



ASPEN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

SUMMER 2020

VIRTUAL EVENTS

All events are virtual. For additional information and to register, visit aspeninstitute.org/community.

All times are Mountain Time.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 25 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Hurst Lecture Series

The Future of Higher Education:

How Research Universities Are Responding to COVID-19

Featuring University of California **President Janet Napolitano**, State University of New York **Chancellor Kristina Johnson**, and University of Miami **President Julio Frenk**, in conversation with **Dan Porterfield**, president and CEO of the Aspen Institute. The conversation will delve into what research universities are doing to find solutions to COVID, the role university medical centers play in treating patients and developing vaccines, and the impact of this crisis on the future of higher education.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

McCloskey Speaker Series

Has Decadence Rendered Us Happy and Comfortable or Stagnant and Disappointed?

Featuring **Ross Douthat**, conservative political analyst, author, and *New York Times* columnist, in conversation with **Michelle Goldberg**, *New York Times* columnist and Douthat's co-host of the Times Op-Ed podcast *The Argument*. His newest book, *The Decadent Society: How We Became the Victims of Our Own Success*, explores what happens when a rich and powerful society ceases advancing—with the combination of wealth and technological proficiency with economic stagnation, political stalemates, cultural exhaustion, and demographic decline creates a strange kind of “sustainable decadence.” Douthat dissects how we got here, how long this age of frustration might last and how our decadence might ultimately end. *Order the book.*

THURSDAY, JULY 9 | 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Murdock Mind, Body, Spirit Series

Customized Care: A Path to Better Health

Featuring **Dr. David Agus**, CEO of the Ellison Institute of the University of Southern California and author of the bestselling book *The End of Illness*, in conversation with **Dr. Jessica Herzstein**, specialist in preventive and environmental health. In his most recent book, *The Lucky Years: How to Thrive in the Brave New World of Health*, Agus posits that we are entering the golden age of health and doctors will soon be able to harness the power of technology to customize our care. Are we there yet? How has technology changed the way we approach health and wellness?

TUESDAY, JULY 14 | 4:00 - 5:00 PM

McCloskey Speaker Series

Looking Ahead to the 2020 Presidential Election

Featuring **Rachel Bitecofer**, senior fellow of elections at the Niskanen Center, and **Tamara Keith**, NPR White House correspondent, in conversation with **Dan Glickman**, executive director of the Aspen Institute Congressional Program. Bitecofer accurately predicted the 2018 midterm elections with a revolutionary new theory: swing voters matter far less than most experts think. Instead, turning out new voters drives election results. With Keith's vast knowledge of each candidate's campaign and policies and Bitecofer's predictive model, the panel will attempt to answer whether this theory will hold true in the 2020 presidential election.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Hurst Lecture Series

The Science of Well-Being

Featuring **Laurie Santos**, professor of psychology and head of Silliman Residential College at Yale University and host of “The Happiness Lab” podcast, in conversation with **Carl Zimmer**, author and science writer for *The New York Times*. Santos will explore what new results in psychological science teach us about how to be happier, how to feel less stressed, how to flourish more, and how to put these scientific findings into practice by building the sorts of habits that will allow us to live a happier and more fulfilling life.

MONDAY, JULY 20 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

McCloskey Speaker Series

American Conservatism: Preserving the Idea of Perpetual Change

Featuring **George Will**, Pulitzer Prize winning columnist at *The Washington Post*, and commentator for NBC News and MSNBC, in conversation with **Susan Page**, Washington Bureau chief for USA TODAY. He is the author of numerous books on the Western political tradition including most recently, *The Conservative Sensibility*. Will, whom *The Wall Street Journal* once called “perhaps the most powerful journalist in America,” will discuss the current state of conservatism in the United States and whether or not it aligns with the Founders' vision of natural rights, limited government, religious freedom and the belief in human dignity.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Hurst Lecture Series

Taking Stock: America at An Inflection Point

In collaboration with the Forum for Community Solutions

Featuring **Melody Barnes**, chair of the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions and Opportunity Youth Forum and former director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, and **John Bridgeland**, CEO of Civic and former director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, in conversation with **Stephen Patrick**, vice president and executive director of the Forum for Community Solutions at the Aspen Institute. The panel will discuss the nation's



COVID-19 response and how it has exposed deep systemic inequities in our nation. Can COVID-19 serve as a catalyst for social change? As we think about domestic policy and recovery in the years ahead, how do we build a more equitable future for all Americans?

TUESDAY, JULY 28 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

McCloskey Speaker Series

100 Years after the 19th Amendment: Where are Women Now?

Featuring **Katherine Grainger**, adjunct professor at the Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at NYU and partner at Civitas Public Affairs Group, **Ai-jen Poo**, co-founder of Supermajority and co-founder and executive director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, and **Cecile Richards**, co-founder of Supermajority and former president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, in conversation with **Peggy Clark**, vice president of Policy Programs and executive director of Aspen Global Innovators Group at the Aspen Institute. In light of the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the panel will examine the strides women have made towards gender equality in the last 100 years and what hurdles still remain.

THURSDAY, JULY 30 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Murdock Mind, Body, Spirit Series

Emotional Toolkit: How Do We Build Resiliency?

Guy Winch, PhD is a licensed psychologist, keynote speaker and author of several books including most recently, *How to Fix a Broken Heart*, in conversation with **Pam Belluck**, health and science writer for *The New York Times*. His TED Talks, "Why We All Need to Practice Emotional First Aid" and "How to Fix a Broken Heart," have been viewed more than 18 million times. Winch examines how we deal with common experiences like loneliness, failure, and heartbreak. Why do we downplay these psychological injuries? How have we come to value the body over the mind? Join us as Winch gives us the tools we need to build emotional hygiene and resilience.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

McCloskey Speaker Series

The Tyranny of Merit: What's Become of the Common Good?

Featuring **Michael Sandel**, professor of political philosophy at Harvard University and author of *The Tyranny of Merit: What's Become of the Common Good*, in conversation with **Elliot Gerson**, executive vice president at the Aspen Institute. Sandel has been described as "the most popular professor in the world." In his forthcoming book to be released in September 2020, he examines how we define success and how our meritocracy is hurting the common good. Can we be hopeful for a future that prioritizes the common good over individual success? *Pre-order the book.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Hurst Lecture Series

Emerging from the COVID-19 Crisis as a More Resilient Society

The COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic crisis have presented the nation with a once-in-a-generation challenge, exposing broad economic insecurity and stark systemic inequities

among our nation's workers, and our response will define us for decades to come. Join us as Aspen Economic Strategy Group Director **Melissa Kearney**, Howard University Economics Professor **William Spriggs**, and UnidosUS Chief Operating Officer **Sonia M. Pérez**, talk with *New York Times* Tax and Economics Reporter **Jim Tankersley** about how we can shape our recovery so that we emerge from this crisis a better and more resilient nation.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Hurst Lecture Series

By the People, for the People: Latino-Driven Solutions and Community Resilience in a Time of Crisis

"We are all in this together" was a phrase often heard as the COVID-19 pandemic began to spread across the nation, however it has exposed inequities in health, housing, and education that Latinx communities have long faced in the US. Why are Latinos so disproportionately impacted by this crisis? What can we do to address these fundamental problems of human welfare? Join us as UCLA Latino Policy & Politics Initiative Executive Director **Sonja Diaz**, Latino Community Foundation CEO **Jacqueline Martinez Garcel**, Voces Unidas Co-Founder **Alex Sanchez**, and Wilderness Workshop Defiende Nuestra Tierra Director **Beatriz Soto** talk with incoming Aspen Institute Latinos and Society Program Executive Director **Domenika Lynch** about the state of the Latinx community and who needs to be at the table as recovery efforts ensue. The panel will also discuss recent efforts in Colorado's Roaring Fork Valley to activate the Latinx community to become the architects of solutions and drivers of change.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 | 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

McCloskey Speaker Series

Criminal Justice Transformation in the Age of COVID and Beyond

In collaboration with the Aspen Criminal Justice Reform Initiative
Featuring **Anna Deavere Smith**, actress, playwright, and founding director of the Institute on the Arts and Civic Dialogue at New York University, and **Darren Walker**, president of the Ford Foundation, in conversation with **Reverend Vivian Nixon**, executive director of College & Community Fellowship and an Aspen Institute Ascend Fellow. The arrival of the coronavirus pandemic saw jails, prisons, and detention centers become hotbeds for the virus, and criminal justice reform advocates are working tirelessly for the release of young people, older and vulnerable adults, and undocumented migrants. But what happens when many of the formerly incarcerated are returning to communities that are also disproportionately affected by the virus? Perhaps this unique time gives us the opportunity to truly re-imagine and transform the criminal justice system in the context of larger, associative complexities happening in communities of concentrated inequality and racial segregation.



ASPEN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

 THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

S U M M E R 2 0 2 0

ASPEN COMMUNITY PROGRAMS hosts dozens of public programs year-round for residents and visitors alike, including the Hurst Student Seminars; Great Books; the Edlis Neeson Great Decisions Series; Our Society Reimagined; Sharing Shakespeare; Teen Socrates; the McCloskey Speaker Series; the Hurst Lecture Series; and the Murdock Mind, Body, Spirit Series. These programs offer affordable opportunities for people to find inspiration in a variety of ways. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to offer need-based scholarships to teens and adults to take part in our programs.

HURST LECTURE SERIES

Generously underwritten by the Hurst Family Foundation

MCCLOSKEY SPEAKER SERIES

Generously underwritten by the McCloskey Family Charitable Foundation

MURDOCK MIND, BODY, SPIRIT SERIES

Generously underwritten by Gina and Jerry Murdock

BECOME AN ASPEN COMMUNITY DONOR

Aspen Community Programs is dedicated to offering a vast array of programs for Aspen-area residents and visitors. We offer ways to take part in Institute programs and we create events that highlight what is at our core: providing a commons for people to share ideas. Donations make it possible to realize our mission of fostering values-based leadership and open-minded dialogue within the Aspen community and beyond. Learn more at aspeninstitute.org/contribute.

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS

The Society of Fellows is also hosting programs throughout the summer. For more information, call 970-544-7980 or visit aspeninstitute.org/sof.

GENERAL INFORMATION | aspeninstitute.org/community | (970) 544-7992

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