The Taishoff Family Foundation was established by the late Lawrence B. Taishoff and his son Rob in honor of their legendary father and grandfather Sol Taishoff, the founder and editor-in-chief of Broadcasting magazine.

As journalists and publishers, Sol and Larry Taishoff played a seminal role in the development of the radio and television industry in America. As champions of a free and unfettered broadcasting profession, Broadcasting magazine was created as the instrument and manifestation of their devotion to resemble a “sentinel on the Potomac” to warn against government intrusion into the creative processes and activities of radio and television broadcasters.

The Taishoffs devoted their entire lives to extending the values and protections of the First Amendment to “The Fifth Estate” which was the designation bestowed upon the broadcasting fraternity by Sol Taishoff so many years ago.

The vision and foresight of both Taishoffs often caused them to be allied on many of the great issues of the day with the work and example of one of our own founding chairman Ward L. Quaal. In 2009, the Taishoff family was honored with a Ward L. Quaal Pioneer Award.

In addition to their commitment to journalistic causes and a free press, the Taishoff Family Foundation is also active in improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. The Foundation has developed resources to help educate society about the special skills and talents of people with Down syndrome, autism and traumatic brain injury, to name a few. Toward this goal, the Taishoff Family Foundation has established the Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at Syracuse University.

The Taishoffs also provided critical initial funding for the Library of American Broadcasting, now located at the University of Maryland. Sol Taishoff himself was one of the founders of the Broadcast Pioneers organization which, as you know, has now become the national charitable endeavor known as the Broadcasters Foundation of America which you and so many of our colleagues support.

Today, the Taishoff Family Foundation is administered by the third generation of family members who support, among their many worthwhile endeavors, the National Press Foundation which annually presents the Sol Taishoff Award for Excellence in Electronic Journalism.

Retired Captain Robert Taishoff USN, is the chairman of the Taishoff Family Foundation.

The Broadcasters Foundation of America extends its deep gratitude to the Taishoff family for carrying on the legacy of their illustrious forebears by underwriting On The Air magazine, which is distributed widely throughout the broadcast industry.
The mission of the Broadcasters Foundation of America is to improve the quality of life and maintain the personal dignity of men and women in the radio and television broadcast profession who find themselves in acute need. The foundation reaches out across the country to identify and provide an anonymous safety net in cases of critical illness, advanced age, death of a spouse, accident and other serious misfortune. The Broadcasters Foundation of America is a 501(c)3 Public Charity.
Chairman’s Message

As the Broadcasters Foundation of America continues to increase its fundraising, expand its outreach and dispense more help, we remain cognizant of our mission: to provide critical financial support to those broadcasting colleagues who have faced severe hardships. We are constantly reminded of how vast the need is and are exceedingly grateful for the support of you, the more fortunate broadcasters. Please know that without your invaluable generosity, the growing demand on the Foundation might exceed its ability to respond. And without your willingness to communicate to all in our industry about the Foundation’s noble purpose, a needy colleague might tragically go unattended. Please continue to share our message of hope.

This year alone, due to unimaginable natural disasters, the Foundation disbursed over $300,000 in one-time $1,000 emergency grants to broadcasters in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and California. Those are obligations which, entering last year, were unforeseen.

I wish you all a 2018 full of promise and good fortune. But as unanticipated challenges befall some of our broadcast associates, please help insure that, through your compassion and charitable contributions, every qualified call for assistance is received and fulfilled.

Dan Mason
Chairman

President’s Message

The Broadcasters Foundation of America had a historic year in 2017, giving out over $1 million in monthly and emergency grants, while raising $1 million to match. And we’re hoping to increase our outreach even more in 2018 with the help of our Radio and Television PSAs.

This year’s Golden Mike Award dinner was a great success and honored two local media champions. Congratulations to Graham Media Group’s Emily L. Barr, this year’s Golden Mike Award honoree. The Foundation was also proud to recognize the late Edward F. McLaughlin with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Thanks to everyone involved in the event, the Foundation raised over $250,000 for broadcasters in need.

We’re excited for our upcoming events at the NAB Show in April and our Celebrity Golf Tournament on September 17th. I hope we can count on your financial assistance and look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.

Jim Thompson
President
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The 2018 Broadcasters Foundation of America
GOLDEN MIKE AWARD
HONORS Graham Media Group’s
Emily L. Barr
$250,000
RAISED TO HELP BROADCASTERS IN NEED
The 2018 Broadcasters Foundation of America Golden Mike Award was presented to Emily L. Barr, President & CEO of Graham Media Group, at a black-tie fundraiser to benefit the Foundation’s mission of helping broadcasters in need. Former Foundation Chairman, Edward F. McLaughlin, was honored with the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award. More than 250 radio and television industry executives and celebrities were in attendance for the event.

The gala was hosted by Deborah Norville of Inside Edition. The evening’s presenters were Peggy Allen of Savage Hart Farm; Don Graham, Chairman of Graham Holdings Co; and Hank Price, President and General Manager of WVTM 13 in Birmingham, AL. Singer-songwriter Darrian Ford provided the evening’s entertainment.
1. Emily Barr and Graham Media Team
2. Crystal Johns and Emerson Coleman
5. Renee Cassis and Wayne Cabot
6. Chris Ornelas, Jim Thompson, April Carty-Sipp, Marcellus Alexander
1. Frank Biancuzzo, Jean Dietz, Eric Meyrowitz, Ashley Gold
2. Jeff Haley and Mark Gray
3. Steve Newberry, Dan Mason, Traug Keller, Christine Travaglini
4. Tim McCarthy and Kathy Dillon
5. Ernest & Colleen Liebre, Richard Foreman, Richard Bodoff
6. William O’Shaughnessy and Gregorio Alvarez
1. Sen. Gordon Smith, Don Graham, Emily Barr, Darrian Ford
2. Rush Limbaugh
3. Eric Meyrowitz, Kim Guthrie, Charlie Weiss
4. Bonnie Verbitsky, Pat McLaughlin, Nick Verbitsky
5. Jill Kumor, Scott Knight, Matt Purpura, Elizabeth Saraceno, Deborah Norville
6. Gil Edwards, Julie Talbott, Sil Scaglione
1. Jinny Laderer, Erica Farber, Randy Bongarten, Jerry Lee
2. Harry Jessell, Kathy Haley, Abby Auerbach
3. Leeann Piazzola, Mary Ellen Marcillat-Falkner, Peggy O’Neill
4. Eric Meyrowitz, Mark Gray, Ashley Gold
5. Michael Fiorile, Jean Dietz, Mark Prak
6. Jinny Laderer and Scott Herman
7. Joyce Tudryn and Dennis Wharton
1. Plaza Grand Ballroom
2. Deborah Norville
3. Darrian Ford
4. Don Graham
5. Dave Lougee and Emily Barr
6. Leo MacCourtney, Dave Biseglia, Craig Broitman, Artie Altman
1. Don Graham, Emily Barr, Tim O’Shaughnessy
2. George Stephanopoulos
3. Michael McVay, Darren Davis, Steve Jones
4. Hank Price
5. Nick Verbitsky, Jim Thompson, Pat McLaughlin, Dan Mason
6. Erica Farber and Jinny Laderer
1. Jim Thompson, Deborah Norville, Emily Barr, Dan Mason
2. Emily Barr, her husband Scott Kane and their two daughters
3. Peggy Allen and Emily Barr
4. Mark Zulli, Dan Mason, Scott Herman
5. Wade Hargrove and Steve Newberry
6. Jerry Lee, Peter Doyle, Tim McCarthy
7. Kurt Davis and Emily Barr
1. Mike Hayes and Leeann Piazzola
2. Ann Pace Sutton, Marcy Etienne, Julie Drexler, Lori Hartinger
3. Frank Biancuzzo, Larry Wert, Emily Barr, Scott Kane
4. Randy Bongarten and Peggy O’Neill
5. John Rouse, April Carty-Sipp, Marcellus Alexander
6. Paul Karpowicz and Mike O’Neill
7. Pat McLaughlin and Bonnie Verbitsky
1. Lifetime Achievement Award
2. Ernest Liebre, Steve Newberry, Peter Doyle, Colleen Liebre
3. Scott Herman and Caroline Beasley
4. Robbie Lopez, Kelly Abcarian, Julie Girocco
5. Peggy Allen, Emerson Coleman, Deborah Norville, Crystal Johns
6. Dan Mason
The Broadcasters Foundation of America recently launched the Foundation Legacy Society, a new initiative to ensure its ability to help Broadcast Colleagues in the future. To date, Foundation board members and supporters have committed in excess of $3,000,000 in their estate plans.

There is no more important group of supporters than the generous members of the Legacy Society. Please consider making a Bequest to the Broadcasters Foundation in your will or revocable living trust. Any assets, including cash, securities, real estate or tangible personal property, may be transferred to the Broadcasters Foundation through your estate.

A bequest offers many benefits, including:

- Retention of full ownership and use of your assets throughout your life
- Flexibility: a bequest is not permanent and can be changed if your life circumstances change
- Potential reduction in taxes payable by your estate
- Ease of arrangement: your attorney can incorporate gift language as part of your will.

Your bequest can be a specific amount, a specific asset, or a specific percentage of the remainder of your estate after all other obligations have been met.

Please consider joining the Broadcasters Foundation’s Legacy Society.

For more information Contact the Broadcasters Foundation at 212-373-8250 or info@thebfoa.org

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America’s Broadcasters: A Helping Hand in Times of Need

Whether it’s providing lifesaving information during a crisis, delivering breaking news or uncovering corruption through intensive investigations, America’s broadcasters are committed to keeping the public informed, no matter the cost or consequence.

When radio and television broadcasters face hardship, the Broadcasters Foundation of America is there to provide assistance.

The National Association of Broadcasters thanks the Broadcasters Foundation of America for supporting fellow broadcasters during difficult times.
The 2018 Broadcasters Foundation of America Annual Breakfast
The Ward L. Quaal Leadership Awards
Lowry Mays Excellence in Broadcasting Award

During its annual industry breakfast, the Broadcasters Foundation of America continues its tradition presenting the 2018 Ward L. Quaal Leadership Awards and the Lowry Mays Excellence in Broadcasting Award.

Held in conjunction with the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Show in Las Vegas, Wednesday on April 11th, the complimentary event is made possible by Accuradio, Marketron, National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), National Association of Media Brokers (NAMB), Nielsen, the Radio Advertising Bureau (RAB), Television Bureau of Advertising (TVB) and VCreative.

The Ward L. Quaal Leadership Awards are named in honor of the iconic broadcaster. The awards are presented each year to six broadcasters whose careers have impacted the industry and whose lives have made a difference in the community at large.

The Lowry Mays Excellence in Broadcasting Award honors an individual in broadcasting whose work exemplifies innovation, community service, advocacy and entrepreneurship. The Award saluted its namesake, who is a legend in the broadcasting industry, and is underwritten by the Mays Family Foundation.

Look for pictures from this widely attended event in the summer issue of On The Air.
Hosiers Helping Houston

Indianapolis TV and radio stations came together in the summer of 2017 in the wake of hurricanes in Houston and around Florida. Five area TV stations and radio groups hosted a series of relief efforts throughout the city to raise money and supplies for the victims. The collective effort was named “Hoosiers Helping Houston.”

The initial goal of Hoosiers Helping Houston, a campaign of Indianapolis-area broadcasters, was to fill one trailer. But the campaign ended up filling 17 trailers to be sent down south to help Houstonians.

Steve Wexler, E.W. Scripps Company, Milwaukee, took the position of WBA Chair this week during the WBA Winter Conference Business Luncheon at the Madison Concourse Hotel.
Larry Wilkins to receive the Radio World Excellence in Engineering Award

Larry Wilkins, Director of the Alabama Broadcasters Association Engineering Academy, will be presented with the Radio World Excellence in Engineering Award at the Technology Leadership Awards ceremony in Las Vegas on Monday, April 9th.

Among his many accomplishments, Larry Wilkins has served two terms on the national board of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, and today serves on its certification committee. In 2005, the SBE honored Wilkins with its “Engineer of the Year” award and elevated him to the rank of fellow in 2013. In 2015, he was named Broadcaster of the Year and inducted into the Alabama Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame.

NJ Broadcasters Assoc. President Speaks at Hispanic Radio Conference

New Jersey Broadcasters Association President & CEO Paul S. Rotella, Esq., addressed the Hispanic Radio Conference in Miami, FL, highlighting the indispensable role broadcasters play in times of disaster and the critical importance of radio in providing life-saving information. Rotella, an early proponent for FM-Chip activation in cell phones, praised the quick response of the Broadcasters Foundation of America in helping broadcasters in need.
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