



International Foundation
for Electoral Systems



The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) will present its 2023 Charles T. Manatt Democracy Award posthumously to Judith Heumann, widely respected as the mother of the disability rights movement. Judy embodies IFES's vision of democracy for a better future, as she devoted her life and career to advancing the rights of people with disabilities in government, philanthropy, international development, culture, and business.

"Judy's passing in March of 2023 makes this a timely moment to honor her legacy and celebrate her continued impact, including the powerful influence she had on our own inclusion work at IFES," IFES President and CEO Tony Banbury said. "Judy's legacy lives on as she continues to inspire people around the world to build inclusive communities and democracies that deliver for all."

Judy, who used a wheelchair since childhood because of polio, helped pave the way for major civil rights laws including the Rehabilitation Act in 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990, prohibiting discrimination based on disability. She went on to serve in multiple presidential administrations and non-governmental organizations.

Judy also gave her time generously to IFES's global inclusion work: she contributed to IFES [publications](#), spoke at IFES [events on Capitol Hill](#), and joined IFES in supporting the [creation of a permanent Office of International Disability Rights](#) at the U.S. Department of State.

Because of the work of people like Judy, governments and businesses are focused on protecting and advancing the rights of people with disabilities. We envision an evening that includes participation by representatives of different sectors including government, business, and civil society.

The Democracy Awards will serve as a moment to honor Judy's impact and legacy, to advance the conversation that she began, and to strengthen ties between IFES and other committed partners.

The IFES 2023 Democracy Awards will be held on Tuesday, October 17, in Washington, D.C. This premier event will include members of Congress, the Biden administration, and other leaders, experts, and advocates for democracy, human rights, and governance. It will include a reception, dinner, and awards ceremony.

Sponsorship Levels

CHAMPION

Champion starting @ \$25,000 | Reception host, access to VIP room, 30 tickets to the evening's reception and seated dinner (three tables of 10), exceptional table placement, top logo placement on event signage and program and on IFES.org, and opportunity to provide collateral for attendee gift bag.

PATRON

Patron starting @ \$10,000 | Twenty tickets to the evening's reception and seated dinner (two tables of 10), premium table placement, logo placement on event signage and program and on IFES.org, and opportunity to provide collateral for attendee gift bag.

SUPPORTER

Supporter starting @ \$5,000 | One table of 10, logo placement in event program and on IFES.org, and opportunity to provide collateral for attendee gift bag.

FRIEND

Friend starting @ \$625 | One ticket to the evening's reception and seated dinner, and donor name displayed at event and on IFES.org signage and program.

RECENT DEMOCRACY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Administrator Samantha Power, on behalf of USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance Officers

President of Ukraine
Volodymyr Zelenskyy

President of Liberia
Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

U.S. Secretary of State
Madeleine K. Albright

Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Margot Wallström

Speaker of the House
Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.)

Senator Rob Portman
(R-Ohio)

U.S. National Security
Advisor Stephen J. Hadley

Ambassador Mark Green

You may find the complete list of past awardees [here](#).

For more information please email Andrew Kolb,
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