



NACKEY S. LOEB SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Bill O'Reilly to Headline Loeb School's First Amendment Event

MANCHESTER _ Bill O'Reilly -- columnist, author and host of America's most popular cable news program -- is headlining the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications First Amendment Awards on Oct. 22.

The 8th annual event honors the First Amendment and New Hampshire residents who strive to exercise and protect the essential rights of free speech and free press. It also is a fundraiser for the non-profit school, which has been offering free media and communications classes and low-cost workshops for a decade.

For more than ten years, The O'Reilly Factor on the FOX News Channel has been the nation's highest rated cable news show. O'Reilly also hosts a national radio talk show, writes a column that appears in more than 300 newspapers and has written 9 books. *The O'Reilly Factor for Kids* outsold all other children's non-fiction in 2005.

O'Reilly's remarks will precede presentation of the Nackey S. Loeb First Amendment award at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord. The public is invited to nominate New Hampshire residents or organizations who work to protect free speech and free press.

Past recipients include former state Attorney General Philip McLaughlin, former Keene Sentinel Executive Editor Thomas F. Kearney, The Laconia Citizen, former legislator Daniel Hughes, Dover City Councilor David Scott, Londonderry High School Journalism Advisor Mary Lukas and First Amendment attorney William Chapman.

Nackey S. Loeb, the late president and publisher of the New Hampshire Union Leader, founded the nonprofit school in 1999 to promote understanding and appreciation of the First Amendment and to foster interest, integrity and excellence in journalism and other forms of communication.

The school offers classes and workshops for students of all ages on topics including the First Amendment, journalism, editorial writing, photography, broadcasting, social media and public speaking. Nearly 4,000 people have participated in classes, workshops and other school-sponsored events.

Led by presenting sponsor Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc., the 2010 First Amendment Awards event is backed by a wide variety of business, civic and media leaders. The growing list of sponsors includes: PSNH; Ocean Bank; Bank of America; TD Bank; The Common Man Family of Restaurants; National Grid; Thermo Fisher Scientific; Mosse and Mosse Associates; NextEra Energy Seabrook Station; The Dupont Group; Lincoln Financial Group; SilverTech; BIA; Goss International; Howe, Riley, Howe; Steven E. Merrill; and the Granite Foundation.

First Amendment Awards tickets are \$50, or \$75, including a pre-event reception. They go on sale at the Capitol Center Box Office or website, www.ccanh.com, on July 22.

To nominate a First Amendment Award recipient or to get information on sponsorship opportunities, go to www.loebsschool.org or call 627-0005.