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Humanity 101 — moving from vision to reality
Please consider joining us …

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— President Barack Obama

“We may not be able to stop all evil in the world, but I know that how we treat one another, that’s entirely up to us.”
Humanity 101 — creating and sustaining a transformational movement

Using the stage of Arizona State University, America’s largest public university and a major research institution, ASU Project Humanities seeks to launch Humanity 101: Creating a Movement in spring 2014.

Humanity 101 is an effective toolbox of Project Humanities and its mission of Talking, Listening, Connecting about the human ties that bind us and that can be translated and transported around the world. This toolbox is of equal benefit in social, political, business and other contexts. Humanity 101 will provide the clarion call for integrity, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, self-reflection, empathy and respect in everyday living and everyday life. It is a movement in which individuals or armies can have equal impact.

Humanity 101 represents powerful communication, character-building and community-building which will include a wide range of resources, programs and activities, including:

- Universal Declaration: A Values Pledge
- media-rich, interactive website
- annual international “State of Our Humanity” symposium
- interactive resource materials
- establishment/promotion of a National Day of Our Humanity
- film and discussion series, lecture series and workshops
- international student exchange program focused on cross-cultural understanding
- awards for contributions that advance our shared humanity (Best Film, Best Song, Person of the Year, etc.)
- essay and arts competitions
- research projects and demonstrations
- video vignettes from society’s influencers
- corporate curriculum
- … and more

Humanity 101 will be a drumbeat of social consciousness and individual accountability where integrity, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, self-reflection, empathy and respect are celebrated and increasingly emulated.

Humanity 101 — the imperative for true dialogue and sustained focus

As we daily witness the complexities of human behavior reflected in news headlines — in human-caused tragedies, ethical lapses in the workplace or natural disasters — we are reminded that what connects us are our shared and sometimes futile efforts to make sense of what often seems senseless. In a world where we all race to be someplace to do something for some reason, each focused on our own agenda, do values like integrity, compassion, kindness, forgiveness, self-reflection, empathy and respect — for ourselves and for others — matter? No individual is an island. Surely there is a human need to belong and to connect; an imperative to reestablish human ties for greater understanding of ourselves and others.

Humanity 101 will remind each of us of our shared human ties, a humanity we have not yet lost despite glaring actions that speak to indifference, divisiveness, intolerance, incivility and the evil actions of a few. Such a campaign intends to be the catalyst for personal responsibility, accountability to each other and overall social responsibility. This movement will transcend boundaries of religion, culture, geography and other differences. A conscious commitment to these basic principles can and will influence behavior and thinking and will move us deliberately toward a better way of being human — individually, communally and globally.

Humanity 101 Declaration — Rise for Humanity

We advocate for an even better tomorrow by declaring these key principles, which we believe represent humanity at its best.

1. Integrity: choosing to do what is right, no matter what

   “Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody’s going to know whether you did it or not.” — Oprah Winfrey

2. Compassion: choosing to care about others

   “Our human compassion binds us the one to the other — not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future.”
   — Nelson Mandela

3. Kindness: choosing to help others

   “Remember, there’s no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.” — Scott Adams

4. Forgiveness: choosing to let go and embrace a new beginning

   "Forgiveness is the economy of the heart … forgiveness saves the expense of anger, the cost of hatred, the waste of spirits.”
   — Hannah More

5. Empathy: choosing to think from another’s perspective

   “Change begins with understanding and understanding begins by identifying oneself with another person: in a word, empathy. The arts enable us to put ourselves in the minds, eyes, ears and hearts of other human beings.” — Richard Eyre

6. Respect: choosing to acknowledge others beyond their perspectives and actions

   “To be one, to be united is a great thing. But to respect the right to be different is maybe even greater.” — Bono

7. Self-reflection: choosing to continuously examine yourself and consider possibilities of change

   "It is necessary... for a man to go away by himself... to sit on a rock... and ask, "Who am I, where have I been, and where am I going?"” — Carl Sandburg

“A journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step” — Chinese proverb
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The Case for Support

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