

Bradley Prizes 2008

Milwaukee's Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation awarded its 2008 Bradley Prizes to University of Chicago economist Gary S. Becker, Hoover Institution scholar Victor Davis Hanson, University of Pennsylvania historian Alan Charles Kors, and community advocate Robert L. Woodson in an inspiring and entertaining ceremony at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., on June 4. The \$250,000 prizes



recognize and celebrate the honorees' achievements in areas consistent with the Foundation's mission – the promotion and defense of liberal democracy, democratic capitalism, and American ideas and institutions at home and abroad.

Dr. Becker is a University Professor of Economics and Sociology at the University of Chicago. He is also the Rose-Marie and Jack R. Anderson Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace. Dr. Becker is recognized for his pioneering application of economic reasoning to social

policy issues as well as for his expertise in human capital, economic incentives, and the economics of the family. In 1992, he was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize for Economic Science. In 2007, President George W. Bush presented Dr. Becker with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his contributions to the intellectual defense of free-market economics.

Dr. Hanson is the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow in Residence in Classics and Military History at the Hoover Institution. He is the author of hundreds of articles, scholarly papers, and commentaries on topics ranging from ancient history and Western civilization to national security, domestic politics, and contemporary culture. Dr. Hanson has written or edited 17 books, including the award-winning *A War Like No Other: How the Athenians and Spartans Fought the Peloponnesian War*. He is a nationally syndicated columnist, and he serves on the editorial boards of *Military History Quarterly* and *City Journal*. In 2007, Dr. Hanson received the National Humanities Medal.



Dr. Kors is the George H. Walker Term Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. He is Senior Fellow at both the Foreign Policy Research Institute and Goldwater Institute. Specializing in European intellectual history of the 17th and 18th centuries, Dr. Kors was Editor-in-Chief of the four-volume *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment*. Since the early 1980s, Dr. Kors has been writing and lecturing widely on the absence of freedom of expression and conscience in academic life. He is co-author of the 1998 book *The Shadow University: The Betrayal of Liberty on American Campuses* and co-founding Chairman Emeritus of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education. In 2003, Dr. Kors received the National Humanities Medal. In 2008, he received the American Conservative Union's Jeane Kirkpatrick Academic Freedom Award.

Mr. Woodson is founding president of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, an organization supporting community-based initiatives to revitalize distressed neighborhoods. A former civil rights activist, Mr. Woodson guides the Center in providing counsel, training, and technical assistance to civic leaders in low-income communities across the nation. He pioneered its effective Violence-Free Zones program in public middle and high schools to reduce youth crime and gang activity. A proponent of self-help strategies, Mr. Woodson is a social commentator in the print and on-air media. He is a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council and the National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse. Mr. Woodson is the recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Life Institute "Real Dream" Award and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship.



2008 Symposium

In June 2008, the Bradley Center for Philanthropy and Civic Renewal at the Hudson Institute in Washington, D.C. held its fourth annual Bradley Symposium, co-sponsored by Encounter Books, on the power of ideas, publishing, and preserving liberty and democracy.

Too often, ideas are discounted as the effete plaything of the chattering classes, yet they have the power to transform our nation's institutions – from our courts and legislatures to marriage and family life. Since 1998, Encounter Books has aimed to broaden public debate by bringing many new voices to bear on important policy and cultural issues.



During “Encounter at 10: The Power of Ideas,” before a standing room only crowd of almost 200, three panels discussed commissioned essays by 2008 Bradley Prize recipient Victor Davis Hanson, John Fonte of Hudson’s Center for American Common Culture and Andrew McCarthy of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. A full transcript of the discussions is available online at www.bradleyfdn.org.

Hanson wrote and spoke about “Memory and Civic Education: The Perils of Cultural Amnesia,” Fonte examined “Global Governance vs. the Liberal Democratic Nation-State: What is the

Best Regime?,” and McCarthy addressed “The Jihad in Plain Sight.” Fonte was an active participant in The Bradley Project on America’s National Identity.

Presentations by the three essay authors were followed by comments from four other prominent Encounter authors: James Piereson, John O’Sullivan, and Robert Bork, respectively. Encounter president and publisher Roger Kimball also spoke on “Publishing and the Importance of Ideas.” Kimball edits *The New Criterion* magazine, as well.

Encounter Books is an activity of Encounter for Culture and Education, a nonprofit group that is substantially supported by The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. Bradley also supports Hudson’s Bradley Center for Philanthropy and Civic Renewal, their Center for American Common Culture, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, and *The New Criterion*.