

# Trainor Award Citation

## March 14, 2023

The Trainor Award is unique for many reasons. It recognizes leaders in diplomacy and statecraft, across the U.S. Government – not just within the State Department – and international diplomats from across the globe. Each honoree worked to shape events and thereby shape history for the benefit of all.

The first Trainor event was held in 1978 coincident with the launch of the institute and honored Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker, with remarks by one Henry Kissinger.

Among its recipients are Ambassador Masha Yovanovitch, who is with us today, the late Madeleine Albright, and last year – golly, seems like just last month – CIA Director Bill Burns.

In reviewing the very long list of Trainor recipients over the decades I was struck by the breadth of backgrounds and achievements recognized.

They include the U.S. Secretary of Energy, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Chief prosecutor of the international criminal court for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, the head of the World Bank, and the head of the IMF, and diplomats and policy leaders from thirteen countries.

Excellence in diplomacy is blessedly a global phenomenon...if too often in short supply and rarely heralded.

This award is also unique in that it is in honor of a revered university administrator, a living legacy made possible through an endowment created by his former students, those whose lives he profoundly touched during his decades of service to our school.