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New England **First Amendment** Coalition

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Anthony Lewis to receive NEFAC's first lifetime achievement award Feb. 11

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Anthony Lewis, winner of two Pulitzer Prizes and a former columnist for the New York Times, will be honored on Feb. 11 by the New England First Amendment Coalition with its first annual lifetime achievement award.

Lewis spent 50 years at the Times, as a columnist, reporter in the Washington, D.C., bureau, deskman and chief of the London bureau. He received his first Pulitzer in 1955 for reporting on the government's loyalty program and his second in 1963 for coverage of the U.S. Supreme Court.

He is the author of five books, including "Freedom for the Thought We Hate: A Biography of the First Amendment." He has taught at Columbia's Graduate School of Journalism where he held the James Madison chair in First Amendment issues and served as a lecturer at Harvard Law School.

The New England First Amendment Coalition's lifetime achievement award recognizes individuals

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whose career contributions further the understanding of First Amendment rights. The award honors work that represents the highest standards of journalism and demonstrates a commitment to informing and educating the public.

"It's an honor to present the coalition's first lifetime achievement award to someone of Tony Lewis's stature," said Thomas Heslin, executive editor of The Providence Journal and president of NEFAC.

"Anyone seeking evidence of the profound implications and enduring importance of the First Amendment need only look at the life work of Tony Lewis. He is the embodiment of the five freedoms, a giant upon whose shoulders we stand as we survey the new media landscape stretching out before us. Tony's steadfast passion, intellectual rigor and uncommon courage are simply the standard by which all others - journalists, educators and citizens - should be measured."

The award will be presented during a luncheon at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel as part of the winter convention of the New England Newspaper and Press Association.

Kathleen Carroll, executive editor of The Associated Press, will be the featured speaker.

Tickets to this fundraising luncheon may be purchased on the [NEFAC Website](#); discounted tickets for those attending the NENPA conference are available by registering for the conference on the [NENPA Website](#)

The New England First Amendment Coalition was formed in 2006 to defend, promote and expand

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public access to government and the work it does. NEFAC and its academic partner, Northeastern University's School of Journalism, founded the First Amendment Center at Northeastern.

NEFAC works in partnership with [Northeastern University's First Amendment Center](#) to further the cause of government transparency and the inter-relationship between the First Amendment and open government.

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