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Hillsdale College Announces Alumni Award Recipients

New Elizebeth Smith Friedman Award for Freedom Established

HILLSDALE, Mich. — Hillsdale College is proud to announce its 2023 Alumni Award recipients, each of whom will be honored on May 20, 2023, at a special ceremony during White & Blue Reunion Weekend. Hillsdale College President Larry P. Arnn will present the awards.

Joseph Cella ('91) of Ypsilanti, Michigan, will receive an award for Outstanding Professional Achievement in American Diplomacy. Cella served as the United States ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu from 2019-2021. He is the founder and principal of the Pontifex Group, a consulting firm whose practice areas include public policy, public and media relations, marketing, crisis management, and institutional launching and growth.

Stan Crosley ('85) of Fishers, Indiana, will receive an award for Outstanding Professional Achievement in Data Privacy and Cybersecurity. Crosley is the founder and managing partner of Crosley Law Offices. In 2022 he helped launch Red Barn Strategy. He has more than 25 years of privacy and data strategy experience and is the former chief privacy officer at Eli Lilly and Company, where he initiated and implemented the privacy program as one of the first CPOs in the health industry.

Ingrid Langsather Jacques ('02) of Royal Oak, Michigan, will receive an award for Outstanding Professional Achievement in Journalism. Jacques is an award-winning journalist who joined USA Today as an opinion columnist in May 2022. She has worked in journalism for nearly two decades, and prior to her current role, she served as a columnist and deputy editorial page editor at The Detroit News, where she spent 12 years as a member of the editorial board. She has written frequently on Michigan and national politics, focusing on education and cultural issues.

The Elizebeth Smith Friedman Award for Freedom is a new award established to honor the 1915 Hillsdale College graduate. Friedman was a pioneer in the area of codebreaking, and her groundbreaking work is credited with helping the United States and its allies win two world wars as well as take down international organized crime smuggling efforts. The cryptanalyst was inducted into the NSA Hall of Honor in 1999, and the U.S. Coast Guard named an 11th Legend-Class National Security Cutter in her honor in 2020. Friedman passed away in 1980 but will be honored posthumously. In the future, the award will be given to those who exhibit extraordinary qualities in advocating, defending, and protecting freedom.

For headshots of the award recipients, click here.

For a high-resolution copy of the Hillsdale College clocktower logo, click here.

About Hillsdale College

Hillsdale College is an independent, nonsectarian, Christian liberal arts college located in southern Michigan. Founded in 1844, the College has built a national reputation through its classical liberal arts core curriculum and its principled refusal to accept federal or state taxpayer subsidies, even indirectly in the form of student grants or loans. It also conducts an outreach effort promoting civil and religious liberty, including a free monthly speech digest, Imprimis, with a circulation of more than 6.2 million. For more information, visit hillsdale.edu.

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