

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

## DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

John Owens: Speeches & Appearances

Agriculture and Natural Resources, Institute of  
(IANR)

---

2004

### Maxine Singer

John Owens

University of Nebraska - Lincoln, [jowens2@unl.edu](mailto:jowens2@unl.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/owenspeech>



Part of the [Agriculture Commons](#)

---

Owens, John, "Maxine Singer" (2004). *John Owens: Speeches & Appearances*. 125.  
<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/owenspeech/125>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Agriculture and Natural Resources, Institute of (IANR) at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Owens: Speeches & Appearances by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

## MAXINE SINGER

Maxine Frank Singer began her education in the New York City public schools and earned her baccalaureate degree from Swarthmore College and her Ph.D. in biochemistry from Yale University. Dr. Singer has had a long association with the National Institutes of Health and served as "Chief," Laboratory of Biochemistry, National Cancer Institute, where she now carries the title of Scientist Emerita. In 1988, she became President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and served in that capacity until 2002 when she was named "President Emerita" and Senior Scientific Advisor to the Carnegie Academy for Science Education.

Dr. Singer's research activities relate to several areas of biochemistry and molecular biology, including chromatin structure, the structure and evolution of defective viruses, and enzymes that work on DNA and RNA.

Throughout her career, Dr. Singer has taken "leading roles" influencing and refining our nation's science policy, often in "realms" having social, moral, or ethical implications.

In 1992, she received the National Medal of Science with the following Presidential citation "for her outstanding scientific accomplishments and her deep concern for the societal-responsibility of the scientist." President Ronald Reagan awarded Dr. Singer the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award in 1988, and she was "elected" to the National Academy of Sciences in 1979 as a member in its Institute of Medicine. She has received honorary degrees from Yale University and Harvard University, among others.

#### **CITATION: HONORARY DEGREE – DOCTOR OF SCIENCE**

In honor of her groundbreaking work as an early pioneer in the study of DNA and molecular biochemistry, in recognition of her leadership in developing the moral-and-ethical "standards" for research in recombinant DNA, acknowledging her interests in "furthering" scientific literacy and education, and in thanks for her scholarship regarding University of Nebraska-Alumnus and Nobel-Laureate, George Wells Beadle, the University of Nebraska confers upon Dr. Maxine Singer the honorary degree doctor of science.