

CSJ Center 2019 Symposium: Living on the Edge: Causes, Consequences and Actions

Monday, January 28th

CSJ SYMPOSIUM FILM LAUNCH

Reception: Foley Lobby 6:30pm – 7:15pm

Screening of “*The Florida Project*” – 7:30pm

Set over one summer, the film follows precocious six-year-old Moonee as she courts mischief and adventure with her ragtag playmates and bonds with her rebellious but caring mother.

Tuesday, January 29th

- **11:20am – 12:50pm – Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**

Homelessness - It Could Happen to Anyone, a Discussion on Housing/Landlord-Tenant and Employment Law

We are facing a housing crisis in California. Therefore, it is imperative for tenants to know their rights and obligations. The panelists will touch upon important aspects of California landlord-tenant law, discrimination in housing, rent control laws as they exist today, and eviction actions, among other issues. The topic of employment is closely related to housing. To that end, the panelists will address key issues that often arise in the employment context: wrongful termination, discrimination, workplace injuries, workers compensation laws, denial of meal and rest breaks, wage and hour violations, FMLA, etc. The moderators will take questions during and at the conclusion of the session.

Moderator: Nnogo Obiamiwe, Principal at the Law Offices of Nnogo C. Obiamiwe, APC

Panelist: Emmanuel Okojie, Law Clerk, Law Offices of Nnogo C. Obiamiwe, APC

- **2:40pm – 4:10pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**

Food Insecurity on College Campuses

Food insecurity on college campuses is increasingly becoming a major concern. This panel will discuss what causes this insecurity, what choices a university can make to decrease it, and how we can all respond to provide the resources needed.

Moderator: Dr. Jeanne Ortiz, Former Dean of Students, LMU

Panelists: Brooke Duplantier, Food Pantry Coordinator, LMU; Jodi Finkel, Professor, Political Science, LMU; Daniel Tamm, Program Marketing Specialist, Sanitation & Environment, City of Los Angeles

- **4:20pm – 5:50pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**

Young, LGBTQ, and Living on the Streets

As the cost of housing continues to surge in California and across the country, an increasing number of young people are experiencing homelessness at alarming rates. LGBTQ youth ages 13 to 25 are 120 percent more likely to experience homelessness than their straight peers, according to a national survey conducted by the University of Chicago. Panelists will discuss the many contributing factors that lead to LGBTQ homelessness, such as drug abuse, depression, family conflict, or chronic absence from school. In addition, panelists will explore what is being done to support this vulnerable population.

Moderator: Lauren Moreno, Director of LGBT Student Services and Intercultural Initiatives, LMU

Panelists: Joey Hernandez, Policy and Mobilization Manager, Los Angeles LGBT Center; Mimi Hoang, Ph.D., Staff Psychologist, Student Psychological Services, LMU; Nia Clark, National LGBTQ Mentoring Coach, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

- **7:15pm – 9pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**
Reception from 8pm – 9pm

Voices of Justice Performance

Students from the Voices of Justice class will perform dramatized narratives based on the true stories of human trafficking survivors from C.A.S.T. (Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Human Trafficking).

Wednesday, January 30th

- **12:40pm – 2:10pm – Hilton 100**

Resilient LA – Biological and Human Interface as a Business and Social Strategy

The relationship between human structures and our local environment is fragmented, causing stress and isolation that increases suffering and environmental distress. Dr. Strauss will host a panel highlighting the work of the Los Angeles Biodiversity Project, examining their work and its impact for both business and public policy development.

Moderator: Jeff Thies, Director, Institute of Business Ethics & Sustainability, College of Business Administration, LMU

Panelists: Dr. Eric Strauss, Executive Director, Center for Urban Resilience, LMU; Isaac Brown, Los Angeles Biodiversity Project

- **12:40pm – 2:10pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**

How Do We Give Back Our Homeless Brothers and Sisters Their Dignity? Practical and Compassionate Suggestions

We will hear practical ways members of our homeless community receive compassion and dignity as they search for a place to call home; consider experiences and suggestions from fellow students who serve them; learn about innovative programs and integrated care provided by organizations to assist in recuperating self-dignity and attain lasting stability.

Moderator: Tom King, Campus Donor Recruiter, UCLA Blood and Platelet Center

Panelists: Paul Leon, President and CEO, Illumination Foundation; Gina Marie Seriel, Foundress & CEO, Our Father's Table; Donovan Moini, MAGIS Service Member, LMU; Matt Harper, Community Member and Organizer, Los Angeles Catholic Worker

- **2:20pm – 3:50pm – Hilton 100**

A Home Instead of the ER: There IS Enough Money Available To End Homelessness

Chronically homeless individuals often experience serious chronic health conditions and must resort to utilizing hospital emergency rooms. This overdependence on expensive and temporary interventions is an inefficient use of limited healthcare resources, and doesn't provide for the long-term solutions of housing and services.

Moderator: Jeff Thies, Director, Institute of Business Ethics & Sustainability, College of Business Administration, LMU

Panelists: John Maceri, Chief Executive Officer, The People Concern; Heather Tarleton, Associate Professor, Health & Human Sciences, LMU

- **4:30pm – 6pm – McIntosh Center**

Steps Out of Homelessness

This panel will detail the critical steps people take to get out of homelessness. This will help make tangible and concrete a process unfamiliar to most. In addition, the panel will also include practical examples of ways everyday people can help.

Moderator: John Paul Ramirez, Campus Minister for Regional Services, LMU

Panelists: John Maceri, Chief Executive Officer, The People Concern; Edward Seim, LMU Alum '17; Lauren Konchan, LMU Alum '17; DeSeree Seja, Survivor

- **4:30pm – 6:30pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**
Reception from 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Collaborative Artists Bloc Performance – BEASTS (Act 1) by Aurin Squire

When a tent city of homeless people is given a 3-day eviction notice by the government, they must scramble to find a way to escape the encroaching bulldozers that will destroy their encampment.

Thursday, January 31st

- **11:20am – 12:50pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**

Causes of Homelessness

In this session, the panelists will discuss causes of homelessness, trends over time, and debunk common myths about homelessness. They will review the findings of recent studies on the causes of homelessness in Los Angeles and Orange County and how the results have been used (and can be used) to inform policymaking on homelessness. We will also hear profound testimony from a former member of our homeless community.

Moderator: Rebecca Sager, Associate Professor, Sociology, LMU

Panelists: Peter Lynn, Executive Director, The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority; Distinguished Professor David Snow, UC Irvine; Rachel Goldberg, Professor, Sociology, UC Irvine; Doug Leslie, Former Homeless Veteran

- **1pm – 2:30pm - Von der Ahe Family Suite, Hannon Library**

Jovenes: Past, Present, Future

Eric Hubbard, Jovenes Director of Development, and several representatives of Jovenes youth will present the mission and history of Jovenes, and its programs to find solutions for youth homelessness; how it began as a single shelter for young men in Boyle Heights and grew into a permanent and necessary institution serving communities throughout Southeast LA, focusing not only on housing for youth, but also healthcare, education, employment and trauma recovery. The youth from Jovenes will give personal accounts of the struggles and changes they experienced. Of special interest to the LMU community is a new Jovenes program, The College Success Initiative, to provide housing options and support for homeless community college students.

Moderator: Doris Baizley, Adjunct Professor, Theatre Arts, LMU

Panelists: Eric Hubbard, Director of Development, Jovenes Inc.; Jovenes Inc. youth speakers

- **6:30pm – 9:30pm – Von der Ahe Family, Hannon Library**
Reception from 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Crossing the Line

Featuring Dennis Apel, founder of Guadalupe Catholic Worker and Deborah Tobola, founding artistic director of Poetic Justice Project. In 2016, Dennis Apel served four months in federal prison for crossing the “green line” during a protest at Vandenberg Air Force Base marking the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, and then refusing to comply with probation. In “Crossing the Line,” Deborah Tobola weaves together a narrative using journal entries written by Apel during his imprisonment that were originally published by the Santa Barbara Independent. Formerly incarcerated actors from the Poetic Justice Project help bring the story of this longtime peace activist to life in a play that is authentic and accessible.

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