Signature Lecture Announcement:
*Toxic Positivity: The Good, Bad and the Made Pretty*
featuring Nora McInerny

Nora McInerny, author and host of the wildly successful podcast, *Terrible, Thanks for Asking*, will address our unwillingness and maybe even fear of acknowledging that some things in life truly suck. “Keep your chin up.” “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.” “Good vibes only.” These phrases, while well-intentioned, can teach each other to hide, even ignore the emotions we’ve deemed “negative.” But the truth is, sadness, grief, fear and anger are part of what it means to be alive, and possibly more importantly, necessary to understand one’s own needs, boundaries, and experiences; not to mention developing the empathy and urge to take action when we and others are mistreated or worse.

Join Project Humanities **Thursday, March 25** for a keynote address by Nora McInerny and facilitated discussion by Dr. Sarah Tracey, Professor of Communication in the ASU Hugh Downs School of Human Communication.

Honored

In January, Project Humanities was awarded the City of Tempe Martin Luther King, Jr. Diversity Award. Our continuing efforts to bring people together to talk, listen and connect have not gone unnoticed and we are humbled to accept this honor. Please click on the video to learn more.

Event Alert

When Dolly Parton sang “9 to 5” in the 1980s movie hit by the same title, she was doing more than just shining a light on the professional fate of American women. Parton was singing the autobiographical tale of a movement that started with 9to5, a group of Boston secretaries in the early 1970s. Their goals were simple—better pay, more advancement opportunities and an end to sexual harassment. Their unconventional approach attracted the press and shamed their bosses into change. Featuring interviews with 9to5’s founders, as well as actor and activist Jan Fonda, “9to5: The Story of a Movement is the previously untold story of the fight that inspired a hit and changed the American workplace.

The film screening and panel discussion will be held virtually this **Thursday, February 4** and facilitated by Dr. Mary Margaret Fonow, ASU Emerita Professor of Women and Gender Studies.
Event Alert

All are welcome and encouraged to attend our virtual program, Humanity 101 on the Homefront: Anti-Racist Parenting on Thursday, February 18. Despite the prevailing myth that children are blank slates who don’t see color, research confirms that as early as 6 months old, babies recognize race-based differences and that by ages 2 to 4, children internalize racial bias. Still, too many parents along the racial identity spectrum avoid talking with their children about race and racism because of their own adult discomfort and even their own unwillingness to acknowledge the reality of race and racism. Too many parents and caregivers adopt and model ineffective strategies such as teaching “colorblindness” or refuse to discuss race and racism at all because “it’s not polite.” Such strategies ignore the pervasive, systemic impact and realities of racism in the United States.

This virtual conversation with experts explores the role parents and caregivers, as well as other societal forces, play in dismantling racism through parenting and modeling anti-racism work. Among other things, this conversation will explore these questions: What is anti-racist parenting, and how does it differ across cultures? How is a conversation about raising anti-racist children also about a parent’s own attitudes about race and racism? Facilitated by Maureen Costello, Executive Director of the Center for Antiracist Education.

RSVP

Event Alert

Before Oprah, before Arsenio, there was Ellis Haizlip—Mr. SOUL! On the heels of the civil rights movement, the public television variety show SOUL!, offered an unfiltered, uncompromising celebration of Black literature, poetry, music, and politics—voices that had few other options for national television exposure. Guided by the enigmatic producer and host Ellis Haizlip, the series was among the first to provide expanded images of Black Americans on television and recognize the vibrancy of the Black Arts Movement. The film celebrates the groundbreaking PBS series against the backdrop of a swiftly changing political and social landscape, while profiling Haizlip, the charismatic man behind one of the most culturally significant and successful TV shows in U.S. history. With participants’ recollections and archival clips, Mr. SOUL! captures a critical moment in culture whose impact continues to resonate.

Join us Wednesday, February 24 for a virtual panel discussion of the film. We invite participants to watch the film on PBS or PBS.com prior to the program, available beginning February 22.

RSVP

Join the Movement

Sign the Humanity 101 pledge

https://projecthumanities.asu.edu/