

Welcoming Remarks by:  
Todd Lang  
2013-2014 Arizona Bar Foundation Board President  
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Welcome to the Foundation Annual Awards Luncheon.

I am excited about today's agenda. We have some fantastic guests and our panel on the media and consumer protection should be fun and interesting. Our local media is doing some outstanding advocacy and I'm pleased they were able to join us today to let us know what they are up to.

Your support is wonderful and essential –both to the work of the Foundation and to recognized today's recipients for their outstanding service to the Law and to our community at large. Our recipients represent a broad spectrum of our legal community, yet they are here today because of our shared passion and interest in making the legal system more accessible. A nonprofit legal aid advocate, a member of the judiciary – our Chief, a retired insurance professional making a second career into the legal profession, and a large firm partner

We at the Foundation also know that many of you here today are not receiving individual accolades today, yet you are certainly deserving. Keep up the good work on behalf of Access to Justice! There are far too many folks who need legal representation but who find the doors to the courthouse locked. For too many average Arizonans, "Justice" remains an elusive and ephemeral dream, instead the concrete component of our economic and political system that we strive for it to be.

Everyone here today is justifiably proud of their work in the legal profession, but we need to continue that work and strive to bring our friends and colleagues into the fold as "advocates for access to justice."