

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

GAVEL AWARD WINNERS

1960s

1960
1961
1962
1963
1964

1965
1966
1967
1968
1969

1960

NEWSPAPERS

Editorials on Constitutional role of the U.S. Supreme Court

The Washington Post

Washington, DC

Recipient: J. Russell Wiggins, Executive Editor

Editorials & articles explaining role of judges and lawyers

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pittsburgh, PA

Recipient: William Block, Publisher

Series of articles on 1st National Conference of Judicial Selection & Legislative & Legal Court Administration.

Lindsay-Schaub Newspapers

Decatur, IL

Recipient: O. T. Banton

MAGAZINES

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1960.

BOOKS

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1960.

THEATRE

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1960.

TELEVISION

"A Life in the Balance"

KPIX-TV (Westinghouse)
San Francisco, CA

Recipient: Donald H. McGannon, President

Series on the role of juvenile court

WRC-TV (NBC)
Washington, DC

Recipient: Joseph Goodfellow, Vice President & General Manager

(Perry Mason series)

Dramatizing, basic legal safeguards afforded to the accused.

Piasano Productions
Hollywood, CA

Recipient: Raymond Burr

"With Justice For All" from Close-Up series

Tulane University
New Orleans, LA

Recipient: Dr. H. E. Longnecker, President

RADIO

"Law in Action"

WRCV (NBC) Radio
Philadelphia, PA

Recipient: R. W. Welpott, Vice President & General Manager

"It's the Law"

WHAS Radio (Courier-Journal)
Louisville, KY

Recipient: Victor Sholis, Vice President

MOTION PICTURES

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1960.

1961

NEWSPAPERS

Series of articles on newly reorganized system of state courts.

The Hartford Times

Hartford, CT

Recipient: David R. Daniel, Publisher

Series documenting an alien's trial.

The Christian Science Monitor

Boston, MA

Recipient: Erwin D. Canham, Editor

Series analyzing Chicago court congestion problems.

The Chicago Tribune

Chicago, IL

Recipient: Robert Wiedrich, Author of series

MAGAZINES

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1961.

BOOKS

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THEATRE

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TELEVISION

Dramatization of the work of the Legal Aid Societies.

Armstrong Circle Theatre

New York, NY

Recipient: C. J. Backstrand
President
Armstrong Cork Co.

"Blessings of Liberty" series dramatizing Constitutional Rights of Americans

University of Michigan, Television Center

Ann Arbor, MI

Recipient: Dean Allan F. Smith
University of Michigan
Law School

Documentary Production, “A Real Case of Murder”

CBS Reports

New York, NY

Recipient: Jay McMullen, Producer

RADIO

“A Case in Point” dramatizing role of a lawyer.

KMOX Radio

St. Louis, MO

Recipient: Robert Hyland, Vice President of CBS Radio
& General Manager KMOX

MOTION PICTURES

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1961.

1962

NEWSPAPERS

For Journalistic enterprise in support of steps to strengthen the probate court system in Massachusetts.

The Christian Science Monitor

Boston, MA

Recipient: Emile Tavel

For articles interpreting decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court on major constitutional issues.

The Washington Post

Washington, DC

Recipient: James C. Clayton, Author

MAGAZINES

For a definitive article on the court congestion problem, “The Crisis in the Courts.”

Fortune Magazine

New York, NY

Recipient: Ralph D. Paine, Jr., Publisher

For a series of illustrated educational articles on the historic origin of our legal system.

Boy's Life Magazine

Irving, TX

Recipient: Harold E. Gray, Western Manager

BOOKS

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1962.

THEATRE

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1962.

TELEVISION

“Iron Man” segment from *The Defenders* series.

CBS Television Network

New York City, NY

Recipient: Robert Lewine
Hollywood, CBS
Vice President, Programs

RADIO

***“So Highly We Value”* dramatizing significant events in American legal history.**

WRFB Radio

Tallahassee, FL

Recipient: Justice Elwyn Thomas, Florida Supreme Court

MOTION PICTURES

“Judgement at Nuremburg”

Stanley Kramer Corporation

Recipient: Samuel Zagon

1963

NEWSPAPERS

For distinguished interpretive reporting of U. S. Supreme Court decisions on Constitutional issues of great national significance.

The Washington Post
Washington, DC

Recipient: Alfred Friendly, Managing Editor

For a series of distinguished editorials supporting adoption of the Judicial Amendment of the Illinois Constitution to modernize the courts of Illinois through Blue Ballot amendment to the State Constitution.

The Chicago Tribune
Chicago, IL

Recipient: Stewart D. Owen, Managing Editor

For articles & editorials supporting the organized bar campaign to modernize the courts of Illinois through Blue Ballot amendment to the State Constitution.

The Chicago Daily News
Chicago, IL

Recipient: John Stanton, Managing Editor

For reportorial & editorial support contributing to approval of the Judicial Amendment to the Illinois Constitution.

The Chicago Sun-Times
Chicago, IL

Recipient: Karen Walsh, City Editor

MAGAZINES/PUBLICATIONS

For a notable series of educational booklets explaining preventive law and acquainting laymen with their rights and obligations under law.

The Research Institute of America

Recipient: Carl Hovgard, New York President

BOOKS

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1963.

THEATRE

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TELEVISION

For the television drama “The Judge” contributing to public understanding of the judge’s role & the ethical principles surrounding the judicial office.

National Broadcasting Company
New York City, NY

For “CBS Reports” two-part television documentary, “Storm Over the Supreme Court,” tracing memorable events in the 179-year history of the court.

Columbia Broadcasting System

CBS News Division

Recipient: Fred W. Friendly, Executive Producer

RADIO

For contributing to public understanding of the lawyer's function in American life through its public service radio series, "A Look at the Law."

WMAQ Radio

Chicago, IL

Recipient: Lloyd E. Yonder, Vice President & General Manager

For its lawyer-layman radio interview series, "A Look at the Law," on the nature of the lawyer in our society.

KYM Radio

Cleveland, OH

Recipient: Perry B. Bascom, General Manager

MOTION PICTURES

For the feature film, "To Kill a Mockingbird," dramatizing the individual right to counsel and the lawyer's duty to defend indigent persons accused of crime.

Universal-International Pictures

Recipient: Adolph Schimel, Vice President & General Manager

1964

NEWSPAPERS

For analytical reporting, under deadline pressure of important decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Washington Star

Grand Coulee, WA

Recipient: I. William Hill, Managing Editor

For a series of articles on the significance of the ruling by the three judges U.S. Western District of Oklahoma reapportioning the Oklahoma legislature.

The Oklahoma City Times

Recipient: Robert McMillin, Staff Writer

MAGAZINES

For a series of six articles including “The Ordeal of John Henry Faulk,” on legal issues of current national interest which contributed to public understanding of the American system of law.

Look Magazine

Recipient: Daniel D. Mich, Editor

BOOKS

For a series of articles analyzing historic decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court which helped shape American democracy.

American Heritage Publishing Co.

Recipient: James Parton, President & Publisher

For the Biography, “The Man Who Rode the Tiger,” recounting the dedication and influence of Samuel Seabury as lawyer, judge, and exposé of municipal corruption.

J. B. Lippincott Company

Philadelphia, PA

Recipient: Herbert Mitgang

THEATRE

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1964.

TELEVISION

For the CBS Reports’ documentary, “*The Crisis of Presidential Succession*” directing attention to the problems of presidential inability and succession.

Columbia Broadcasting System

CBS News Division

New York City, NY

Recipient: Arthur D. Morse, Executive Producer

For its series of 20 educational films, “*A Quest for Certainty*,” examining the nature and values of our legal system.

University of Michigan

Television Center

Ann Arbor, MI

Recipient: Prof. J. Richard Julin, Series Host

For the “*Blacklist*” program from “*The Defenders*” series dramatizing the plight of the blacklisted actor and the role of his lawyer.

Plantus Productions

Recipient: Jerome Leitner, Legal Advisor, “*Defenders*”

RADIO

For its recorded series “*Heritage*” restating basic precepts of justice as set forth in the Declaration of Independence & the Bill of Rights.

KMPC Radio

Los Angeles, CA

Recipient: Lloyd C. Sigmon, Exec. Vice President & General Manager
Golden West Broadcasters

MOTION PICTURES

For its educational, animated color cartoon film, “*The Great Rights*” dramatizing individual freedoms established by the Bill of Rights.

Brandon Films

Recipient: Thomas Brandon, President

1965

NEWSPAPERS

For an 11-part series analyzing the public benefit of the 1964 Code of Civil Procedures in the Kansas Courts.

The Kansas City Kansan
Kansas City, KS

Recipient: Paul Van Osdol, Jr., Legal Counsel for Newspaper

For a series of 24 interpretive articles on the importance of Kentucky's Court of Appeal decisions and for its supplementary coverage of significant law news.

The Louisville Times
Louisville, KY

Recipient: Barry Bingham, Editor & Publisher

For comprehensive reporting and editorial interpretation of court decision legislative enactments, and organized bar efforts to improve the administration of justice.

The Blade
Toledo, OH

Recipient: John D. Willey, Associate Director

For a distinctive series of weekly articles interpreting developments and trends in judicial decisions and law Enforcement procedures.

The Worcester Daily Telegram
Worcester, MA

Recipient: Harold C. Jackson

WIRE SERVICE

For "*Crime and the U.S. Supreme Court*," a series of six articles analyzing landmark decisions broadening the rights of accused in criminal cases.

Gannett News Service
Washington, D.C.

Recipient: James W. Canan

MAGAZINES

For "*Storm of Justice*," a distinguished assessment of the record of the U.S. Supreme Court during the last decade under Chief Justice Warren Burger.

Life
New York City, NY

Recipient: E. K. Thompson, Editor

BOOKS

For "*Justice on Trial*," a historical book by A. L. Todd on the U.S. Senate fight in 1916 leading to the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis.

McGraw-Hill Book Company
New York

Recipient: W. Wilson Garey, Editor/Legal Publication

THEATRE

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1965.

TELEVISION

For “*Gideon’s Trumpet: The Poor Man & the Law*,” a CBS Reports Television documentary on the 1963 Supreme Court decision clarifying the rights of accused persons to have counsel.

Columbia Broadcasting System

CBS News Division

New York City, NY

Recipient: Joseph Wershba, Producer

For the television documentary, “*The Magnificent Yankee*,” dramatizing the 30-year career of Oliver Wendell Holmes on the U.S. Supreme Court.

National Broadcasting Company

New York City, NY

Recipient: Walter D. Scott, Exec. Vice President

For the “*Profiles in Courage*” drama of Charles Evans Hughes’ courageous struggle on constitutional grounds, against the ouster of NY state legislators accused of radicalism.

Robert Saudek Associates, Inc.

New York

Recipient: David Karp

RADIO

For originating a broad program of public service broadcasting in the field of law designated as “*Government of Man by Law*”.

WIBG Radio

Philadelphia, PA

Recipient: Joseph T. Conway, Vice President & General Manager

MOTION PICTURES

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1965.

1966

NEWSPAPERS

For a distinguished ten-page series analyzing the nature and impact of significant changes in the administration of criminal justice.

The Christian Science Monitor
Boston, MA
Recipient: Erwin D. Canham

For a comprehensive series of editorials urging modernization of Florida's judicial system and the non-partisan selection of judges.

The St. Petersburg Times
St. Petersburg, FL
Recipient: Cody Fowler

MAGAZINES

For distinguished reporting of legal news in the Law Section for its informative essay on "*The Revolution in Criminal Justice*".

Time
New York City, NY
Recipient: Otto Fuerbringer, Managing Editor

For a notable account of reform in Chicago's police department and other discerning and constructive coverage of law news.

Look
Recipient: William Arthur, Editor

BOOKS

No Silver Gavel Awards were presented in this category in 1966.

THEATRE

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TELEVISION

For "*Abortion and the Law*," a CBS Reports television documentary examining on a worldwide scale the sociological, religious and legal aspects of abortion.

Columbia Broadcasting System
CBS News Division
Recipient: Richard S. Salant, President

For the television documentary "*Girard College: The Will and the Wall*," dramatizing the role of the courts in adjudicating a case of great public importance.

WCAU-TV
Philadelphia, PA
Recipient: Bruce R. Bryant

RADIO

For its timely editorial, “*The Second Civil War*” on cause of the Watts riots and the need for corrective steps predicated upon law and judicial process.

KMPC Radio

Los Angeles, CA

Recipient: Lloyd C. Sigmon

For its editorial, “*The Abused Witness*,” an in-depth study of problems faced by citizens serving as witnesses in court and means to reduce trial delay.

WMAL Radio

Washington, DC

Recipient: Jack LaCovey, Producer/Director

MOTION PICTURES

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1967

NEWSPAPERS

For a 7-part series by Staff Writer Leonard Downie, Jr., leading to constructive reform in Washington's Court of General Sessions; also, for articles by Staff Writer John P. MacKenzie interpreting significant decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court

The Washington Post

Washington, DC

Recipients: Leonard Downie, Jr. & John P. MacKenzie

For editorial leadership in achieving an initiative petition calling for statewide referendum on court reform in Oklahoma. The award was based on a series of editorials by Clark Thomas of the editorial staff.

The Daily Oklahoma & Times

Recipient: Clark Thomas

For pioneering leadership in formulating a voluntary code of fair practice in coverage of crime news to guard against prejudicing the rights of accused persons.

The Toledo Blade

Toledo, OH

Recipient: Mrs. Paul Block

MAGAZINES

For a cover story, "Moving the Constitution into the Police Station," on the Impact of the 1964 Supreme Court decision in *Escobedo v. Illinois* as it affected police investigation and interrogation of suspects.

Time

New York City, NY

Recipient: Robert Shnayerson

For two feature articles, one by Fletcher Knebel examining in depth, the jury system in the U.S. and the other by Julius Horwitz entitled, “*The Lady Fights Back*” detailing a 3-year court struggle by a negro attorney, Cora Walker, to obtain a certificate of occupancy for a renovated Harlem slum dwelling. She publicly exposed an extortion attempt by NYC building department inspectors.

Look

Recipient: William B. Arthur

BOOKS

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THEATRE

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TELEVISION

For its special, “*Meet the Press*” documentary on the President’s Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice, and for a historical drama, “*The Statesman*,” on the little known efforts of a Baptist minister, John Leland, to achieve in the U.S. Constitution a Bill of Right guaranteeing civil and religious freedom.

National Broadcasting Company

NBC News

New York City, NY

Recipient: David C. Adams

For “*View from the High Bench*,” an interview with Justice Potter Stewart of the U.S. Supreme Court filmed in his chambers in commemoration of LAW DAY USA in which the philosophical foundations of American jurisprudence were explored.

WTVN-TV

Columbus, OH

Recipient: Roger B. Read

For three submitted segments of a ten-part series of 30-minute programs, “*Due Process for the Accused*”. The program dealt with arrest and search, eavesdropping, and fair trial-free press.

WNBC-TV

New York City, NY

Recipient: David C. Adams

RADIO

For four submitted segments of a 21-part documentary series, “*Crime and Punishment in the 60’s*,” examining the nature and causes of crime. The series was produced in cooperation with the School of Criminology of the University of California.

Group W

Westinghouse Broadcasting Company

New York

Recipient: F. C. Hendrick, Jr.

MOTION PICTURES

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1968

NEWSPAPERS

For the “*Crisis in the Courts*” series by Howard James examining strengths and weaknesses of state court systems and recommending administrative improvements.

The Christian Science Monitor

Boston, MA

Recipient: DeWitt John, Editor

For Ronald J. Ostrow’s distinguished series of interpretive articles about the U.S. Supreme Court decisions and of operations of the Federal Department of Justice.

The Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, CA

Recipient: Ronald J. Ostrow

For interpretive articles on the decision-making processes of the U.S. Supreme Court and related legal subjects, by James C. Millstone.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

St. Louis, MO

Recipient: Michael Pulitzer, News Editor

For its voluntary adoption of a code of fair practice to protect fair trial and free press in crime news reporting.

The Louisville Courier-Journal

Louisville, KY

Recipient: Norman E. Isaacs, Vice President & Managing Editor

For an informative 10-part series of articles by G. Warren Nutter contrasting the legal, political and social institutions of the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Philadelphia, PA

Recipient: John S. Gillen, Managing Editor

NEWS SERVICE

For a series of articles by Jack C. Landau examining the American system of military justice.

Newshouse National News Service

Washington, DC

Recipient: Jack C. Landau

MAGAZINES

For Peter Janssen’s article, “*The ‘New’ Law v. Tradition,*” which examines trends toward greater curriculum flexibility and increased emphasis on social responsibilities in legal education in the U.S.

Newsweek Magazine

New York City, NY

Recipient: Peter Janssen

For Stewart Alsop's feature article, "*The Supreme Court Asks a Question: Is It Fair?*". An assessment of the performance of the Court and the philosophies of its members.

Saturday Evening Post

Indianapolis, IN

Recipient: Harry Egner

BOOKS

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THEATRE

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TELEVISION

For its television documentary, "*Justice for All?*" profiling problems of the nation's poor growing out of unequal access to legal services.

National Broadcasting Company

New York City, NY

Recipient: Thomas E. Ervin, Vice President & General Attorney

For television drama, "*A Case of Libel*," portraying fundamental principles of American justice through recreation of a famous trial.

American Broadcasting Company

New York City, NY

Recipient: Martin Starger

For the “Commitment” episode of the *Judd for the Defense* series in which a dedicated lawyer remedies a miscarriage of justice.

Twentieth Century-Fox Television, Incorporated
Recipient: Paul Monash, Executive Director

RADIO

For a documentary series, “*Perspective – DC Crime Report*,” on the importance of the recommendations of the President’s Crime Commission.

WMAL Radio
Washington, DC
Recipient: Joseph A. LaCovey

For “*Benzequin’s Notepad*,” an imaginative series of background reports on significant developments in law, the bar and the courts.

WEEI Radio
Boston, MA
Recipient: Paul Benzaquin

MOTION PICTURES

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NEWSPAPERS

For a feature article by Herbert Mitgang detailing the work of community lawyers for the poor and disadvantaged.

The New York Times Magazine
New York City, NY

Recipient: John Desmond, Assistant Sunday Editor

For Austin Wehrwein's series of editorials and commentaries on developments in law and the administration of justice.

The Minneapolis Star
Minneapolis, MN

Recipient: George L. Peterson, Editorial Editor

For an enterprising editorial survey of the administration of justice in Alaska by lawyer-journalist C. Robert Zelnik.

The Anchorage Daily News
Anchorage, AL

Recipient: L. S. Fanning, Editor & Publisher

For a distinguished series on crime and the courts analyzing crime statistics and the effects of Court decisions on law enforcement.

The Riverside Press-Enterprise
Riverside, CA

Recipient: Bob Holmes

For the book "*Ten Blocks from the White House*," a chronology of 1968 Washington riots and resulting emergency measures of court administration.

The Washington Post
Washington, DC

Recipient: Ben W. Gilbert

MAGAZINES

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BOOKS

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THEATRE

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TELEVISION

For a distinguished television interview, “*Justice Black and the Bill of Rights*,” examining the role of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Columbia Broadcasting System
CBS News Division
New York City, NY
Recipient: Eddie Barker

For its notable television documentary, “*The Quality of Justice*,” reviewing results of the 4-year reform program in Illinois.

WMAQ - TV
Chicago, IL
Recipient: Robert W. Lemon

RADIO

For the documentary “*The Cop and the Court*,” examining problems of the police and methods of law enforcement.

NBC Radio News
New York, NY
Recipient: Carl Stern

For a scholarly, educational series, “*The Rule of Law*,” examining the nature and values of our legal system.

WJR Radio
Detroit, MI
Recipient: James H. Quell

For an educational series of question-and-answer programs, “*Law for Laymen*,” acquisitions under law.

KLAC Radio
Los Angeles, CA
Recipient: David C. Croninger

MOTION PICTURES

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