



FRED ROGERS CENTER
for early learning and children's media
at Saint Vincent College
STAYING CONNECTED

Message from the Executive Director

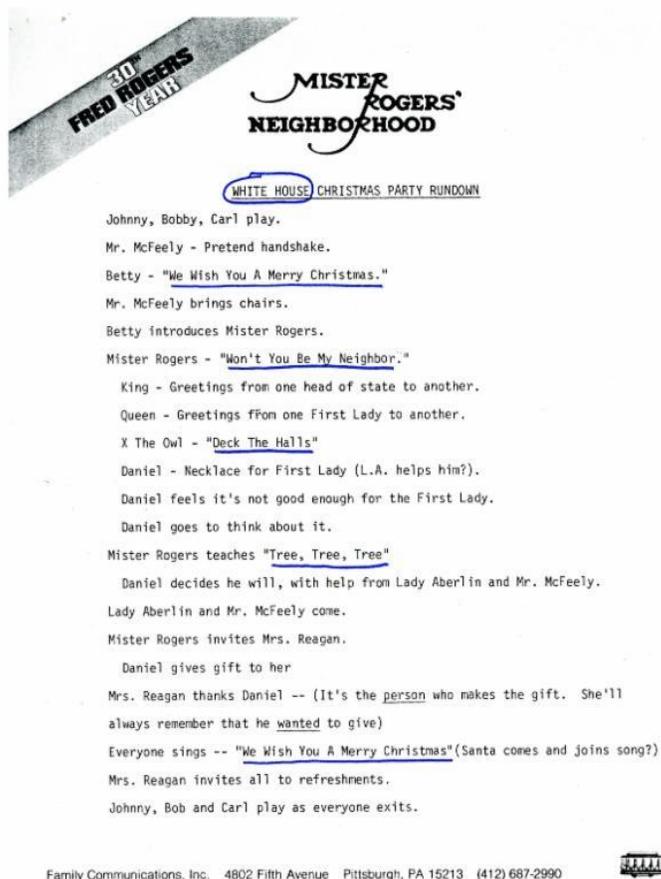
I can't believe it's been a year since I accepted the opportunity to be a part of the Fred Rogers Center. I am tremendously grateful to the many people who made me feel so welcomed in the Pittsburgh community as well as for the many colleagues across the country who generously provided encouragement and feedback as we've been refining our programs.

As we all take a moment to count our blessings during this festive time of year, I hope you find much in your own life for which you are thankful. Whatever you celebrate-- Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or simply the joy of bringing friends and family together--please know that we wish you and yours all the very best for a healthy, joyous 2015. We look forward to sharing more information about our programs in the coming new year.

Sincerely,

Rick Fernandes

In the Archive



Thirty years ago, Mister Rogers visited the White House for the Diplomatic Children's Christmas Party. Nancy Reagan hosted the event, which included songs, puppets, cookies, and holiday cards for the children. There was also a special appearance by Willard Scott as Santa Claus. The Fred

Early Career Fellow Update

In a recent [blog post](#), we featured the work of Early Career Fellow, Anna Ly. Anna and her team are designing a new app that uses breath and storytelling to teach mindfulness to young children. Through her fellowship at the Center, Anna is applying Fred Rogers' principles to today's technology.

Tech Obsession?

In this season of giving when more tech toys will soon be upon us, the Center's own Dr. Michael Robb, Director of Education and Research, and Dr. Junlei Li, Associate Professor of Early Learning and Children's Media, examine what children's "[obsession with technology](#)" tells us about what they really need. Michael also shared how he will be [spending the holidays](#) with his kids.

In the Classroom

In honor of Fred's legacy, students in the child development class at Saint Vincent College created puppet shows for young children with key psychological principles in mind. Hannah Galvin (Early Education major) and Alaina D'Aloiso (Special Education major) created this

Rogers Archive houses a file folder with preparatory notes, scripts, and correspondence concerning the party, as well as photographs and newspaper clippings about the event.



Ele is featuring some great new content this month to encourage wonder, sharpen STEM skills, and support social-emotional development.



Check out these activities and video clips on *Ele*!

- Encourage hands-on exploration by helping preschoolers mix and test their own [bubble solutions](#)!
- In a restaurant? Use sugar packets and menus at the restaurant to measure the width of a table! The video is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- Listen to children talk about what makes them [feel sad](#) and what "sad" feels like in their bodies.

Connect with *Ele*! 

Carrying the Legacy Forward

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.

I just reviewed your online exhibit, and seeing Fred Rogers speaking to the Senate Committee was wonderful to watch. The memories of his patience and kindness made me smile. I am going to forward this to my son who is studying for his college exams to remind him that one person can make a difference and to have patience. I especially hold his message close to my heart in my thoughts of the children of Ferguson, MO. They need someone like Fred in their lives. Thirty minutes a day can do a world of difference in just understanding that they do matter.

-Anonymous

quirky skit to promote persistence and growth-mindset in children. Check out "Sally Skates to Success" [here](#).

Twelve Days of Community

The Rogers Center is pleased to partner with Beeghly and Company Jewelers to "Celebrate the Precious Gifts of Life." Designed to highlight our region's treasures over twelve days, this scavenger hunt is open to the entire community. Follow them on [Facebook](#) for daily clues.

Words of Wisdom



"I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story. The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins, the anticipation of familiar turns it takes, the familiar moments of suspense, and the familiar climax and ending."

-Fred Rogers

