Follow Yaron @yaronbrook on Twitter.



## **Lt. Gen. Michael T. Flynn**

*Former Director of Defense Intelligence Agency; Chairman and CEO of Flynn Intel Group*

General Flynn has over 33 years of service in our nation's military, culminating as the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and as the nation's highest serving military intelligence officer. His experience is broad and includes Intelligence, Counterintelligence, Security and Cyber.

As Director of DIA, General Flynn also served as the Commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) for the Department of Defense. As Assistant Director of National Intelligence for, he was responsible for International, Military, and Domestic Partner Development and Engagement. General Flynn also served as the Senior Special Operations Intelligence Officer in Iraq and twice as the Senior Intelligence Officer in Afghanistan, serving nearly five years in combat.

As Director of Intelligence for the Joint Special Operations Command under General Stanley McChrystal, he was credited with completely changing and then revolutionizing how intelligence supports operations, transforming a much needed shift in thinking about how U.S. special operations and more conventional intelligence and military forces could contribute to the defeat of Al Qaeda in Iraq.

In 2010, General Flynn co-authored and published the influential report, "Fixing Intel: A Blueprint for Making Intelligence Relevant in Afghanistan," that emphasized the importance of socio-cultural understanding for effective intelligence operations and has been a driven advocate for operations-intelligence fusion and greater

information and intelligence sharing between the military, law enforcement, intelligence, commercial, and international communities.

A Reserve Officer Training Program graduate and a University of Rhode Island alumnus, General Flynn began his career as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. He holds three master's degrees (an MBA in Telecommunications, a MMAS in the Military Arts and Sciences, and a Masters in National Security Studies), as well as two honorary doctorates (Laws from The Institute of World Politics and Human Letters from The University of Rhode Island), along with numerous other military, law enforcement, intelligence and international awards and honors.

The recipient of four bronze star medals, General Flynn has also received the U.S. Intelligence Community's Gold Seal Medallion, the Service to America Award from the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the U.S. Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service Award, and was the first non-Navy recipient of the distinguished RADM Edwin T. Layton Award.

He is a frequent commentator on numerous international and U.S. major media outlets, including *Fox News Sunday*, CNN's *Fareed Zakaria*, Al Jazeera's *Head to Head* and *The Charlie Rose show*, speaking out about issues of U.S. national security and foreign policy. General Flynn is an accomplished writer and has been published in numerous journals and other media outlets for his views on issues ranging from Intelligence Operations and procedures for interrogation operations, as well as op-eds on issues including ISIS and the Iranian Nuclear Deal. He has also been called upon to testify to Congress on numerous occasions on a variety of national security related matters.



**Marcus Fotenos**  
*CU-Boulder Student Government  
 President of External Affairs*

Marcus Fotenos is much like other typical college students and attends the University of Colorado- Boulder as a sophomore. He is on track to graduating with a degree in both Business Leadership Management and Entrepreneurship in addition to a minor in Political Science. Marcus was

recently elected as one of the student body presidents winning with large margins by running on a platform of putting students first. Since becoming president he has authored legislation concerning the Sexual Assault epidemic on college campuses and helps oversee a \$24 million budget. In addition to his current college endeavors, Marcus grew up working in the construction industry operating heavy equipment, played in the 2015 Colorado All-State Football game, and ran his own landscaping business.

Follow Marcus @mfotenos74 on Twitter.



**Aaron Ginn**  
*Co-founder of Lincoln Initiative*

Aaron Ginn is the cofounder and CPO of the Lincoln Initiative ([www.joinlincoln.org](http://www.joinlincoln.org)), the largest community of like-minded technologists that desires to advance liberty in the public square through the use of technology. Named by WIRED and Campaigns and Elections as a top political influencer,

his and his team's work was featured in NY Times, LA Times, Politico, TechCrunch, SF Chronicle, and WSJ. Before Lincoln, Ginn has worked in a multitude technology related positions including as the IT advisor for the City of Foster City, California, head of growth for StumbleUpon, head of product for Everlane, and as a growth hacker for Romney for President in 2012. Ginn graduated with both a BA and BS from Texas Christian University. Websites - [www.aginnt.com](http://www.aginnt.com) / [www.wwots.com](http://www.wwots.com)

Follow Aaron @aginnt on Twitter.



**Charlie Kirk**  
*Founder/Executive Director,  
 Turning Point USA*

Charlie Kirk is the Founder and Executive Director of Turning Point USA, a national student movement dedicated to identifying, organizing, and empowering young people to promote the principles of free markets, and limited government.

Since the inception of Turning Point USA

in June 2012, Charlie has grown Turning Point USA from nothing to having representation on over 1,100 high schools and college campuses nationwide and over 75 full time field staff. At 22 years old, he has appeared on Fox News, CNBC, and FOX Business News over 200 times including frequent appearances on "Your World with Neil Cavuto," and "Varney & Co." In addition to his entrepreneurial political endeavors, Charlie plays every type of Saxophone, was captain of his school's Varsity Basketball team, and is a proud Eagle Scout.

Follow Charlie @charliekirk11 on Twitter.

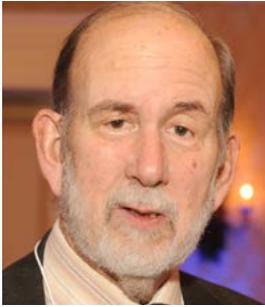


**Mary Kissel**  
*Wall Street Journal, Editorial Board*

Mary Kissel is a *Wall Street Journal* editorial board member, where she comments on politics and policy in the unsigned "Review & Outlook" column, and host of "Opinion Journal" on WSJ Video. She is a weekly co-host of the Journal's foreign policy podcast and

the nationally syndicated *John Batchelor Show*, a conservative news magazine. Ms. Kissel joined the *Wall Street Journal* in Hong Kong in 2004 as a financial columnist and served as Asia opinion editor from 2005 to 2010, directing the newspaper's commentary on more than 20 countries. Previously, she worked at Goldman Sachs in New York and London. Her work has appeared in the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *World Affairs* and the *Spectator Australia*. Ms. Kissel's radio and television credentials include Australian Broadcasting, CNN, Fox Business and Fox News. She holds a master's degree in international affairs from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and a bachelor's degree in government from Harvard College.

Follow Mary @marykissel on Twitter.



### **Dr. Michael Ledeen**

*Freedom Scholar, Foundation for Defense of Democracies*

Dr. Michael Ledeen is an internationally renowned scholar on Iran, Iraq, terrorism, and international security.

Dr. Ledeen has served as a consultant to the National Security Council, the State Department, and the Defense Department, and as a Special Advisor to the Secretary of State.

Dr. Ledeen holds a PhD in modern European history and philosophy from the University of Wisconsin, and has taught at Washington University in St. Louis and the University of Rome.

He is the author of more than 35 books, including *Field of Fight: How to Win the War Against Radical Islam and its Allies*, co-authored with General Michael T. Flynn (St. Martin's Press, 2016). His previous books include *Accomplice to Evil: Iran and the War Against the West*; *The War Against the Terror Masters*; *The Iranian Time Bomb*; *Tocqueville on American Character*; and *Freedom Betrayed: How America Led a Global Democratic Revolution, Won the Cold War, and Walked Away*.

Dr. Ledeen regularly appears on cable news and talk radio programs, blogs at *Forbes*, *The Hill*, and *PJ Media*, and contributes periodically to *The Wall Street Journal*.

Follow Michael @michaelledeen on Twitter.



### **Jillian Kay Melchior**

*Political Editor of Heat Street; Tony Blankley Fellow with the Steamboat Institute*

Jillian Kay Melchior is a Tony Blankley Senior Fellow for the Steamboat Institute. She works as political editor at Heat Street, where she does investigative reporting on politics, higher education, organized labor, government waste, fraud and abuse, and other topics. She is also a fellow at the Independent Women's Forum.

She has previously written for *National Review*, *the Franklin Center*, *The Daily*, *Commentary*, and the *Wall Street Journal Asia*, with freelance writings appearing in *Cosmopolitan*, *The Weekly Standard*, *Newsweek Japan*, the *New York Post* and other major publications. She was a 2011 Novak Fellow in China, and her foreign correspondence has also taken her to Iraq, Ukraine and elsewhere in Europe and Asia. She is a frequent television guest, recently appearing on Fox News, Fox Business, MSNBC and *Real Time with Bill Maher*.

She is a native of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and a graduate of Hillsdale College.

Follow Jillian @JillianKayM on Twitter.



### **Stephen Moore**

*Chief Economist, The Heritage Foundation; senior economic adviser to Donald Trump*

Stephen Moore, who formerly wrote on the economy and public policy for *The Wall Street Journal*, is the Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Project for Economic Growth, at The Heritage Foundation.

Moore, who also was a member of *The Journal's* editorial board, returned to Heritage in January 2014 — about 25 years after his tenure as the leading conservative think tank's Grover M. Hermann Fellow in Budgetary Affairs from 1984 to 1987.

As Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Heritage, Moore focuses on advancing public policies that increase the rate of economic growth to help the United States retain its position as the global economic superpower. He also works on budget, fiscal and monetary policy and showcases states that get fiscal houses in order.

"One of the projects I'm going to be working on is how President Obama has discredited liberal ideas more than anyone," Moore said in an interview with *The Foundry* upon his return to Heritage. "Everything he's done has been such a massive failure — from the [economic] stimulus to health-care reform to bailouts to green energy.

Moore's early career was shaped by three people who had a profound influence on him: Julian Simon, the late Cato Institute scholar; Edwin J. Feulner, a co-founder of Heritage; and Art Laffer,

the economist best known for the Laffer curve.

"What makes them so great is they were willing to take on the conventional wisdom. They were subject to a lot of criticism for doing that," Moore told *The Foundry*. "Those are the real change-makers."

Moore calls his creation of the Club for Growth the defining moment of his career. The organization, which he left in 2004, helps elect conservative members of Congress (including Heritage President Jim DeMint when he first ran for Senate).

Moore next founded the Free Enterprise Fund before joining *The Wall Street Journal*. As senior economics writer for the newspaper's editorial board, he covered Washington policy debates and state issues.

"Because I've been a consumer of think tank material and policy research, I think I have a pretty good sense of what reporters want and how to get it to them in the way they want it," Moore said. "Being timely — and not just offering opinion but giving them the facts and data is really critical."

Moore, who grew up in New Trier Township, Ill., received a bachelor of arts degree from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He holds a master's of arts in economics from George Mason University.

Follow Stephen @StephenMoore on Twitter.



**Everett Piper**  
*President, Oklahoma Wesleyan University*

In his 14 years as president of Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Dr. Everett Piper has become known for his passionate defense of intellectual freedom. He advocates tirelessly for cultural courage grounded in the conservation of time-

tested truths. Dr. Piper is the author *Why I Am a Liberal, and Other Conservative Ideas*. His op-eds have been featured in multiple news outlets across the nation including FOX News, *The Blaze*, *Tulsa World*, *The Daily Oklahoman*, *The Washington Times* and more. Dr. Piper is a regular guest on Tulsa's *Pat Campbell Show*, the *Sam Sorbo Show* in Los Angeles, the *Mark Halvorsen Show* in Eau Claire Wisconsin, and Wall Builders radio with David Barton. Most recently, he was interviewed on Fox News's *O'Reilly Factor*, *NBC Today*, *FOX and Friends*, the *Glenn Beck Show*, and *Stuart Varney and Company*.

In 2016 Piper received the Jeanne Kirkpatrick Award for Academic Freedom from the American Conservative Union and the Conservative Political Action Committee (CPAC) in Washington DC.

Dr. Piper received a B.A. from Spring Arbor University, a M.A. from Bowling Green State University, and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. He has also completed studies at the Oxford Center for Christian Apologetics in Oxford, England.

Follow Everett @dreverettpiper on Twitter.



**Andy Puzder**  
*CEO, CKE Restaurants, Inc.*

Andy Puzder is chief executive officer of CKE Restaurants Holdings, Inc., parent company of Carl's Jr. and Hardee's. Puzder joined CKE in 1997 as executive vice president and general counsel. He is broadly credited with resurrecting Hardee's and turning CKE from a heavily

indebted company with declining profits and sales to a profitable, stable and growing company. Prior to joining CKE, Puzder served as executive vice president, general counsel for Fidelity National Financial, Inc. and chief executive officer of Santa Barbara Restaurant Group, Inc. He was formerly a partner with the law firm Stradling, Yocca, Carlson & Rauth. Puzder received his undergraduate degree from Cleveland State University and his juris doctorate in 1978 from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. He is co-author of the book, "Job Creation: How It Really Works and Why Government Doesn't Understand It." Puzder is a frequent author and commentator on economic, political and legal issues in influential outlets including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Real Clear Politics*, *Bloomberg*, *Investor's Business Daily*, *Orange County Register*, *Forbes*, *POLITICO*, *The Hill*, *CNBC*, *Fox News*, *Fox Business* and others.

Follow Andy @AndyPuzder on Twitter.



**Ned Ryun**  
*Founder and CEO of American Majority*

Ned Ryun is a grassroots and conservative activism expert. He is the founder and CEO of American Majority, a non-partisan political training institute whose mission is to identify and mold the next wave of liberty-minded candidates, grassroots activists and community leaders. Since its

founding in January of 2008, while under Ryun's leadership, American Majority has trained over 36,000 candidates activists and in September will celebrate their 1,000 in-person training as part of an unprecedented national effort to recruit new community leaders.

A former writer for President George W. Bush and the son of former Olympic medalist and U.S. Rep. Jim Ryun (R-KS), Ned Ryun is highly sought after for his commentary on Tea Party politics, the national political scene, grassroots engagement and the conservative movement in general. Ryun has appeared on Fox News' "The O'Reilly

Factor," "Hannity," "Special Report with Bret Baier," "Your World with Neil Cavuto," "Fox & Friends," ABC's "World News Tonight" and has been quoted in numerous print publications including *Time Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *Politico*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Washington Times*. He also writes a monthly column for *The American Spectator*.

Prior to launching American Majority, Ryun founded and directed Generation Joshua, a civics education program for middle and high school students that reached a membership of nearly 10,000. Ryun graduated with Highest Distinction (summa cum laude) from the University of Kansas with degrees in English and History. Together with his father and twin brother, Drew, he also authored *Heroes Among Us* and *The Courage to Run*.

Ned Ryun resides in Purcellville, Virginia, with his wife and four children.

Follow Ned @nedryun on Twitter.



**U.S. Senator Ben Sasse**  
(Nebraska)

Ben Sasse is a United States Senator, representing the great state of Nebraska.

He was elected in a 2014 landslide, winning each of Nebraska's 93 counties, and securing the second-largest margin for a new senator in the history of the state. Living off of a rickety old

campaign bus, he and his family campaigned tirelessly on a common-sense platform of restoring the Constitution to its rightful place and encouraging a more constructive politics where every public official works to make the American Dream achievable for every family. He believes in term limits and a humbler Washington, where the federal government does fewer things, but the more important things, more urgently, more transparently, and with less partisan screaming. Healthy lives are lived primarily in the private sector, and the vast majority of good policy is created at the state and local level—and Washington should get better at talking honestly about these essential American realities.

A fifth-generation Nebraskan, Ben grew up walking beans and detasseling corn, experiences that taught him the value of hard work. A graduate of Fremont High School, he was recruited to wrestle at Harvard

and then earned a PhD in American history at Yale. Ben comes to the Senate having spent the last five years as a college president. When he was recruited to take over the failing Midland University, Ben was just 37 years old, making him one of the youngest college presidents in the nation. The 130-year-old Lutheran college was on the verge of bankruptcy when he arrived, but became one of the fastest-growing higher education institutions in the country by the time of his departure.

Most of his career has been spent guiding companies and institutions through times of crisis with straight talk about the core issues. He has worked with the Boston Consulting Group and McKinsey and Company, as well as private equity firms and not-for-profit organizations, to tackle failing strategies across a broad array of sectors and nations.

Ben believes that we have a moral obligation to pass along a country as great and free and opportunity-filled to the next generation as we were blessed to inherit from our grandparents. This will require a more serious Congress, committed to reforming entitlements, telling the truth about fake federal budgets, modernizing national security for the age of global terror networks, and helping the next generation recover a sense of optimism about the American Dream for everyone of every race in every neighborhood.

Follow Ben @SenSasse and @BenSasse on Twitter.



**Amity Shlaes**

*Author of four New York Times bestsellers, including The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression*

Amity Shlaes is the author of four New York Times bestsellers, *The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression*; *The Forgotten Man: Graphic*, a full length illustrated version of the same book drawn by Paul Rivoche; *Coolidge*, a full-length biography of the

thirtieth president; and *The Greedy Hand: How Taxes Drive Americans Crazy*. *National Review* called the *Forgotten Man* "the finest history of the Great Depression ever written." *The Economist* wrote of *Coolidge* that the book "deserves to be widely read" and made it an editor's choice for 2013. *The Forgotten Man: Graphic* reached the number 1 spot in its bestseller category. Miss Shlaes is under contract to write "The Silent Majority," a third volume on the twentieth century.

Miss Shlaes chairs the board of the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation, a national foundation based in the birthplace of President Coolidge. The Foundation's goal is to share Coolidge with Americans, by hosting high school debate and events at the Coolidge site and through newer media. She is especially interested in education.

Miss Shlaes is winner of the Hayek Prize and currently chairs the jury for the prize, sponsored by the Manhattan Institute. She has twice been a finalist for the Loeb Prize in commentary. In 2002 she was co-

winner of the Frederic Bastiat Prize, an international prize for writing on political economy, and later chaired the jury for that prize. In 2003, she was JP Morgan Fellow for finance and economy at the American Academy in Berlin. In 2004, she gave the Bradley lecture at the American Enterprise Institute. Her lecture, titled "The Chicken versus the Eagle" looked at the effect of the National Recovery Administration on the entrepreneur in the New Deal. Over the years she has served at the Council on Foreign Relations (as senior fellow in economic history) and the George W. Bush Presidential Center, where she was one of four directors, working on economic programs.

Miss Shlaes serves as Presidential Scholar at the King's College, where she teaches Coolidge. Prior to teaching at King's, Miss Shlaes taught at New York University's Stern School of Business.

Many readers know Miss Shlaes from the *Wall Street Journal*, where she served on the editorial board, writing on foreign policy, taxation and other topics, or from the *Financial Times* and *Bloomberg*, each of which carried her syndicated column over the years. Currently Miss Shlaes appears in print *Forbes* and in *National Review*. A *magna cum laude* graduate of Yale College, Miss Shlaes is married to fellow journalist and editor Seth Lipsky. The Lipskys have four children.

Follow Amity @AmityShlaes on Twitter.



**Dr. Matthew Spalding**

*Associate VP and Dean of Education Programs – Hillsdale College*

Matthew Spalding is Associate Vice President and Dean of Educational Programs for Hillsdale College in Washington, D.C. As such he oversees the operations of the Kirby Center and the various academic and educational programs of Hillsdale in the nation's capital.

He is the best-selling author of *We Still Hold These Truths: Rediscovering Our Principles, Reclaiming Our Future*, which details America's core principles, shows how they have come under assault by modern progressive-liberalism and lays out a strategy to recover them. Spalding also is executive editor of *The Heritage Guide to the Constitution*, a line-by-line analysis of each clause of the U.S. Constitution. His other books include *A Sacred Union of Citizens: Washington's Farewell Address and the American Character*; *Patriot*

*Sage: George Washington and the American Political Tradition*; and *The Founders' Almanac: A Practical Guide to the Notable Events, Greatest Leaders & Most Eloquent Words of the American Founding*.

Prior to joining Hillsdale, Dr. Spalding was Vice President of American Studies at The Heritage Foundation and founding director of its B. Kenneth Simon Center for Principles and Politics. He continues at Heritage as the Henry Salvatori Visiting Fellow, and is also a Senior Fellow at the Claremont Institute for the Study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy. He received his B.A. from Claremont McKenna College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in government from the Claremont Graduate School. In addition to teaching at Hillsdale, he has taught at George Mason University, the Catholic University of America and Claremont McKenna College.

He and his wife Elizabeth, a 1988 Hillsdale alumna, currently reside with their two children in Arlington, Virginia.



**James Taranto**

*Wall Street Journal*

James Taranto is editor of OpinionJournal.com and author of its popular *Best of the Web Today* column. In August 2007 he was named a member of The Wall Street Journal's editorial board.

Before the launch of the Web site in 2000, he was the Journal's deputy editorial features editor. He joined the Journal in 1996 as an

assistant editorial features editor after spending five years as an editor at City Journal, the Manhattan Institute's quarterly of urban public policy. He has also worked for the Heritage Foundation, United Press International, *Reason* magazine and KNX News Radio in Los Angeles. He is co-editor of "*Presidential Leadership: Rating the Best and the Worst in the White House*" (Wall Street Journal Books, 2004). He attended California State University, Northridge.

Follow James @jamestaranto on Twitter.



## Ted Trimpa

*President of Trimpa Group*

Ted Trimpa is the Principal and CEO of Trimpa Group, a national political consulting and government relations firm that specializes in progressive public policy advocacy and political strategy. Trimpa Group develops cutting-edge public policy strategies at the state and federal levels. Trimpa also serves as a

board member for numerous organizations, including the Democracy Alliance, ProgressNow, Third Way, and Tectonic Theater Project.

Trimpa is one of the country's most sought-after advocates resulting from his deep understanding of the national and multi-state public policy, political, and nonprofit landscape. Called "Colorado's answer to Karl Rove" by *The Atlantic*, Trimpa is a nationally recognized Democratic strategist and operative. He is considered a key architect of the political infrastructure that facilitated the Democratic Party's resurgence in Colorado after decades of Republican dominance—a turnaround so dramatic *National Review* dubbed it the "Colorado miracle." Campaigns & Elections recently named him one of the top five Democratic political players in the state.

Trimpa brings more than a decade of government relations and political consulting experience with a proven record of results. Known as a shrewd negotiator who finds common ground, Trimpa successfully

brokered a détente between business and labor in 2008, under which both sides agreed to withdraw proposed ballot initiatives that would have had negative effects on Colorado workers and the business community. In 2010, he brought together environmentalists and natural gas companies to pass landmark legislation that established health-based emission standards for power plants—making Colorado the first state in the country to do so.

In addition to his work in Colorado, Trimpa is a nationally recognized thought leader and a leading advisor to progressive donors and foundations. He is also a visionary within the gay rights movement and considered an early pioneer in advocating for political strategies focused at the state level. He has been recognized in national publications, including *The Weekly Standard*, *The Atlantic*, *National Review*, and *The Advocate*, for his central role in designing cutting-edge public policy strategies.

Trimpa was raised on a small family farm in southwestern Kansas and got his start in politics by working for U.S. Senator Nancy Kassebaum. Prior to forming Trimpa Group, Ted was a shareholder at both Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck and Hogan Lovells where he was responsible for matters before the Colorado General Assembly and had a multi-state public policy practice.

Follow Ted @TedTrimpa on Twitter.

# STEAMBOAT INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES

*Winner of Third Annual*

## TONY BLANKLEY CHAIR FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM



### HADLEY HEATH MANNING

Steamboat Springs, CO, August 4, 2016 – Jennifer Schubert-Akin, Chairman and CEO of the Steamboat Institute, announced today that Hadley Heath Manning is the 2016-17 Tony Blankley Chair for Public Policy and American Exceptionalism. “At the young age of 28, Hadley has established a national reputation as an excellent communicator on health care policy issues,” Schubert-Akin explained. “Like Tony Blankley, Hadley has a passion for clearly articulating free-market solutions for the proper role of government and what it means for citizens to re-assert their sovereignty and independence. We are proud to support the work of this outstanding young leader.”

“It is an incredible honor to be selected as the next Tony Blankley Chair,” said Hadley Heath Manning, senior policy analyst and director of health policy at the Independent Women’s Forum. “I have long admired the Steamboat Institute, and I look forward to working with this esteemed organization dedicated to America’s founding ideas and our continued national prosperity. I will strive to honor Tony Blankley’s name and legacy; he was the best kind of champion for conservatism, always communicating effectively and with wit and good cheer. I’m very thankful for this opportunity and can’t wait to get started.”

Manning will receive a \$10,000 stipend, as well as support for travel, speaking engagements and investigative reporting trips. She will be honored at a dinner as part of the Steamboat Institute’s 8th Annual Freedom Conference & Festival in Steamboat Springs, CO on August 26, 2016.

“Hadley will be a strong and committed Fellow who will work hard to advocate for the Steamboat Institute principles that Tony wrote and spoke about so forcefully and eloquently,” said Lynda Davis, widow of Tony Blankley.

The Selection Committee for the Tony Blankley Chair includes:

- Ed Meese – 75th Attorney General of the United States
- Lynda Davis, Ph.D. – widow of Tony Blankley
- Steve Hofman – Consultant; former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Labor
- Mary Kissel – *Wall Street Journal* editorial board
- Lauren Maddox – Principal, Podesta Group; former Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
- Thomas P. McDevitt – Chairman, Board of Directors – *The Washington Times*
- John O’Sullivan – British commentator and former speechwriter for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher; Senior Fellow with *National Review*
- John Roberts – author and TV producer for The McLaughlin Group (on which Tom Rogan is a panelist and on which Tony Blankley was a panelist for many years)
- Tom Rogan – Senior Blankley Fellow and columnist for *National Review*

“Reviewing the tremendous group of emerging thought leaders this year was really inspirational,” said Tom McDevitt, chairman of the board of directors, *The Washington Times*. “These are the times in which efforts like those of the Steamboat Institute make a vital contribution in shoring up the willpower to overcome the myriad challenges we face in America.”

In addition to naming Hadley Heath Manning as the 2016-17 Chair, the Steamboat Institute is announcing that previous Chairs Jillian Melchior and Tom Rogan will continue to work with the Steamboat Institute as Senior Fellows.

“In recognition of the outstanding contributions of Tom Rogan and Jillian Melchior, we are continuing our collaboration with each of them as Senior Fellows. We will be establishing a nationwide Tony Blankley Fellows Lecture Series and will also provide support for their investigative reporting on matters of national and global interest,” said Schubert-Akin.

“Tom and Jillian’s leadership as our first two Tony Blankley Chairs set this program on a great path,” Schubert-Akin said. “As the trailblazers for this endeavor, we wanted to honor their contributions by naming them as our Senior Fellows.”

## ABOUT HADLEY HEATH MANNING

Hadley Heath Manning is a senior policy analyst and director of health policy at the Independent Women's Forum. She frequently comments on health care, entitlements and economic policy, and manages IWF's health policy projects and publications. Manning appears frequently in radio and TV outlets across the country, including Fox Business' *Stossel Show* and Fox News' *Your World with Neil Cavuto*. Her work has been featured in publications including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *POLITICO*, *Roll Call*, *Real Clear Policy*, *National Review Online* and *Huffington Post*. In 2016, Manning was named to *Forbes*' 30 Under 30 list in Law and Policy. In 2015, the Republican National Committee honored her as a Rising Star, and in 2014, she was named to the Red Alert Politics 30 Under 30 list. She has also completed the National Review Institute's Washington Fellowship, class of 2012-2013. Manning graduated with distinction from the University of North Carolina in 2010 as a Morehead-Cain Scholar with a double major in economics and journalism.

Follow Hadley @HadleyHeath on Twitter.

## ABOUT JILLIAN MELCHIOR

Jillian Kay Melchior, political editor at Heat Street, is a fellow for the Steamboat Institute and Independent Women's Forum. She does investigative reporting on domestic issues, including government waste, fraud and abuse, energy and environment issues, and organized labor. She has lived in China, reporting on Christianity and persecution, and has also done foreign correspondence in Iraq, Ukraine, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Eastern Europe and elsewhere.

She has worked as an investigative reporter for *National Review* and the Franklin Center, an editorial writer for *The Daily*, an online editor for *Commentary*, a Robert Novak fellow, and a Bartley Fellow at the *Wall Street Journal Asia*. Her writings have been published in *National Review*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The New York Post*, *The Weekly Standard*, *Commentary*, *TechCrunch*, *The Detroit News* and other publications. She is a graduate of Hillsdale College and a native of Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Follow Jillian on Twitter @JillianKayM

## ABOUT THE TONY BLANKLEY CHAIR FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM



The Tony Blankley Chair for Public Policy and American Exceptionalism was established by the Steamboat Institute to provide high-profile recognition and financial support to emerging conservative thought leaders who share the principles and ideals espoused by the late Tony Blankley and the Steamboat Institute. Those principles are lower taxes, limited government, free market capitalism, individual rights and responsibilities, and strong national defense.

Tony Blankley (1948-2012) was editorial page editor of *The Washington Times*. He served as press secretary for Newt Gingrich during his tenure as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in the 1990s. He was also a regular panelist on *The McLaughlin Group* and later served as Executive Vice President with Edelman public relations in Washington, D.C. Mr. Blankley served as Conference Moderator for the Steamboat Institute's first three Freedom Conferences (2009, 2010 and 2011).

## ABOUT TOM ROGAN

In 2014, Tom Rogan was the recipient of the inaugural Tony Blankley Chair for Public Policy and American Exceptionalism. In 2015, in recognition of Tom's outstanding contributions as the inaugural Blankley Chair, the Steamboat Institute extended Tom's fellowship, naming him "Senior Fellow."

Rogan is based in Washington, D.C., and is a columnist for both *National Review* and *Opportunity Lives*. He is a panelist on The McLaughlin Group and makes frequent appearances on various TV programs, including *The Greg Gutfeld Show*, *Real Time with Bill Maher*, Fox News, CNN, Newsmax TV, BBC News and many others. Rogan is an honors graduate of King's College of London (War Studies) and a graduate of the law program at The College of Law, London.

Follow Tom on Twitter at @TomRtweets

### A message from Tom Rogan



A big hello to you, attendees of the 8th annual Freedom Conference! I hope you're having a great time! Sadly, I'm not able to join you this year. However, I want to explain why your support of the Steamboat Institute is so crucial.

It's the future, stupid.

Put simply, young Americans need your conservative action. We need your action to prevent a future of perpetual deficits and insurmountable debt. We need your action to help push for a replacement of Obamacare – ending its punitive premiums against young people. Most of all, we need the Steamboat Institute to help rebuild a culture of personal responsibility, individual liberty, and small government.

Of course, this task isn't easy. Sustained by the media (take my word for it, media bias runs twice as deep as you assume!), by the false mystique of European socialism, and by the delusion that redistribution equals moral utopia, the left pretends that math doesn't matter. In turn, we have a responsibility to reality. We show our fellow citizens why big government increases unemployment and encourages soul-destroying dependency. We must illustrate – using facts - how socialism hurts the poor while fostering a kleptocracy of corrupt elites. And we must prove our sincerity by offering realistic conservative alternatives.

That was Tony Blankley's lifelong mission. Today, that mission inspires Jillian, Hadley and myself. And it's what the Freedom Conference is all about. I'm sorry I'm not with you today, but you have my deep gratitude.

My kindest regards,

Tom Rogan

# THE STEAMBOAT INSTITUTE *Board of Directors*



## JENNIFER L. SCHUBERT-AKIN – CHAIRMAN

Jennifer Schubert-Akin and her husband, Rick Akin, co-founded The Steamboat Institute in 2008. They have lived in beautiful Steamboat Springs, Colorado, since 1995. Jennifer is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and received her M.B.A. from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. Jennifer founded Marathon Accounting Services, LLC, in 1999, providing accounting and consulting services to a variety of small businesses and not-for-profit organizations. Beginning in 2014, Jennifer assumed a full-time role as Chairman and CEO of The Steamboat Institute.

Jennifer is a graduate of the Leadership Program of the Rockies and also served on that organization's Advisory Board for several years. In 2013, she and Rick received the "Leaders in Action" award from the Leadership Program of the Rockies. She is a member of the Advisory Council for Turning Point USA and the Advisory Board for Docs 4 Patient Care Foundation.

Jennifer was formerly Chairman of the Routt County Republican Central Committee and has also participated in many community activities in Steamboat Springs, including serving as Community Representative on the Steamboat Pilot & Today Editorial Board, Steamboat Marathon Committee, Tax Policy Advisory Board appointed by the Steamboat Springs City Council and many other activities. In her free time, Jennifer enjoys trail running with her 4-legged children, Boomer and Cruiser. She has completed 3 Leadville Trail 100-mile Races, the Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run and the last 22 consecutive Boston Marathons, raising \$93,000+ for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society along the way.



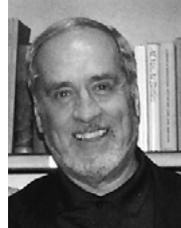
## RICK AKIN – VICE CHAIRMAN

Founding Member, The Akin Law Firm, LLC, Attorneys and Counselors, Denver, Austin, and Steamboat Springs

Jennifer's husband, Rick, is the Vice Chairman and a co-founder of The Steamboat Institute. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Letters Degree with

Highest Honors from the University of Oklahoma and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was a member of Order of the Coif and The Texas Law Review. Rick is currently an owner of The Akin Law Firm, LLC with offices in Austin, Texas; Denver, Colorado; and Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Rick began his career at Austin's largest law firm, Clark Thomas & Winters, where he was a shareholder and member of the management committee before moving to Steamboat Springs in 1995. Rick has also served as a member of the board of Directors of Marathon Kids, a non-profit corporation dedicated to exercise and healthy habits for school age

children. He is a former member of Steamboat Pilot & Today Editorial Board and the Routt County Airport Board and is a graduate of the Leadership Program of the Rockies. In 2013, Jennifer and Rick received the "Leader in Action" award from the Leadership Program of the Rockies. Rick enjoys fishing, canoeing, hiking, and climbing 14ers.



## GARY HOFMEISTER – TREASURER

Most people know Gary Hofmeister from Hofmeister Personal Jewelers which he founded 36 years ago and remains the C.E.O. Prior to entering the jewelry industry, he was a professional singer/actor, salesman and health administrator. Though he says he never had one conservative professor all the way through his undergraduate studies nor his graduate work at Purdue, he has been an active conservative most of his life and was the Republican nominee for U.S. Congress in 1998 for the 10th congressional district.

Gary's political beliefs also led him to teach Applied Economics for Junior Achievement in several high schools for 10 years. Taking it to another level in 1992, he began going to the former Soviet Union to share Democratic Capitalism and his experiences as an entrepreneur after the Berlin Wall fell. He made 18 such trips developing his own curricula and running seminars from one to three days in various cities. Most trips lasted about three weeks.

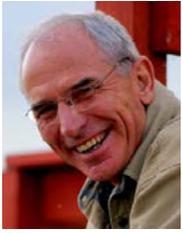
Gary also hosted a political talk show in 1990-91 called Talk of The City and another for WFYI from 2004-06 called Broadway Memories: Music and the Stars, drawing on his experiences as a Broadway singer.

He is married to JoAnne and together they share 20 grandchildren.



## ANNE A. LOWE

Anne and her husband Rich have lived part time in Steamboat Springs for more than a decade, and have been full time residents since 2007. Steamboat provides excellent recreational opportunities for the sports Anne enjoys such as skiing, hiking, biking and horseback riding. Born and raised in Salt Lake City, Anne earned a BS in Biology and later a BS in Pharmacy, both from the University of Utah. She later received her Pharmacy Doctorate (Pharm D) from the University of Colorado in 2006. Anne is a Clinical Pharmacist and Anticoagulation Specialist at Yampa Valley Medical Center in Steamboat Springs. Anne is a 2013 graduate of the Leadership Program of the Rockies. She and her husband have three grown children and two grandkids. Anne claims that becoming a grandma has been her motivation for involvement with The Steamboat Institute and LPR in the principled fight for liberty. She realizes that as Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction."



## THE HONORABLE BOB BEAUPREZ

Bob Beauprez is a Colorado native, buffalo rancher, author, former dairyman and Member of Congress.

Raised on a third generation dairy farm near Lafayette, he spent 20 years in partnership with his parents and brother marketing their animals across the globe. Following his dairy career, Bob purchased and managed a community bank growing assets from \$4 to over \$400 million in 12 years. He also managed the family's real estate development, creating a 1500 residential unit golf course community.

In 2002, Bob was elected as the first representative from Colorado's 7th Congressional District, and re-elected in 2004. While in Congress, he served on the Ways & Means, Transportation, and Veterans Committees. He was the Republican nominee for Governor in 2006 and 2014.

In 2007 Bob founded a public policy e-magazine, A Line of Sight. His work has been featured in National Review, The Washington Times, Townhall.com, RealClearPolitics, Politico, The Hill, The Daily Caller, The Denver Post, and numerous other publications. In 2009, Bob published his first book, A Return to Values: a Conservative looks at his Party, that has been applauded for his bold "Agenda for America," a strategic plan to reclaim the nation's greatness.

In addition to his writing, political, and other activities, Bob says his greatest enjoyment comes from Eagle's Wing Ranch, the buffalo breeding ranch in the northern Colorado Mountains he operates with Claudia, his wife of 44 years, and Jim and Julie Beauprez, their son and daughter-in-law. It's where he and Claudia love to spend time with their four children and four grandchildren and count their abundant blessings.



## ALLEN FULLER

With over a decade of experience blending marketing, design, technology, and politics, Allen Fuller currently leads the Principles That Matter project at The Centennial Institute, a Colorado-based think tank. During his career he has served as a legislative staffer in the US Senate

and a communications director in the US House, staffed numerous campaigns, advised Fortune 50 companies, led innovation as the chief operating officer of a tech startup, and founded Flat Creek – a digital agency with over 300 clients across 35 states and 3 continents.

In each role he has focused on weaving emerging technology with advocacy for the principles he believes in. Allen holds a masters degree in eCommerce from The University of Alabama and is a graduate of the Leadership Program of the Rockies where he received the 2013 Defender of the Declaration award. He resides in Boulder County, Colorado with his wife and two daughters. Connect with Allen on Twitter @allenfuller.



## RON LAZOF – SECRETARY

Ron is a Managing Director and Member of Prism Advisers, L.L.C. and Prism Advisors of Texas L.L.C. management advisory and consulting organizations focusing on emerging growth businesses (\$10MM to \$500MM in sales), founder of [www.IdeasforAmericans.com](http://www.IdeasforAmericans.com), a forum for the expression of current American issues and solutions, and an active investor.

He was previously President and C.E.O. of Behr Process Corporation, manufacturer of "Behr" paints and coatings. During his five year tenure at Behr he provided the leadership to grow sales from \$250 million to \$1 billion, while increasing profitability (dollars and percentage) in each year, and transformed the company from a privately held family business to a publicly held, multi-plant manufacturer and distributor of paints and coatings.

Prior to that he was for twenty-five years, the senior shareholder and founder of Lazof and Coss, attorneys, of Newport Beach, California with a practice limited to corporate, taxation and merger and acquisition representation. During the course of his legal practice he participated in over 300 acquisitions ranging in size from \$5MM to in excess of \$2B.

He graduated from California State University at Northridge with a B.S., in accounting cum laude, and from UCLA with a J.D., magna cum laude. He has also held licenses in California as a Certified Public Accountant, Real Estate Broker, and Life Agent.

Ron has served as a director of the Y.M.C.A., Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Laguna Art Museum, the U.C.I. Foundation, the U.C.L.A. Law Alumni Association, as well as several other boards of for profit and not for profit organizations, including the Lazof Family Foundation, Job Creators Alliance and Founding Circle and Member of the National Finance Committee of The George W. Bush Center. Ron frequently writes, speaks and comments on economic, financial and political affairs.

He is married to Chenza, has two children, five grandchildren, and lives in Dallas, Texas and Steamboat Springs, Colorado.



**JEAN PIERRE SAGOUSPE**

Jean Pierre Sagouspe is the third generation of a French Basque immigrant family. Originally, the family was in the sheep business but gradually moved into farming, primarily growing almonds and pistachios in the San Joaquin Valley of California. Jean is married with 2 children and

four grandchildren. All family members are involved in today's family farming business. Jean started his own farming business after high school, got married and finished college with an AA degree in Ag business, all the while making a living in the farming business.

Jean enjoys big game hunting and flyfishing with his friends and family at the fabulous Ghost Ranch located near Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Today, Jean and his family have a vertically integrated almond farm in California that includes growing, hulling and shelling, marketing and processing almonds for sale and delivery to consumers around the world. The Sagouspe family also has successful ranching and real estate ventures in the Steamboat Springs-Yampa Valley area of Northwest Colorado.

Jean has been and continues to be at the leading edge of developing economical water treatment facilities and hardware for the desalinization of brackish water for agricultural uses on farm. He is also a pioneer for on-farm solar generation to power all of the on-farm electricity needed to develop a self-contained, vertically integrated family farming operation.

Jean is a leader in promoting equitable and universal application of environmental laws. Under his leadership, the Center for Environmental Science, Accuracy & Reliability (CESAR) was formed. CESAR is a conservation group for the 21st century, with a focus on gathering the BEST SCIENCE to effectively protect the environment and the economy. CESAR works to ensure the fair, equitable and universal application of environmental laws, with the belief that no one – not even the government – should be exempt from the rules and regulations created by these laws.



**DR. MATTHEW SPALDING**

*Associate Vice President and Dean of Educational Programs — Hillsdale College*

Matthew Spalding is Associate Vice President and Dean of Educational Programs for Hillsdale College in Washington, D.C. As such he oversees

the operations of the Kirby Center and the various academic and educational programs of Hillsdale in the nation's capital.

He is the best-selling author of *We Still Hold These Truths: Rediscovering Our Principles, Reclaiming Our Future*, which details America's core principles, shows how they have come under assault by modern progressive-liberalism and lays out a strategy to recover them. Spalding also is executive editor of *The Heritage Guide to*

*the Constitution*, a line-by-line analysis of each clause of the U.S. Constitution. His other books include *A Sacred Union of Citizens: Washington's Farewell Address and the American Character*; *Patriot Sage: George Washington and the American Political Tradition*; and *The Founders' Almanac: A Practical Guide to the Notable Events, Greatest Leaders & Most Eloquent Words of the American Founding*.

Prior to joining Hillsdale, Dr. Spalding was Vice President of American Studies at The Heritage Foundation and founding director of its B. Kenneth Simon Center for Principles and Politics. He continues at Heritage as the Henry Salvatori Visiting Fellow, and is also a Senior Fellow at the Claremont Institute for the Study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy. He received his B.A. from Claremont McKenna College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in government from the Claremont Graduate School. In addition to teaching at Hillsdale, he has taught at George Mason University, the Catholic University of America and Claremont McKenna College.

He and his wife Elizabeth, a 1988 Hillsdale alumna, currently reside with their two children in Arlington, Virginia.



**CHERI CARSTEN (EX OFFICIO)**

Cheri Carsten is an active and enthusiastic volunteer for conservative causes and candidates in Colorado, and nationally. She is a native of Colorado and an avid horsewoman. She had a first career as a Non-Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Army serving in Asia, Europe and the

U.S. and then as a civilian with the Department of Defense in Germany and Washington DC with a specialty in Organizational Development. Cheri holds a degree in psychology from the University of Maryland. In her second career, Cheri was a senior Human Resources Management executive for several large corporations including Prudential and a subsidiary of Air Canada. Cheri is a graduate of the Leadership Program of the Rockies.

# THE STEAMBOAT INSTITUTE *National Advisory Board*

## **Kelsey Alexander**

*Unapologetic Capitalist from Castle Rock, Colorado; Graduate of Leadership Program of the Rockies*

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*Senior Fellow for National Security Affairs – Heritage Foundation*

## **Debra Burlingame**

*Attorney and expert on the threats of terrorism. Ms. Burlingame is the sister of Captain Charles F. “Chic” Burlingame, III, pilot of American Airlines flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.*

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*Author of Divider-in-Chief: The Fraud of Hope and Change; regular guest on Fox News, CNBC and radio shows; former Vice President of Young America's Foundation*

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*Executive Vice President and Director of Energy Policy Center – Independence Institute; Host of “The Amy Oliver Show” airing weekday mornings on 1310-AM KFKA (Greeley-Fort Collins, Colorado)*

## **Monica Owens Beauprez**

*Co-Founder of the WestBrooke Group, a consulting firm located in Denver, Colorado, which specializes in fundraising, event planning and public affairs for corporate, non-profit and political candidates*

## **Hal Scherz, M.D.**

*Founder of Docs 4 Patient Care; Pediatric Urologist in Atlanta*

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*Former Chief Economist – Deloitte, LLP*

## **Ginni Thomas**

*Special Correspondent for the Daily Caller; Founder of LibertyCentral.org*

## **Bill Thomson**

*Founder of Thomson Group LLC, a public affairs and government affairs advocacy organization in Cheyenne, WY; Past President of Wyoming Taxpayers Association; Member of Litigation Board of Mountain States Legal Foundation*

## **Grace-Marie Turner**

*Founder, President and Trustee, Galen Institute, Inc. – public policy research organization, promoting an informed debate over free-market ideas for health reform*

## **Evangeline Hidalgo-Vanderhyden**

*Certified Public Accountant and former Vice President and CFO, Medicare Division – Transamerica Corporation*

## **Michael J. Williams**

*Founder and President of ALTIUS Financial, Inc. – Denver, Colorado; Facilitator of “Defenders of Capitalism” program for Leadership Program of the Rockies*

# Meet Our Team



**JENNIFER SCHUBERT-AKIN, CEO**



**ANGELA S. LIEURANCE, SENIOR DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT**

Angela S. Lieurance connects people to get big things done. To that end, she is “the other half” of the consulting firm, Relentless Pursuits, which she co-created with Sharon Magness Blake with the goal of revolutionizing philanthropy. Their focus is on the not-for-profit world.

Angela was vice president of development and marketing at University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) for seven years before serving as chief of staff of University of Colorado Health from its inception in 2012.

Angela started her career at her alma mater, the University of Wisconsin, as an assistant director of development for the College of Letters and Science. She then moved on to the Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington, Indiana where she served as director of the school’s first-ever Capital Campaign and then assistant dean for development and alumni relations. After a decade at Indiana University, Angela became the assistant vice president for advancement, public relations and communications for Stony Brook University Hospital and Health Sciences Center.

A partial list of past and current clients include Denver 2016, Bob Beauprez for Governor, Adams County Food Bank, the Joseph Family Foundation and Urban Nights, Excelsior, the Parkinson Association of the Rockies, the Steamboat Institute and Global Down Syndrome Foundation.



**KELLY SEIM, SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR**

Shortly after graduating from the University of Colorado in 2004, Kelly returned to her alma mater to begin her career in event planning. With a certificate of Applied Business along with her Psychology Degree, Kelly was a perfect fit for the role of senior program manager for the University of Colorado Foundation.

In 2007, Kelly began her tenure as the Director of Special Events and External Groups for the Foundation. She then moved on to a Project Planner position with Encore Planning at MillerCoors.

Kelly handles all aspects of a program from site inspections and contract negotiations to program management and budget reconciliation. Most recently, Kelly managed the street team marketing for the Microsoft New Store Openings across the US, assisted in the day-to-day operation of the Lacrosse World Championship and coordinated the opening and closing ceremonies.



**ERICA ARGUELLO, SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR**

Erica has over 10 years of experience in creative event planning and hospitality management. She began her career working in hospitality and

tourism while living in San Diego and most recently worked for a Colorado based experiential marketing and event planning company specializing in incentive trips and special events.

She has worked with notable clients such as Jaguar, Land Rover and Yamaha, managing international events as well as many domestic programs. Erica delivers exceptional service to each client and demonstrates an unyielding passion for inspiring event planning.



**ANTONETTE DELAURO SMITH, MARKETING CONSULTANT**

Antonette DeLauro Smith is a branding, communications, marketing, public affairs and community relations specialist. Her work provides a broad foundation for corporate growth, business development and reputation management. Before starting her own consulting practice, Antonette held several senior marketing and communications roles including SVP Communications & PR at Sage Hospitality, Director – Marketing Programs at CH2M Hill and VP Corporate Marketing & Communications at First Data/Western Union.

Antonette earned a BA from The Colorado College and an MBA from the University of Denver – Daniels College of Business. She is a graduate of the Denver Metro Chamber’s Leadership Denver program, the Leadership Program of the Rockies, and she holds her Six Sigma green belt certification.



**AMANDA CORDSEN, GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

Amanda has a background in fine art and over 12 years of design and marketing experience ranging from agency work to directing in-house marketing and design departments. Her specialties are logo and brand work, print, web design, and illustration. She holds a bachelor’s of fine arts in design communication from Texas Tech University.

Recognition for Amanda’s creative work includes several Art Director’s Club of Denver awards; industry publication awards; a Gold Leaf Judge’s Choice award; and a Gold and Silver Addy.

To feed her other passions, Amanda has volunteered with the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Cherry Creek Arts Festival, Rocky Mountain Lab Rescue, and Safe Harbor Lab Rescue.



**ERICKA ANDERSEN, SENIOR DIGITAL CONSULTANT**

Ericka is a Senior Digital Consultant to the Steamboat Institute. She is currently the Digital Media Director at National Review and has a decade of experience in the digital and social media fields. Previously, she served as the Digital Media Manager at the Heritage Foundation and the Daily Signal.

She worked for Indiana Governor Mike Pence when he was the House Republican Conference Chairman, as Director of Online Media Outreach.

Ericka was also a Communications Director for Rep. Todd Rokita. She began her career as a political reporter with Human Events magazine.

She also writes a fitness and lifestyle blog, the Sweet Life, and can be seen running, CrossFitting or doing fitness videos on a daily basis! She currently lives in Indianapolis, Indiana with her husband and son.

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\_\_\_\_\_ \$25,000 will help to underwrite cost of Steamboat Institute's Winter Policy Summit (to be held in California – February 2017)

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