



PRESS RELEASE

October 1, 2012

For Immediate Release
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PETER HARTSHORN TO RECEIVE AJHA BOOK AWARD

The American Journalism Historians Association has selected Peter Hartshorn as the winner of its annual Book Award. Hartshorn will receive the award on Oct. 12, at the AJHA 31st Annual Convention in Raleigh, N.C.

An English instructor at Showa Institute for Language and Culture in Boston, Hartshorn authored *I Have Seen the Future: A Life of Lincoln Steffens* (Counterpoint Press, May 2011).

Hartshorn noted that Steffens had a fascinating personal and professional life, but his accomplishments have been overshadowed by his enthusiastic support of communism.

“My aim with this book was to present the life of Steffens, blemishes and all, in the belief that he deserves renewed attention both as a pioneering journalist and as one of the most colorful figures of his time,” he said.

Hartshorn’s comprehensive approach earned praise from judges for the AJHA Book Award.

“This is an extraordinary examination of Steffens’s contributions to journalism and the foibles and flaws that made him so difficult to comprehend,” one judge wrote. “The book is accessible, tough and eloquent—the most important work to come along in decades on the history of investigative journalism.”

Book Award Committee Chair Aimee Edmondson said that the judges generally believed Hartshorn’s 501-page book to be versatile for journalism faculty who include depth reading in their classes. It also is a great general history book, she said.

Hartshorn said he is deeply honored by the recognition from AJHA.

“Having spent nearly a decade researching and writing the book, I am very gratified to know that my work has been judged so highly by such a prestigious organization,” Hartshorn said.

Founded in 1981, the American Journalism Historians Association seeks to advance education and research in mass communication history. Members work to raise historical standards and ensure that all scholars and students recognize the vast importance of media history and apply this knowledge to the advancement of society. For more information on AJHA, visit <http://www.ajhaonline.org>.

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