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News Release

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NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR 2024 WILLIAM S. DIXON FIRST AMENDMENT FREEDOM AWARD

Albuquerque, N.M. – The New Mexico Foundation for Open Government (FOG) is looking for New Mexicans who are upholding the principles of open governance and accountability as the organization is now accepting nominations for the 2024 William S. Dixon First Amendment Freedom Award.

The honor recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of citizens and organizations in New Mexico who champion transparency and defend the people’s right to know the affairs of government. Award recipients will be selected by a panel of FOG directors and will be honored at the annual “Your Right to Know” Dixon Lunch on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2024, at the Sandia Golf Club in Albuquerque.

“For more than 20 years FOG has celebrated the state’s champions of transparency and free expression and we are thrilled to invite nominations for the 2024 cycle,” Lucas Peerman, FOG vice president and Dixon Award chair, said. “It’s important that FOG focuses attention and celebrates those New Mexicans who represent open government in action. They sacrifice many hours of their time doing crucial legislative, legal, educational and investigative work and their hard work ensures that the rest of us enjoy our right to know if and when we choose to exercise it.”

The award honors the late William S. Dixon, a First Amendment advocate and FOG co-founder. Dixon was a brilliant attorney, a leading defender of free speech and public-access rights, and his legacy lives on through this award.”

Persons wishing to nominate an individual or organization are urged to visit the FOG website and click on Nominations for all of the requirements. The deadline for nominations is July 23, 2024.

Award categories include: business, law, education, government, media and citizen advocacy.

Dixon Award winners will be announced at the end of August and recognized at FOG’s annual Dixon Award Lunch.

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