

## 2025 Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Social Courage

### Moderator Bio

**Rafael Romo** is a CNN national correspondent based at the network's southeast bureau in Atlanta. Prior to assuming his current role in September 2023, Romo served as both anchor and correspondent for CNN en español, where he anchored the global affairs show Mirador Mundial since 2016 and covered top stories across Latin America and the world. Romo was initially hired by CNN International in 2009 as Senior Latin American Affairs Editor, also serving as correspondent and analyst. He was also in charge of tracking the top stories across Latin America for the global audiences of CNN across its multiple platforms. Romo also frequently writes articles on Latin American issues for CNN Digital.

A native of Mexico, Romo is an Emmy-award winning, bilingual journalist with more than three decades of experience as an anchor, correspondent, manager of news coverage and journalism professor. Prior to being hired by CNN in 2009, he worked for CBS in Chicago as general assignment reporter and as correspondent and anchor for Univision.

### Panelist Bios

**Eric Farnsworth** is the vice president of the Council of the Americas and the Americas Society, leading the organization's Washington office. A recognized thought leader on Western Hemisphere affairs, he is a passionate advocate for the region's role in U.S. economic, security, and strategic interests. His expertise spans a wide range of critical issues, including trade and investment, energy policy, economic development, security, democracy, and U.S.–Latin America relations. He plays a key role in policy leadership and advocacy, with expertise in U.S. relations, economic development, trade, and energy, as well as Asia–Latin America relations, global governance, security, and democracy.

Prior to joining the Council, Farnsworth held key roles in the U.S. government, including positions at the U.S. State Department, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and the Clinton White House. He also served as a senior advisor to U.S. Senator Sam Nunn and has experience in the private sector at Manatt Jones Global Strategies and the Bristol-Myers Squibb Corporation. In recognition of his contributions, Farnsworth has been honored by the governments of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Spain and has been named an elected Academic Correspondent of Uruguay.

**Jennie Lincoln** is a leading expert on Latin American politics and U.S. foreign policy in the region. She has served as The Carter Center's principal advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean since 2015. A seasoned academic, Lincoln teaches Latin American politics and U.S.–Latin America relations at the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech. She has served as a credentialed international observer in 23 elections in Latin America, including five with President Carter and two with the Organization of American States.

Lincoln has a distinguished record of consulting for the U.S. government, nongovernmental organizations, the Organization of American States, the United Nations, and private-sector companies. She received her doctorate in political science from Ohio State University and previously taught at Miami University. A Fulbright professor in Costa Rica from 1984 to 1986, she continues to be a respected voice in Latin American affairs.

**Charles Shapiro** is a retired diplomat and global affairs leader. During his 34-year career at the U.S. State Department, he held numerous senior positions, including ambassador to Venezuela, principal deputy assistant secretary for the Western Hemisphere, and coordinator for Cuban affairs. Shapiro's other foreign postings include Chile, Denmark, El Salvador, and Trinidad and Tobago.

From 2014 to 2022, Shapiro served as president of the World Affairs Council of Atlanta and senior lecturer at the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University. Prior to that, he was president of the Institute of the Americas, a think tank at the University of California San Diego, where he led two policy trips to Cuba.

President Bush awarded Shapiro a presidential Meritorious Service Award in 2004, the Chilean Foreign Ministry made him a knight commander in the Orden al Mérito de Chile in 2005, and Secretary of State Clinton awarded him the Secretary's Career Achievement Award in 2011.