


MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

Brennan Legacy Awards 2025

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The Brennan Center at 30 Years

The Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law is a nonpartisan law and policy institute that works to reform, revitalize, and defend our country's systems of democracy and justice so they work for all.

Since our founding 30 years ago by the family and law clerks of U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr., the Brennan Center has grown from a scrappy start-up to a major national institution with a staff of 185 and an annual budget of \$62 million.

We have built a distinct model for our work: part think tank, part advocacy group, part cutting-edge communications hub. We start with rigorous research. We craft innovative policies. And we fight for them — in Congress and the states, in the courts, and in the court of public opinion.

We are in a great fight for the future of American democracy. At this pivotal moment, the Brennan Center has stepped forward to play a singular role in the long-term drive for a more perfect union.

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Brennan Legacy Awards

*Monday, May 5, 2025
Cipriani Wall Street*

Welcome

Michael Waldman, President and CEO, Brennan Center

Award Presentation

Wes Moore, Governor of Maryland

PRESENTED BY

Raymond McGuire, President, Lazard

Thank You to Our Supporters

Kimberley Harris, Brennan Center Board Co-chair;
Executive Vice President, Comcast Corporation;
General Counsel, NBCUniversal

AND

Christine Varney, Brennan Center Board Co-chair;
Partner, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

30th Anniversary Remarks

Tom Jorde, Founding Brennan Center Board Member;
Clerk to Justice William J. Brennan Jr.

Award Presentation

Suffs

Jill Furman, Producer
Rachel Sussman, Producer

PRESENTED BY

Celina Stewart, Esq., CEO, League of Women Voters of the United States

Performance

“Keep Marching”

Members of the *Suffs* Original Broadway Cast

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this evening's supporters:

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Wes Moore

Wes Moore is the 63rd governor of the state of Maryland. He is Maryland's first Black governor in the state's 246-year history, and is just the third African American elected governor in the history of the United States.

Born in Takoma Park, Maryland, on October 15, 1978, to Joy and Westley Moore, Moore's life took a tragic turn

when he was just three years old when his father died of a rare, but treatable virus. After his father's death, his family moved to the Bronx to live with Moore's grandparents before returning to Maryland when Moore was 14.

Moore is a proud graduate of Valley Forge Military Academy and College, where he received an associate's degree in 1998, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Afterward, he went on to earn his bachelor's in international relations and economics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa.

While at Johns Hopkins, Moore interned in the office of former Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke. Moore was the first Black Rhodes Scholar in the history of Johns Hopkins University. As a Rhodes Scholar, he earned a master's in international relations from Wolfson College at the University of Oxford.

In 2005, Moore deployed to Afghanistan as a lieutenant with the 82nd Airborne Division, leading soldiers in combat. Immediately upon returning home, Moore served as a White House fellow, advising on issues of national security and international relations.

In 2010, Moore wrote *The Other Wes Moore*, a story about the fragile nature of opportunity in America, which became a perennial *New York Times* bestseller. He went on to write other best-selling books that reflect on issues of race, equity, and opportunity, including his latest book *Five Days*, which tells the story of Baltimore in the days that followed the death of Freddie Gray in 2015.

Moore built and launched a Baltimore-based business called BridgeEdU, which reinvented freshman year of college for

underserved students to increase their likelihood of long-term success. BridgeEdU was acquired by the Brooklyn-based student financial success platform, Edquity, in 2018.

It was Moore's commitment to taking on our toughest challenges that brought him to the Robin Hood Foundation, where he served for four years as CEO. During his tenure, the Robin Hood Foundation distributed more than \$600 million toward lifting families out of poverty, including in Maryland.

While the Robin Hood Foundation is headquartered in New York City, Wes and his family never moved from their home in Baltimore.

Moore has also worked in finance with Deutsche Bank in London and with Citigroup in New York.

Moore and his wife, First Lady Dawn Flythe Moore, have two children — Mia and James — and a dog, Tucker Balti.



AWARD PRESENTER

Raymond McGuire

Raymond J. McGuire was named president of Lazard, a global financial advisory and asset management firm, in April 2023. This followed his historic tenure at Citigroup, which included 13 years as global head of corporate and investment banking.

He previously held leadership roles at Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch and was one of the original members of Wasserstein Perella & Co. McGuire serves on the corporate boards of Hess Corporation and Vornado Realty Trust, and several nonprofit boards, including the American Museum of Natural History, New York Public Library, Studio Museum in Harlem, and Whitney Museum of American Art. He received an MBA and JD from Harvard Business School and Harvard Law School and a BA from Harvard College.

SUFFS

Winner of 2024 Tony Awards for Best Book and Best Score, *Suffs* brings to life a complicated chapter in the fight for voting rights: the women's suffrage movement. The show takes an unflinching look at the unsung trailblazers who worked against and across generational, racial, and class divides to transform the country and win the 19th Amendment. Fresh off its Broadway run and soon to embark on a national tour, *Suffs* boldly explores the victories and failures of a fight for equality that is still far from over.

PHOTO BY JOAN MARCUS





Jill Furman

Jill Furman is a Tony and Emmy Award-winning producer. Additional Broadway producing credits include *Hamilton* (Tony Award), *In the Heights* (Tony Award), and *Freestyle Love Supreme* (Special Tony Award), among other acclaimed productions. She also produced *Hamilton* for Disney+ (Emmy Award), the 2021 film

adaptation of *In the Heights*, and Hulu's *We Are Freestyle Love Supreme*, which premiered at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival. She serves on the Brown University board of trustees and president's advisory council for the arts, as well as the board of the Lung Cancer Research Foundation. Furman was named to *Forbes* 50 Over 50 list in the 2024 lifestyle category.



Rachel Sussman

Rachel Sussman is a Tony Award-winning producer, educator, and entrepreneur. She is a cofounder of the Business of Broadway and a partner at Soto Productions, overseeing all theatrical development. Additional producing credits include *Just for Us* (Special Tony Award and Emmy Award), *Parade* (Tony Award),

What the Constitution Means to Me (Tony nominee, Pulitzer Prize finalist), *The Woodsman* (Obie Award), *Prima Facie*, *All Nighter*, and *The Appointment*. Sussman was named one of *Variety's* 10 to Watch on Broadway. She is an adjunct assistant professor at the Columbia University School of the Arts and the NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

The Brennan Center applauds the entire *Suffs* creative team, production staff, and Broadway company for bringing this important history to audiences across the country:

- Book, music, and lyrics by **Shaina Taub**
- Direction by **Leigh Silverman**
- Choreography by **Mayte Natalio**
- Musical direction by **Andrea Grody**

Tonight's performance of "Keep Marching"—featuring **Kim Blanck**, **Tsilala Brock**, **Hannah Cruz**, **Nadia Dandashi**, **Hawley Gould**, **Nikki M. James**, **Grace McLean**, **Chessa Metz**, and **Kirsten Scott** of the *Suffs* original Broadway cast—is directed by Tony Award-nominated director Leigh Silverman.



AWARD PRESENTER

Celina Stewart

Celina Stewart is the CEO of the League of Women Voters of the United States. Founded in 1920, the League is one of the nation's oldest voting rights organizations. It engages more than a million members and supporters in grassroots advocacy, education, litigation, and organizing to empower

voters and defend democracy. Stewart was appointed CEO in August 2024 after having been the League's chief counsel. Stewart previously served as the CEO of an electoral reform nonprofit, legal counsel to Stacey Abrams during her tenure as minority leader of the Georgia House of Representatives, and executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus Institute's 21st Century Program. She is a board member of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia. She received a JD from Western Michigan University Law School and a BA from Spelman College.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Kimberley Harris

Kimberley Harris is executive vice president of Comcast Corporation and general counsel of NBCUniversal. She serves as co-chair of the Brennan Center's Board of Directors. Harris joined NBCUniversal from Davis Polk & Wardwell, where she was a litigation partner. She previously served as senior counsel in the U.S. Department

of Justice and principal deputy counsel to President Barack Obama. Harris serves on the board of directors for Goldman Sachs and Advocates for Children of New York. She is a member of the advisory boards for the Center for the Study of Corporate Law and the Tsai Leadership Program at Yale Law School and the board of trustees of the Mount Sinai Health System.



Christine Varney

Christine Varney is a partner at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, where she chairs the firm's antitrust practice. She is co-chair of the Brennan Center's Board of Directors. Varney has been widely recognized as one of the leading antitrust lawyers in the country in both private practice and government service. She is the only

person to have served as both U.S. assistant attorney general for antitrust and commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. Varney was general counsel to the Democratic National Committee, and chief counsel to Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign, and later served in his administration. She is on the boards of trustees of the American Museum of Natural History and Third Way.



Tom Jorde

Tom Jorde is professor emeritus at the UC Berkeley School of Law. He is a co-founder of the Brennan Center and has served on the Board of Directors since its inception. He chairs the finance and budget committee, and is a member of the investment and development committees. After graduating from Yale Law School, Jorde

clerked for Justice William J. Brennan Jr. of the U.S. Supreme Court during the 1973–74 term. He joined the UC Berkeley Law faculty in 1978. His areas of academic expertise include antitrust and civil procedure. His scholarship focused on competition policy and innovation. Jorde also co-founded LECG, an economics and finance consulting firm providing expert analysis and testimony.



Michael Waldman

Michael Waldman is president and CEO of the Brennan Center, which he has led since 2005. He is a constitutional lawyer and expert on the presidency and American democracy. Waldman was assistant to the president and director of speechwriting for President Bill Clinton, and was responsible for writing or editing nearly two thousand

speeches, including four State of the Union and two inaugural addresses. Waldman is the author of seven books, including *The Supermajority: How the Supreme Court Divided America*, *The Fight to Vote* (a *Washington Post* notable nonfiction book), and *The Second Amendment: A Biography*. Waldman was a member of the Presidential Commission on the U.S. Supreme Court.

BRENNAN LEGACY AWARD PAST HONOREES

Since 2001, the Brennan Center has presented the Legacy Award to leaders and organizations that embody the values of democracy and justice.

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Ohio Organizing Collaborative
Maureen O'Connor

2023

Jocelyn Benson
JPMorgan Chase

2021

Kenneth I. Chenault
Kenneth C. Frazier
Darren Walker
More Than a Vote

2019

Katie Fahey
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Patagonia

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Preet Bharara
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2017

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2016

Sandra Phillips
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2015

Kimberley Harris

2014

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2012

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2011

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2010

Cory A. Booker
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2006

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2004

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2003

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2002

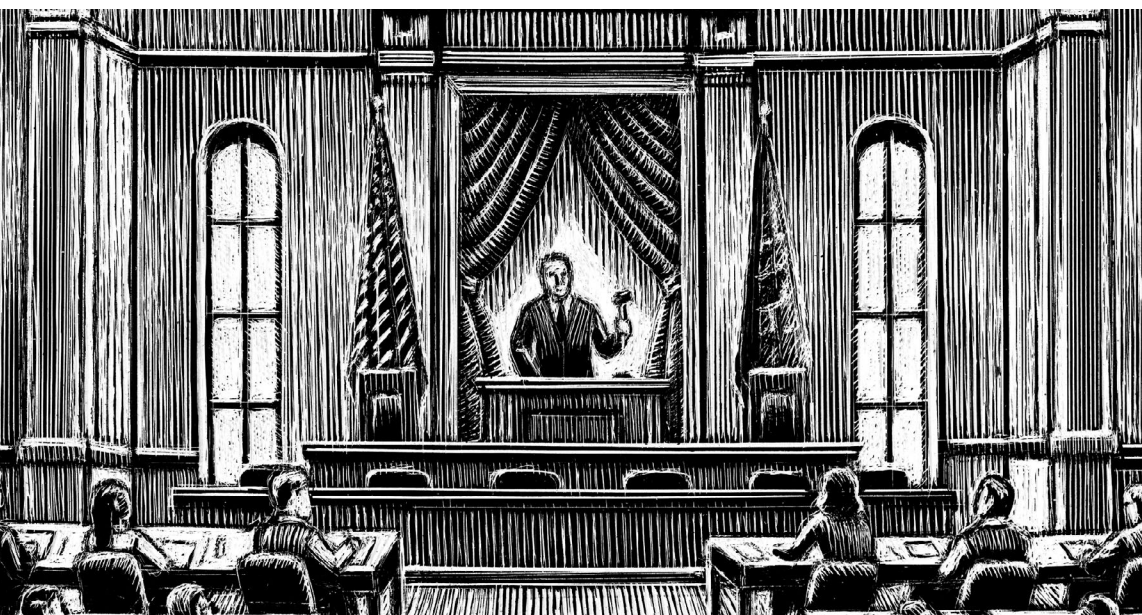
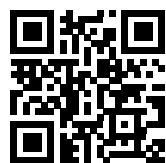
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In 2025 we celebrate the third year of Brennan en español, a program that aims to inform Spanish-speaking audiences about our democracy and justice system.

BRENNAN CENTER *en español*

Para los análisis e investigaciones del Brennan Center for Justice en español, visita **BrennanCenter.org/es**.

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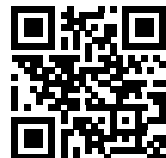
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