

## Message from the Executive Director

Greetings from the Fred Rogers Center! We are very excited to update you on our work since our summer hiatus. Autumn is quickly transforming the landscape both outside and inside the Fred Rogers Center. For the first time, classes in the Saint Vincent College Children's Studies Minor will be taught at the Center. As I write this, our former workshop is being converted into a new classroom with a few simple changes to lighting, AV equipment, and furnishings. Moreover, our Incubator 143 Lab, focused on improving the social-emotional development of children and transforming professional development approaches in early childhood and elementary school education, moved into our recently converted conference room. This relocation allows our students and team to be better connected and brings an exciting energy only young people can provide.

Incubator 143 provides a wonderfully enriching research experience to undergraduate students of all majors interested in child development and communications theory. This semester they are working with our local United Way to educate children on giving and receiving. We're thrilled to welcome nine students to the Incubator this semester as well as a new cohort of five Fred Rogers Scholars, who were recently inducted.

To me, mentoring these students is just one of the ways the Center fosters the next generations of Fred Rogers. These inspired young people will help keep Fred's important lessons alive and thriving for years to come. Just as the yellow, orange, red, and brown leaves dot the hillsides, the diversity of these students working across disciplines come together to paint a bright future for children, families, and educators.

Happy fall,

*Rick Fernandes*

**In the Archive...**

## Teachers' Innovation Project

In a recent [blog post](#), we introduced the next phase of the [Children's Innovation Project](#), which will be expanding this school year to become the Teachers' Innovation Project--a partnership between the Fred Rogers Center, Carnegie Mellon University, Carlow University, Clarion University, Pittsburgh Public Schools, and The Sprout Fund. Through the project we will explore what meaningful technology looks like with young children, and support teacher led professional development sessions.

## NAEYC Session Presentations

On Thursday, November 6, at 8:00 a.m. the Rogers Center's own Tanya Smith will partner with Sue Polojac of PAEYC to present PNC Grow Up Great's *For Me, For You, For Later: First Steps to Spending, Saving, and Sharing* at NAEYC's national conference in Dallas, Texas. We are also presenting a second session on November 8, at 10:00 a.m., *Taking the Technology and Young Children Position Statement Forward: A Checklist for Identifying Exemplary Uses of Technology and Interactive Media*. Speakers include Michael Robb, Tanya Smith, Sue Polojac, and Shimira Williams of TekStart. We hope to see you there!



Statuettes, plaques, and medals make up a large part of the Fred Rogers Archive. Because Fred Rogers received awards throughout his entire television career, from a Sylvania Television Award in 1955 to the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2002, the collection is diverse and presents an interesting challenge for preservation. Many of the items are put on display for a few months at a time, either on the shelves of the Archive or in display cases in the Fred Rogers Exhibit. When not on public display, the awards are housed in a storage cabinet or acid-free boxes, depending on the size and type of object. Pictured here is a sample of statuettes, notably an Emmy Award (1980). These awards are currently in storage.



We're always showcasing new educational content for teachers and families. Check out these activities that support social-emotional, intellectual, and physical development. See examples of ways you can support healthy foundations for young children in this [set of videos](#) co-created by Zero to Three and the Fred Rogers Center!



You can also find these great activities and clips.

- From ReadyRosie: You and your child can play with language while doing the laundry--in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- From The Mother Company: Watch children talk about what it feels like in their bodies when they're [happy](#) and [mad](#), and then talk to your child about their feelings!

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. We were grateful to host these students on September 30 for a field trip.*

With character being a driving force in the 2nd/3rd grade at the Environmental Charter School, students learn that citizens can make a difference in their community. When our literacy class was asked to evaluate the FRC's mission statement, it became the perfect opportunity to show students that they can make impact with their words.

To prepare for the task, the 2nd grade "mission control

## Congratulations!

A hearty congratulations goes out to Chip Donohue on the release of ["Technology and Digital Media in the Early Years: Tools for Teaching and Learning."](#) The book brings together the voices of many leaders in the fields of early learning and digital media to create a thought-provoking guide to effective, appropriate, and intentional use of technology with young children.

You can learn more about this robust resource by visiting our [blog](#) for Chip's exclusive insights.

## Welcome Scholars

We are pleased to announce the induction of five new Fred Rogers Scholars.

Congratulations to Lauren Campbell, Joshua Centore, Jennifer Haseleu, Noah Keys, and Marla Turk for their selection to the program. We look forward to working with them over the next four years.

The Fred Rogers Scholars program leverages the resources of the Fred Rogers Center and Saint Vincent College to inspire and nurture students who are interested in pursuing careers in service to children. Each student becomes a true scholar of Fred Rogers by developing expertise in a particular subject directly pertaining to Fred's life and work. For more information on the Fred Rogers Scholars, please click [here](#).

## Words of Wisdom

team" watched *Mister Rogers Neighborhood*, studied his life and legacy, and explored educational apps. Students shared their own positive interactions with media, while actively using it as a learning tool. They then put on a critical lens and analyzed the draft mission by reflecting and sharing feedback.



The entire project was a memorable experience for us, but what really struck me was how relevant each of Fred Rogers' lessons still are today. All of our students connected in some way, feeling a part of his deep and simple message.

*-Vicky Hsieh  
Pittsburgh, PA*

"Knowing that we're valued and being in the presence of people who want to share with us something of this world that they love are the two most important ingredients of education."

*-Fred Rogers*

