

October 14, 2019



Salem Media Group Introduces Six Finalists for First National “Culture Warrior of the Year” Award

CAMARILLO, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [Salem Media Group, Inc.](#) (NASDAQ:SALM), announced today six finalists for the national award. Finalists determined by the Salem Editorial Board after review of more than 500 nominations from Salem radio listeners are: **Franklin Graham, Abby Johnson, Charlie Kirk, Candace Owens, Alan Sears, and Gary Sinese**. The “Culture Warrior of the Year” award winner will be announced in November, and the award presented formally to the winner in early 2020, following a final round of Salem listener votes.

The six finalists were decided upon based on the ability each has to fight the good fight for the right reasons. A major criterion for nomination was the ability of each nominee to have endured the slings and arrows of public discontent because of their respective positions. Salem selected leaders who fight on knowing that their cause is just.

“We all know we are in a culture war in this country and we need more people to fight the good fight,” said Salem Senior Vice President of Spoken Word Format Phil Boyce. “Salem’s nominating process to find the Culture Warrior of the Year came from listeners who submitted their nominations on Salem radio host and local station websites.”

Franklin Graham, the son of the late Rev. Billy Graham, has forged on with his own identity by serving as the leader of Samaritan’s Purse, a worldwide relief organization that has saved thousands of lives across the globe through donations and aid grants. The organization also started the annual, international Operation Christmas Child.

Abby Johnson was one of the top managers of Planned Parenthood until she came to realize what a baby and mother were going through. She joined an anti-abortion group and her story was immortalized in the movie “Unplanned.” Today she is the mother of eight children and continues to fight to save the lives of the unborn.

Charlie Kirk started Turning Point USA when he was 18. Today, at 24 the organization has chapters on over 1,200 college and high school campuses serving to convince young people that liberal, Leftist ways they have been taught run counter to the nation’s founding. Kirk is a fearless leader of the young conservative movement.

Candace Owens is a former liberal democrat who realized in 2015 that everything she was taught was a lie. She is one of America’s leading black conservatives, speaking across the country to debunk the myths of race baiters who want to hold her, and other African Americans, back. Owens is the host of a popular podcast on PragerU.

Alan Sears was the leader of Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) for more than 20 years,

helping the organization fight the battle for religious liberty and winning countless court victories. ADF is considered the largest legal force of the religious right, defending believers against the onslaught of the Left, including the case of “Jack the cake baker,” and many others.

Gary Sinese came to fame as Lt. Dan in the popular movie *Forrest Gump*. He has won an Emmy, Golden Globe and has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, but today is best known for his philanthropic work fighting for the rights of veterans while proclaiming his true patriotism and love of America.

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ABOUT SALEM MEDIA GROUP:

Salem Media Group is America’s leading multimedia company specializing in Christian and conservative content, with media properties comprising radio, digital media and book and newsletter publishing. Each day Salem serves a loyal and dedicated audience of listeners and readers numbering in the millions nationally. With its unique programming focus, Salem provides compelling content, fresh commentary and relevant information from some of the most respected figures across the Christian and conservative media landscape. Learn more about Salem Media Group, Inc., at www.salemmedia.com, Facebook and Twitter @SalemMediaGrp.

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