2015 Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medalists

Each year on Jefferson's birthday, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation and the University of Virginia jointly present their highest honors: the Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medals in architecture, law and citizen leadership. Each award represents a subject area in which Jefferson himself excelled.

A civil rights activist and lifelong public servant, John Lewis has been a central player in America’s struggle for human rights. He has served as U.S. Representative of Georgia’s Fifth Congressional District since 1986.

Watch Rep. Lewis’ full speech on Monticello’s website: www.monticello.org/johnlewis

“Being here, on this place, on this little piece of real estate, is almost too much for me. Breathing the air that Jefferson once breathed reminds us of the struggle which unites us all: the deathless human quest for freedom, and the right to liberation”