



MANHATTAN INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH

Press Release

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Manhattan Institute honors two great New Yorkers 2006 Alexander Hamilton Award

Hon. Rudolph W. Giuliani

Tom Wolfe

On **Tuesday April 25th, 2006**, the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, New York's largest and most influential think tank, held its sixth annual Alexander Hamilton Awards Dinner. The award recognizes New Yorkers who exemplify Hamiltonian values: civic leadership, fiscal restraint, entrepreneurial spirit, and energetic public debate. A crowd of New York's business and conservative-opinion elite—700-strong—gathered to support the Institute. The annual black-tie fundraiser, which was held at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City, brought in over \$1.3 million dollars this year, a record for the event.

The Alexander Hamilton Award was created to celebrate New York and honor those individuals helping to foster the revitalization of our nation's greatest city. We chose to name the award after Hamilton because, like the Manhattan Institute, he was a fervent proponent of commerce and civic life, and he believed the health of the nation hinged upon vibrant cities. Hamilton's greatest contribution to New York, the nation, and the science of self-government was the Federalist Papers, written along with James Madison and John Jay, which sought to persuade the American people to ratify the proposed federal constitution. For over 25 years, the Manhattan Institute has worked to create a climate of opinion in the mainstream media that supports this experiment in self-government.

Before **Rudy Giuliani** was dubbed "America's Mayor" for his public leadership after the attacks of September 11, 2001, he brought New York City back from the brink of lawlessness in his two terms in City Hall, by standing up to the conventional wisdom that the best Gotham could hope for was managed decline. His policies engendered a New York renaissance that continues to this day.

"Now, for the first time in human history, more than half the world's population lives in cities. With this global demographic shift, **I believe that the Manhattan Institute's ideas are more relevant than ever.** I'm honored to receive the Alexander Hamilton award from the very organization which was a wellspring for change in New York City and continues to thoughtfully address the issues," said the former Mayor.

Tom Wolfe is the best-selling author of *The Right Stuff* and *The Bonfire of the Vanities*, a book that perfectly captured the conflagration threatening to engulf New York before Mayor Giuliani put out the fire. New York has always been a magnet for those whose ambition is to make a living—and make a difference—through the printed word. Tom Wolfe has established himself as one of our nation's great writers, and while he is known for his southern manners and sartorial splendor, Gotham is his adopted home—and one of his most persistent literary inspirations.

The honorees will be introduced by **Mort Zuckerman** and **David Brooks**, respectively. Additional remarks by **Dinner Chairman Maurice R. “Hank” Greenberg**; **Manhattan Institute Chairman Deitrich Weismann**; and **Vice Chairman Byron Wien**.

“The ideas that have flowed from the Manhattan Institute over the years have helped shape the thinking of a long line of political leaders—from President Reagan to Mayors Giuliani and Bloomberg to Governor Pataki to President Bush,” said **dinner chairman Maurice “Hank” Greenberg**. “The power of good ideas—which is the common thread that connects the Manhattan Institute to Alexander Hamilton—has helped change the way people think about public policy and the role of government in their lives, from the broken windows theory that sparked a revolution in law enforcement to privatization, which has helped produce a better return for our tax dollars.”

Past recipients of the Manhattan Institute’s Hamilton Award include: Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (2001), William C. Steere (2001), Ellen V. Futter (2002), Richard Gilder (2002), Elizabeth Barlow Rogers (2002), Charles H. Brunie (2003), Walter Minz (2003), Philippe De Montebello (2003), Robert L. Bartely (2004), William F. Buckley Jr. (2004), Peter M. Flanigan (2004), Ron Chernow (2005), Roger Hertog (2005), and former New York governor Hugh Carey (2005).

Full program information is available on the website, http://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/ah_2006.htm.

The Manhattan Institute, 501 (c)(3), is a think tank whose mission is to develop and disseminate new ideas that foster greater economic choice and individual responsibility.

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