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**NOMINEE INFORMATION:**

Thomas Pangle

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Area of Expertise: Academia

**STATEMENT OF NOMINATION:**

 Thomas Pangle is one of America’s foremost scholars of political philosophy. In a prolific career as an author, he has investigated the manifold ways in which the America regime has deep roots in the philosophic, moral, and religious traditions of the West. He has published penetrating studies of classical philosophy, of the Bible, and of the modern philosophers most relevant to American political practice. In particular, he has done more than anyone else in his generation to revive the serious study of Montesquieu and Locke, and to demonstrate their relevance to the American Founders, especially to their understanding of the perennial problem of religious toleration. By illuminating the serious thinking that stands behind the American Founding, Pangle has been influential in restoring the issue of constitutional government to the forefront of academic debate. In an era of supposedly “value-free” social science, he has insisted on raising ethical questions in studying politics, and looked for ways to combine the practicality of the modern Enlightenment with the ennobling vision of classical thinkers. A student of Allan Bloom, and thus by extension of Leo Strauss, Pangle has carried on the legacy of these two seminal thinkers and done much to promote their reputations; his book on Strauss is arguably the most useful and accessible general account of one of the most important figures in twentieth-century political thought. A scholar of international stature, Pangle is also a world-class teacher, and has mentored a generation of students who have followed in his footsteps in applying theory to practice.

**Selected Books:**

*Montesqueiu’s Philosophy of Liberalism* (Chicago, 1973)

*The Laws of Plato* (Basic Books, 1980)

*The Spirit of Modern Republicanism: The Moral Vision of the American Founders and the*

 *Philosophy of Locke* (Chicago, 1988)

*The Ennobling of Democracy: The Challenge of the Postmodern Age* (Johns Hopkins, 1992)

*The Learning of Liberty: The Educational Ideas of the American Founders* (Kansas, 1993)

*Justice Among Nations: On the Moral Basis of Power and Peace* (Kansas, 1999)

*Political Philosophy and the God of Abraham* (Johns Hopkins, 2003)

*Leo Strauss: An Introduction to His Thought and Intellectual Legacy* (Johns Hopkins, 2006)

*The Theological Basis of Liberal Modernity in Montesquieu’s “Spirit of the Laws”* (Chicago,

 2010)

**REFERENCES**:

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