



ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

4th Quarter

October – December 2020

WCLV Fourth Quarter 2020 Issues and Programs

The list below represents current issues of community importance addressed during the reporting period above.

Day & Date: October 4, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Who is Permitted to Vote?: Lessons from the Reconstruction

Issue of Community Importance: **GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

Speaker/Guest: Dr. Eric Foner, DeWitt Clinton Professor Emeritus of History, Columbia University, and Recipient of the 2020 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Lifetime Achievement

Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University, Dr. Foner has used his career as a scholar to construct a more truthful narrative of the Civil War and Reconstruction, changing the language of this historical period from a story of white supremacy to a narrative that focuses on Black history, interracial democracy, and justice. His most recent book, *The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution*, details America's reckoning with the false constitutional promise of equality and liberty for all, following the development of the Reconstruction amendments which abolished slavery, guaranteed all persons due process and equal protection of the law, and equipped Black men with the right to vote. As phenomenal works of history do, this book encourages readers to engage with the present as well as the past, emphasizing the vigilance and persistence required to acquire and maintain freedom in a democratic society. This remarkable author talks about *The Second Founding*, the Reconstruction Era, and the contemporary struggle for freedom and equality.

Day & Date: October 11, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Caring for Educators in the Trauma-Informed Environment

Issue of Community Importance: **EDUCATION**

Speaker/Guest: Meghan R. Holmes, Ph.D., Founding Director, Center on Trauma and Adversity, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University; Habeebah R. Grimes, M.A., Psy.S., LSPSY, CEO, Positive Education Program

Over the last few months, our nation's educators have been forced to be in a constant state of reevaluation of educational practices to ensure that all children can continue to thrive during on-line learning and distance-learning. As the foundations of our educational systems have been tested by COVID-19, inequity in education has become much more visible and even exacerbated in some communities. Yet, some educators have used this difficult time to advocate for a new approach to teaching: a trauma-informed approach. This approach to learning shifts the

focus away from students' academic or behavioral deficits, and instead focuses on building relationships and learning environments that are conducive to social and emotional growth. Much of this shift requires the education community to consider equity as a facet of student success, as systemic racism, cultural backgrounds, and income level of students has massive impacts on behavior, academics, and social development. This type of education prioritizes the role of educators in providing the support that students need to grow into competent, confident, happy adults. All children are capable of thriving, and a trauma informed approach helps close the gaps between students who have the resources to thrive and those that do not. When it comes to trauma-informed educational practices, this panel deals with the questions; what is the role of educators in response to vulnerable kids, and what are the ongoing needs for educator self-care?

Day & Date: October 18, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Building the 21st Century City: Applying Technological Innovation to Foster Inclusion, Diversity, and Resilience

Issue of Community Importance: TECHNOLOGY

Speaker/Guest: Freddy L. Collier, Jr., Director of City Planning, City of Cleveland; Adie Tomer, Fellow, Metropolitan Policy Program, The Brookings Institution

As the City of Cleveland and the Urban Land Institute plan for a 21st Century City Symposium, to be held in March, 2021, Adie Tomer, Fellow at the Brookings Institution, kicked off the discussion with a focus on the best practices that will allow cities to maximize their future prosperity. After Mr. Tomer's remarks, he and Freddy L. Collier, Jr., Director of Planning for the City of Cleveland, discussed some current initiatives nationally and in Cleveland. As in past iterations of growth and development, U.S. cities are driven by technological innovation. Now that the digital era is here, what can Cleveland do to seize the opportunities presented by new technologies to create a more inclusive and resilient city for our diverse population, which in turn will attract the innovative businesses and citizens we want to draw here?

Day & Date: October 25, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Defending Free Speech for All

Issue of Community Importance: GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Speaker/Guest: Suzanne Nossel, CEO, PEN America, author "Dare to Speak: Defending Free Speech for All"

In the past year, the topic of free speech and its practice has come under debate on platforms like Facebook – whose backseat approach to quelling false political advertisements or dismantling hate groups has been deeply scrutinized – and on college campuses, where students have frequently expressed outrage at the presence of campus lecturers with whom they do not agree. As the notion of free speech is frequently pitted against other progressive axioms – namely diversity and equality – how do we reconcile these two sets of core American values? In her book *Dare To Speak: Defending Free Speech for All*, Suzanne Nossel, President and CEO of PEN

course, while at the same time lifting and amplifying the voices that have been historically silenced in democratic debate. Nossel discussed the tools needed for civic engagement in today's diverse, digitized, and deeply-divided society without resorting to restrictions on free expression.

Day & Date: November 1, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Barnstorming Ohio: To Understand America

Issue of Community Importance: **GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

Speaker/Guest: David Giffels, Author, "Barnstorming Ohio: To Understand America"

The old adage "as Ohio goes, so goes the nation" is repeated by political commentators and pundits during every election cycle. And for good reason: Ohio has accurately chosen the winner in 29 of the last 31 presidential elections, more than any other state. But what makes Ohio so uniquely positioned to reflect the current identity of our country and accurately predict the outcomes of elections? Author David Giffels spent a year traveling 4,000 miles throughout the state, visiting people and places that offer valuable reflections of the national questions and concerns – all as a historic Presidential election looms. In this current climate, the question of America's identity has rarely been more urgent, and no American place has ever more reliably illuminated that identity than Ohio. Giffels shared stories from his journey and what he learned about the future of America from Ohioans.

Day & Date: November 8, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Election 2020 and the Road Ahead.

Issue of Community Importance: **GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

Speaker/Guest: Clare Malone, Senior Political Writer, FiveThirtyEight; Jeremy Sure, Ph.D., Mack Brown Distinguished Chair for Leadership in Global Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin, and author, "The Impossible Presidency: The Rise and Fall of America's Highest Office"

The stakes of democracy are always high. Yet, the 2020 election carried a weight that American voters had not felt in decades. With 235,000 COVID deaths in eight months; an economic recession that parallels the Depression era; unnaturally powerful and devastating fires, hurricanes, and storms; a contentious Supreme Court nomination and nasty constitutional disputes; the weight of a vote feels unusually heavy. Although so much was on the line, our two potential outcomes remained relatively unclear. How long will it take to count mail-in ballots? Would President Trump accept a loss? What happens if the election goes to the courts? Most importantly, how does America begin to rebuild after a year of death, disease, racial injustice, economic fall-out, record-breaking political polarization and partisan divide, and overall exhaustion? What does life after the 2020 election look like?

Day & Date: November 15, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: The State of Antisemitism in America Report 2020

Issue of Community Importance: **ETHICS AND RELIGION**

Speaker/Guest: Dan Elbaum, Chief Advocacy Officer, American Jewish Committee; Holly R. Huffnagle, U.S. Director for Combating Antisemitism, American Jewish Committee

On October 26, the American Jewish Committee (AJC) released the results of its first State of Antisemitism in America survey. The results, based on parallel surveys of American Jews and the general public about antisemitism in the United States, were released on the eve of the 2nd anniversary of the shooting at Tree of Life synagogue in Pennsylvania. After sampling more than 1,300 Jewish adults and 1,000 general population adults across the nation, the AJC discovered the two groups' opinions and knowledge differ greatly on various aspects of antisemitism. The results found an increase in anxiety among American Jews and a disturbing lack of awareness among the general public about the severity of antisemitism in the United States. An analysis of the report's findings broke down what they mean for efforts to combat antisemitism in the United States.

Day & Date: November 22, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Democracy Unchained

Issue of Community Importance: **GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

Speakers/Guests: The Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, Canon Theologian, Washington National Cathedral and Dean, Episcopal Divinity School at Union; Jill Lepore, Writer, The New Yorker, and Author, "These Truths: A History of the United States; Eric Liu, Co-Founder and CEO, Citizen University; Amilcar Shabazz, Ph.D., Chair, W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst

In September, a new video series called *Democracy Unchained* launched. The series is part of the State of American Democracy Project aimed to help deepen and broaden the present conversation about democracy and connect it to effective action to repair and strengthen democratic institutions. It is neither conservative nor liberal, but aims rather to advance the restoration of respect for the rules of tolerance, fairness, and equality before the law that are the sine qua non of democracy. Much of the work ahead requires repairing institutions, "habits of heart," and political culture that have atrophied over many decades. Important parts of the work ahead, however, will require new thinking about governance, politics, and policy to meet the challenges of the "long emergency" posed by a destabilizing climate, loss of species, and the cascading effects of ecological systems failure that will threaten food and energy systems and thereby governments, economies, and domestic tranquility.

Day & Date: December 6, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Advancing Racial Equity in Ohio's Schools

Issue of Community Importance: **EDUCATION**

Speaker/Guest: Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Public Instruction, Ohio Department of Education; Laura Kohler, President and Member-at-Large, Ohio State Board of Education; Renee T. Willis, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Richmond Heights Local Schools

There is no institution more critical in the fight for racial equity than education. Yet, our education system remains subject to the very ailments that perpetuate structures of inequity and exclusion. For example, in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD), Black students are 1.7 times more likely to be suspended than white students. Conversely, white students in CMSD are 1.9 times more likely to be enrolled in honors programs than Black students. The problem persists on the state level. Recently, the Ohio State Board of Education passed a resolution to “condemn racism and advance equity and opportunity for Black students, Indigenous students, and students of color.” The resolution acknowledges that profound racial disparities exist between students of color and their white peers in all parts of the Ohio education system, including in generously resourced schools. Additionally, the Board addresses the need for revised curriculum that is racially and culturally comprehensive, emphasizes the importance of implicit bias training, and calls upon every Ohio school district to examine the role of racism in all facets of their schools’ operations – particularly in curriculum, hiring practices, staff development practices, and student discipline. Supporters applauded the resolution as a timely and significant step to begin to dismantle systemic racism at all levels of education. Critics call the resolution “unjustified” and dispute the assertion that a systemic problem exists in Ohio’s schools. Statewide leaders discussed the resolution and the new efforts in place to chart a path towards equity for all Ohio students.

Day & Date: December 13th, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Equity by Design: Sustainability, Mobility, and Building the Cities of the Future

Issue of Community Importance: **TRANSPORTATION**

Speakers/Guests: Enrique Peñalosa, Former Mayor, City of Bogata, Colombia

Enrique Peñalosa has spent much of his career advocating for sustainable mobility and quality of life in cities. During his two terms as Mayor of Bogota, Peñalosa implemented a city model that promoted equity, respect for human dignity, and gave priority to public pedestrian spaces – so much so that he was almost impeached for his war to get cars off the sidewalks! In terms of transportation innovations, he created TransMilenio, a bus rapid transit system inspired by the Curitiba model but with important improvements that trebled its capacity: it moves more pas-

sengers per mile than almost all the world's metros at a fraction of the cost. In addition, Peñalosa created a 200 miles network of protected bikeways before there were any in New York or Paris; in his second term, the network was extended, and more than 100 miles of greenways and bicycle highways were built. He implemented a massive urban improvement plan for Bogotá's city center which included demolition and redevelopment of severely crime-ridden areas, the creation of a land bank for providing quality low income housing, and the establishment of an innovative urban project of the highest quality for more than 400 inhabitants. Since leaving office, Mr. Peñalosa has worked as a consultant on urban strategy and leadership advising officials in cities all over the world on how to build quality, equitable and competitive cities that cannot only survive but thrive in the future. He was president of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, a New York based NGO promoting sustainable and equitable transportation worldwide. Mr. Peñalosa spoke on how he advanced equity for all residents through thoughtful transportation planning and urban design – and what we should all consider when building the smart cities of the future.

Day & Date: December 20, 2020

Time: 10:00 PM

Length: One hour

Program Source: The City Club of Cleveland

Show Name: City Club Forum

Segment Title: Reimagining Journalism: New Kids on the Block in Greater Cleveland

Issue if Community Importance: **COMMUNITY AND HUMAN INTEREST**

Speakers/Guests: Sharon Broussard - Coordinator, Northeast Ohio Solutions Journalism Collaborative; Ron Calhoun - Publisher, The Cleveland Observer; Ken Schneck - Editor, The Buckeye Flame; Julian Khan - Curator, A Greater Buckeye; Lisa Mills - Communications Manager, Neighborhood Connections.

Today, Ohio has 32 percent fewer newspapers than it did in 2004, making it harder for local readers to find out about their local city councilperson, what's going on in their school district, or the latest updates on efforts to create change on the issues that most affect their lives. Fortunately, new publications and partnerships have leapt into the breach in Northeast Ohio, aiming to fill the news desert with much-needed coverage. A few of those publications include A Greater Buckeye, The Buckeye Flame and The Cleveland Observer, as well as a new partnership effort titled the Northeast Ohio Solutions Journalism Collaborative, which brings together 20+ newsrooms across Cleveland and Akron to address community issues through a solutions journalism lens. Five of these journalists discuss the opportunities and challenges these new startups face.