

The **FISCHER ROSS GROUP**, Inc.

LECTURE MANAGEMENT

Phil Donahue

Phil Donahue is an American media personality, writer and film producer, best known as the creator and host of *The Phil Donahue Show*. This show changed the face of American daytime television, pioneering the audience-participation talk format. He enjoyed a 29-year run as the host of *The Donahue Show*, which stands as the longest of its kind in U.S. television history.

His many contributions to TV journalism and entertainment earned him 20 Emmy Awards^B 9 as host and 11 for the show^B as well as the "George Foster Peabody Award," the "President=s Award" from the National Women=s Political Caucus; the first, "Media Person of the Year" Award from the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, and induction into the Academy of Television=s Hall of Fame. In 1996, *TV Guide* named *The Donahue Show* one of the Greatest Television Shows of All Time.

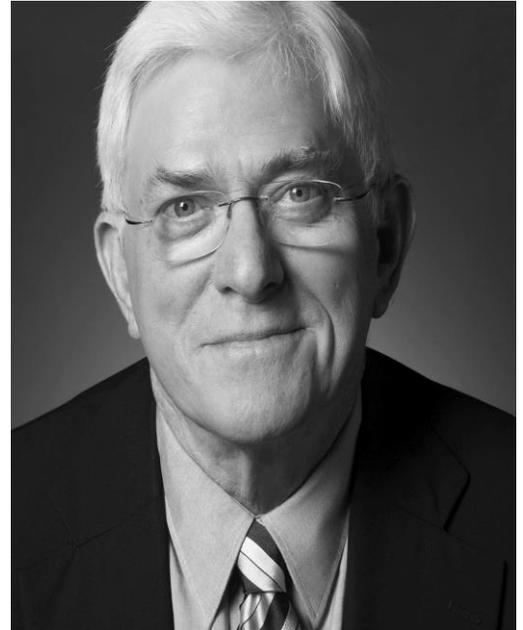
In addition to forging a new format in ^ATalk-TV,[@] Donahue has been lauded for his penetrating, groundbreaking interviews with world leaders, celebrities and newsmakers throughout his career -- including Muhammad Ali, Johnny Carson, Ayn Rand, Nelson Mandela, Madalyn Murray O=Hair (his first *Donahue* guest), Margaret Meade and all of the presidents since Jimmy Carter. In 1985, he introduced satellite ^Aspacebridge[@] telecasts between the United States and the then-Soviet Union, co-hosted by Russian political commentator Vladimir Pozner. The following year, he brought his talk show to Russia for a week of programs, and was the first Western journalist to visit Chernobyl after the nuclear accident there.

Beyond his talk shows, Donahue has also headlined numerous network and public television specials, including the Emmy Award-winning children=s special, *Donahue and Kids*, the landmark *Ryan White Talks to Kids about AIDS* and *The Human Animal*, an exploration of human behavior which was also a five-part, prime time series aired on the NBC television network.

In 2006, Donahue co-produced and co-directed *Body of War*, a feature-length documentary film that probed the wrenching journey of Tomas Young, a young Iraq War veteran who was paralyzed by a bullet to his spinal column, leaving him in a wheelchair and questioning America=s involvement in the war. Hailed by critics as ^Aalmost unbearably moving[@] (*Time* magazine) and ^Aemotionally ravaging^Ya ferocious film[@] (*The Washington Post*), *Body of War* played to thunderous ovations across the country, winning (among others) the *Best Documentary Award* from the National Board of Review; the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award at Michael Moore=s Traverse City Film Festival; and a People=s Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Along with his TV and film work, Donahue is an admired writer whose essays and opinion columns have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The Los Angeles Times*. He is also

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the author of the best-selling memoir, *Donahue: My Own Story*; and *The Human Animal*. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, the father of five children and a grandfather of two, Donahue lives in New York City and is married to award-winning actress, author and activist, Marlo Thomas.

His speech topics include:

- *“A Conversation With Phil Donahue”*
- *“The Responsibility of The Media”*

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