



Civil Courage News

Journal of the Civil Courage Prize

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For Steadfast Resistance to Evil at Great Personal Risk

Keynote Speaker Ambassador William J. Burns Reflects On The State of Civil Courage

The keynote speech at the Civil Courage Prize Ceremony was given by Ambassador William J. Burns, whose foreign service career included several tours in Russia. He called it "a particular honor to help celebrate the bravery and remarkable example of this year's Civil Courage Prize recipient." He said that he could think of "no one more deserving, and no one who better embodies the prize's ideal of "steadfast resistance to evil at great personal risk."

He went on to say that, "There has never been a moment when civil



Ambassador William J. Burns

courage, so brilliantly exemplified by Vladimir Kara-Murza, mattered more in our world than it does today...when democracies – including my own – are adrift and losing their way." He feels that civil courage is needed more than ever and "institutions which guard freedom and dignity are being hollowed out in too many ways in too many societies."

He also feels that we can not afford to give up on the Russia after Putin, one that is "intent upon realizing their full human potential and dignity." In the many years that he has represented the United States abroad, he has learned "that it is the power of our example,

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The 2018 Civil Courage Prize Winner Vladimir Kara-Murza Fights for Democracy in Russia

On October 18, 2018, Russian dissident Vladimir Kara-Murza was awarded the 2018 Civil Courage Prize.

In his acceptance speech, he paid homage to one of Russia's "greatest citizens," the Train Foundation's Founding Patron Alexandr Solzhenitsyn, whom he felt showed that, "even in the darkest times of despotism and oppression it is possible to keep one's dignity, to keep one's truth, to keep one's soul."

He acknowledged the influence of those who came before and how their actions helped pave the way for future democratic movements; people like Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya, a 2005 Civil Courage Prize laureate, "who took on the most sensitive and dangerous topics" and ultimately was gunned down; poet Natalia Gorbanevskaya, who, with her 3-month old son, went to Red Square to demonstrate and ended up spending years in a Soviet psychiatric institution as her punishment; and how privileged he was to have worked with Boris Nemtsov, Russia's former deputy prime minister, "who became the most clear, the

most prominent, the most effective voice in opposition to the corruption and abuses of Putin's regime." He was killed crossing a bridge in front of the Kremlin.



Vladimir Kara-Murza

Despite two attempts on his life, Kara-Murza has continued his courageous quest to help transform Russia into a free and democratic society. The people who have come before him are the heroes who have given him hope and optimism about the future of the Russian people, "...our country is blessed. Because in every era, however strong the oppression, however sweeping the censorship, you will always find people in Russia who are prepared to stand up for truth." He is self-effacing about his own efforts. "The award that I had the great honor of receiving tonight is presented for courage. I don't know if we are courageous. Stubborn, maybe – that certainly is a job requirement in what we do."

After his speech, he and Ambassador Sir Jeremy Greenstock sat down together for a discussion and addressed questions from the audience.

To read the speech in its entirety, go to www.civildcourageprize.org.

A Conversation Between Vladimir Kara-Murza and David Remnick

On October 16th, a discussion entitled *Beyond the Kremlin: The Pro-Democracy Movement and What The Russian People are Really Thinking*, was sponsored by the Train Foundation, The New School and PEN America. The event, held at The New School, paired Civil Courage Prize-winner Vladimir Kara-Murza with David Remnick, Pulitzer-prize-winning author (*Lenin's Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire*) and current Editor of *The New Yorker*. Dr. Nina Khrushcheva, Professor of International Affairs at The New School, provided opening remarks and then joined in a lively discourse that included Putin, politics, the state of the Russian dissident movement, and the effects of social media and the internet in Russia today. Kara-Murza expressed how heartening it is that young people, who have grown up only knowing Putin's government, are speaking out and protesting against it. The discussion brought up their concerns that Putin's strongman rule has not entirely closed the system, with Khrushcheva commenting on the idea that a partially open system is more dangerous, since it gives the illusion of freedom. At the end of the discussion, Kara-Murza and Remnick disagreed as to whether or not different American presidents handled Putin and Russian leaders in the same manner (with Remnick seeing a difference and Kara-Murza seeing that the substance is the same).

In a wry aside, Kara-Murza pointed out that at least here, they could disagree.

Keynote Speech by Ambassador Burns

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more than the power of our preaching, which can amplify all our other sources of military, economic, and political influence." Despite that, "we are rapidly corroding that image, the idea of America that has so often proven, despite all our imperfections and failings, to be one of our most potent sources of power."

His speech is on the Train Foundation website: www.civildcourageprize.org.

In Memoriam: Trustee Enid Schoettle

It is with great sadness that we report that long-time former Train Foundation Trustee Dr. Enid Curtis Bok Schoettle died last October.



Dr. Enid C. B. Schoettle

During her distinguished career, she taught political science at Swarthmore College and the University of Minnesota and later became a well-known international leader in the area of nuclear disarmament. She worked with governments and non-profits, including the Ford Foundation, the U.S. Government's National Intelligence Council and the United Nations. She was the recipient of the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, and served as a member of the Advisory Board of Women in International Security, the American Society of International Law and the Council on Foreign Relations.

She will be profoundly missed.

Recent News on Past Winners



Dr. Denis Mukwege

Congratulations to Dr. Denis Mukwege, the 2013 Civil Courage Prize winner from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who, along with Nadia Murad, a Yazidi woman from Iraq, has been awarded the 2018 Nobel

Peace Prize. Both have tirelessly worked to eliminate the use of sexual violence and mass rape as a weapon of war.

Dr. Mukwege, a gynecologist, practices medicine in eastern Congo, which U.N. officials have called the "rape capital of the world." In 1999, he founded the Panzi Hos-

pital, where he developed a model of treatment that emphasizes both physical care and justice, allowing survivors to process the physical, emotional and spiritual trauma of their experience. He has treated tens of thousands of women for rape and torture since opening the Hospital, campaigning relentlessly to bring attention to their plight.

Mukwege has received multiple threats on his life because of his continuing commitment to his work, and in 2012, he and his family survived an assassination attempt. According to the Nobel Committee, "His basic principle is that justice is everyone's business." He spoke about that years ago in *Democracy Now!* "We are here because we have hope, and we have hope that the world can listen."

For further information and updates on current and previous prizewinners, please go to:

www.civildcourageprize.org

Twitter: @TrainFoundation

Facebook: Civil Courage Prize

2018 Civil Courage Prize Ceremony and Reception



- 1. Vladimir Kara-Murza and Amb. Sir Jeremy Greenstock
- 2. George Biddle
- 3. Nina Train and Bowdy Train
- 4. HRH Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al Hussein, Princess Sarah Zeid, Ariadne Calvo-Platero
- 5. Musa Klebnikov
- 6. Trustees, Officers and Prize-winner: (clockwise from top): George Biddle, Louis Bickford, Ariadne Calvo-Platero, Musa Klebnikov, Amb. Nicholas Platt, Vladimir Kara-Murza, Ann Brownell Sloane
- 7. Amb. Nicholas Platt, Peter B. de Neufville
- 8. Joseph J. Borgatti
- 9. Louis Bickford
- 10. Amb. Paul Wolfowitz, Ann Brownell Sloane
- 11. Laurie and Christopher Gerard

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Past Honorees

2018 Vladimir Kara-Murza
Heroic Russian Opposition Leader

2017 Pierre Claver
Mbonimpa
Campaigner for social justice in Burundi

2016 RBSS
(Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently)
Journalists revealing ISIS atrocities from inside Syria

Thuli Madonsela
(Honorable Mention)
Anti-corruption crusader, South Africa

2015 Claudia Paz y Paz
Prosecutor of human rights abuses, Guatemala

Yassmín Barrios
Presiding judge in Rios Montt genocide trial, Guatemala

2014 Nicola Gratteri
Relentless prosecutor of the Italian Mafia

2013 Dr. Denis Mukwege
Physician and advocate for victims of violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

2012 Yu Jie
Author and advocate for reform in China

2011 Triveni Acharya
Defender of victims of human trafficking in India

Lydia Cacho Ribeiro
Champion of abused women and children in Mexico

2010 Andrew White
Steadfast advocate for peace in the Middle East

2009 Aminatou Haidar
Champion of the non-violent campaign for self-determination in Western Sahara

2008 Ali Salem
Egyptian author and journalist. Voice for peace and reason in the Middle East

2007 Phillip Buck
Imprisoned in China for guiding North Korean refugees in their escape to freedom

2006 Rafael Marques de Morais
Journalist who exposed the slaughter of Angolans and the plundering of national assets

2005 Min Ko Naing
Long-imprisoned campaigner for democracy in Burma

Anna Politkovskaya
Fearless reporter on atrocities in Chechnya, assassinated 2006

Munir Said Thalib†
Exposed disappearances and corruption in Indonesia, assassinated

2004 Emadeddin Baghi
Imprisoned for exposing assassinations of Iranian intellectuals

Lovemore Madhuku
Lawyer persecuted for demanding constitutional reform in Zimbabwe

Abdul al-Latif al-Mayah†
Iraqi political scientist and human rights advocate, assassinated

2003 Shahnaz Bukhari
Battler against the burning and other abuse of Pakistani women

2002 Vladimiro Roca Antunez
Champion of freedom, Cuba

Gustavo Arcos Bergnes
(Honorable Mention)
Early democracy activist, Cuba

2001 Paul Kamara
Editor and journalist fighting tyranny in Sierra Leone

2000 Natasa Kandic
Persecuted journalist and activist, Belgrade

Sergei Khodorovich
(Honorable Mention)
Solzhenitsyn collaborator exiled to hard labor in Siberia

Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer†
Anti-Nazi martyr

Judge Giovanni Falcone†
Assassinated while prosecuting the Sicilian Mafia

Rosemary Nelson†
Civil rights lawyer, assassinated while defending accused persons in Northern Ireland

Neelan Tiruchelvam†
Lawyer and educator, killed by a suicide bomber while working for solutions to Tamil-Sri Lankan conflict

Raoul Wallenberg†
Saved thousands of Jews from extermination

† = posthumous

The Civil Courage Prize honors civil courage — steadfast resistance to evil at great personal risk — rather than military valor. The acts so recognized should have taken place deliberately, over time.

Nominations for the Prize are solicited primarily from non-profit, non-governmental organizations worldwide. Further information may be obtained from our website: www.civil-courageprize.org.

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

—Edmund Burke



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