

Message from the Executive Director

The [Fred Forward Conference](#) is quickly approaching, and we are excited to announce a new addition to the program, a special forum called *Fred Chats*. *Fred Chats* will serve as a platform for fresh voices, 15-25 years old, to speak to one of the many areas of talent Fred Rogers exemplified to improve the lives of children. We believe kicking off our conference with *Fred Chats* will serve as a wonderful catalyst for our conference panels and discussions, and we look forward to learning from these pioneering millennials.

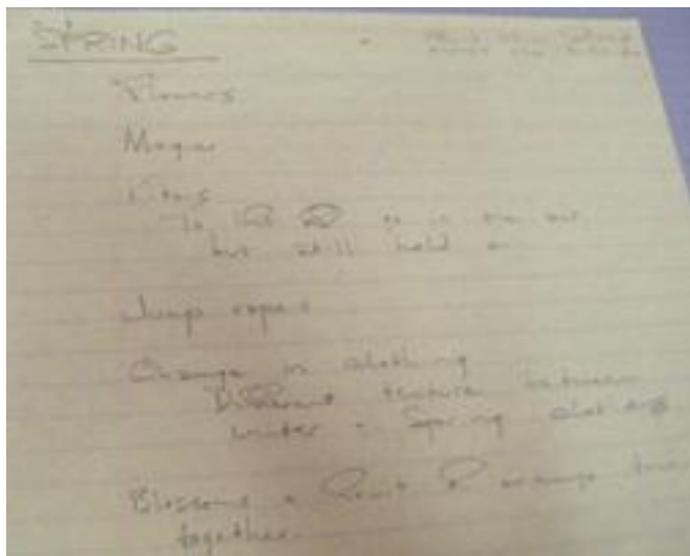
This year's conference theme, "Connections by Design: Creating Media, Children, and Family Partnerships through Research, Collaboration, and Advocacy," focuses on helping children grow as confident, competent, and caring human beings. Like television once was for Fred Rogers, today's technology and media are promising tools. We are pleased to welcome researchers, media creators, educators, child development experts, and many others, as we explore the positive potential of digital media to build connections and foster adult-child interaction. I hope you will consider joining us on June 1-3 at the Senator John Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh for what is promising to be a very interesting, inspiring, and interactive conference.

As our 10th anniversary year draws to a close, I am reminded that Fred recognized that children are our hope for a better world, and that mutually caring relationships are foundational to who children will become. The conference and the upcoming [Fred Rogers Legacy Award](#) on May 23 will acknowledge, pay tribute, and ultimately build upon his unique and powerful message.

Thank you for all that you do to pay Fred's legacy forward.

-Rick Fernandes

In the Archive...



Did you know that Fred Rogers wrote the television scripts for all of the *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* episodes? In the Fred Rogers Archive are the handwritten background notes for many of the themes and ideas that Mister Rogers presented on the program. Shown here are his notes for "Spring" and the objects and topics that Fred associated with springtime.

Carrying the Legacy Forward- In My Own Words

Just as Fred Rogers understood the importance of community, we know that it takes advocates, collaborators, donors, and so many other friends, to help achieve our mission.

The Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society at Saint Vincent College recently celebrated the Fred Rogers Center's 10-year anniversary. To see a recap of the event, click [here](#).

"The goals of Alpha Lambda Delta not only include high academic achievement, but a dedication to serving our fellow students, campus, and community. As we reflect on the parallels between the purpose of ALD and Fred Rogers' legacy of service to others, we celebrate his contributions to a different type of community, media. Celebrating Fred Rogers and the Fred Rogers Center allows us as students to connect with our past, and rekindle the joy of service to others amidst the overwhelming, stressful push to the end of the semester. As I move on to finishing my college career and hopefully working with children, I hope to carry on Fred's legacy of service by loving those around me and being a true neighbor to others."

-Courtney Grondziowski
President, Alpha Lambda Delta
Saint Vincent College

See How Children's Librarians Can Be a Resource for Choosing Media



In the Center's most recent blog post, "[Children's Librarians as Digital Media Mentors](#)," Cen Campbell, children's librarian and founder at LittleeLit.com, explains why more parents and teachers should use their children's librarian as a resource in choosing media for their kids. See how "Lives change @ your library" during [National Library Week 2014](#).

Ele's Corner



Help preschoolers engineer, build, and test their own [cardboard bridges!](#) Experiment with the behavior of water and explore the [attributes of a penny!](#) Check out these new videos from the [Carnegie Science Center](#).

Connect with *Ele*



2014 Day of Giving WESTMORELAND GIVES.ORG

Please mark your calendars for the 2014 Day of Giving. All gifts designated to the Fred Rogers Center on Tuesday, May 6 through [www.westmorelandgives.org](#) are eligible for matching funds. Simply visit the website between 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 a.m. to make a contribution. Your generosity promotes the legacy of Fred Rogers through the Center's signature programs and initiatives that support the healthy development of young children.

Words of Wisdom



During the Month of the Young Child, Fred Rogers reminds us, "We show our love to our children by helping them to grow up healthy."

-Fred Rogers