



The Lincoln Academy of Illinois

One Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 612701

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8337
Champaign, IL 61826

Telephone: 217-493-0047
www.LincolnAcademyIllinois.org

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For More Information:
Leanne Barnhart, Executive Director
(217) 493-0047

The Lincoln Laureates Podcast to Debut Episode with Lincoln Laureate Sam Skinner on National Transportation Day

Served as U.S. Secretary of Transportation Under President George H. W. Bush

(Springfield, IL) Created as a means for the Lincoln Academy of Illinois to showcase Lincoln Laureates to a global audience, the latest episode of *The Lincoln Laureates* features a conversation between former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sam Skinner and award-winning journalist and guest host Chris Bury, to appropriately debut on National Transportation Day.

Nominated by President George H.W. Bush in 1988 to be U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the Chicago native soon became known as the leader who brought the “Illinois Way” to our nation’s capital and was often called the “Boy Scout” for his sense of ethics and integrity. Skinner, in fact, is an Eagle Scout who spent his formative years in Springfield, Illinois.

"Scouting laid a foundation in my life," says Skinner. "After my dad died, I was kind of a lost soul. You develop relationships, but you also get to understand yourself. If you want to be an Eagle Scout, you can't quit."

During the taping, guest host Bury reminds Skinner that while serving as President George H.W. Bush’s Secretary of Transportation, he became known as the “Master of Disaster” for his leadership following the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and Hurricane Hugo. Skinner replies, “I prefer to be known as someone who answered the call. Too many in government are afraid to step up, they don't want to take risks. If you're willing to step up, you can make a difference."

A graduate of the University of Illinois and the DePaul University School of Law, Skinner became a Lincoln Laureate upon receiving the Order of Lincoln in 2017. Established in 1964 by (then) Governor Otto Kerner, the Lincoln Academy of Illinois is a statewide organization created to recognize and honor those leaders of today who have contributed to the “Betterment of Humanity.”

Promoted across the Lincoln Academy of Illinois' social channels Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, "The Lincoln Laureates" is also available through Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher, with streaming available through the TuneIn App and via voice command. Promoted across the Lincoln Academy of Illinois' social channels - Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, *The Lincoln Laureates* is also available through Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher, with streaming available through the TuneIn App and via voice command.

"The Lincoln Laureates" is a production of EarSight Studios with Todd Manley as supervising producer. Executive Producers are Lincoln Academy of Illinois Executive Director Leanne Barnhart and Academy Regent Dennis Lyle. Lincoln Laureate and award-winning broadcast journalist Bill Kurtis serves as consultant and announcer for the podcast series.

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(Note: Photo of Laureate is attached)