



**PennState**  
Outreach

# Readiness Institute

**Dr. Justin Aglio**

@JustinAglio 

[readinessinstitute.psu.edu](http://readinessinstitute.psu.edu)

@Ready\_Institute 



**THANK  
YOU!**

About Me...



TEACHER

PRINCIPAL

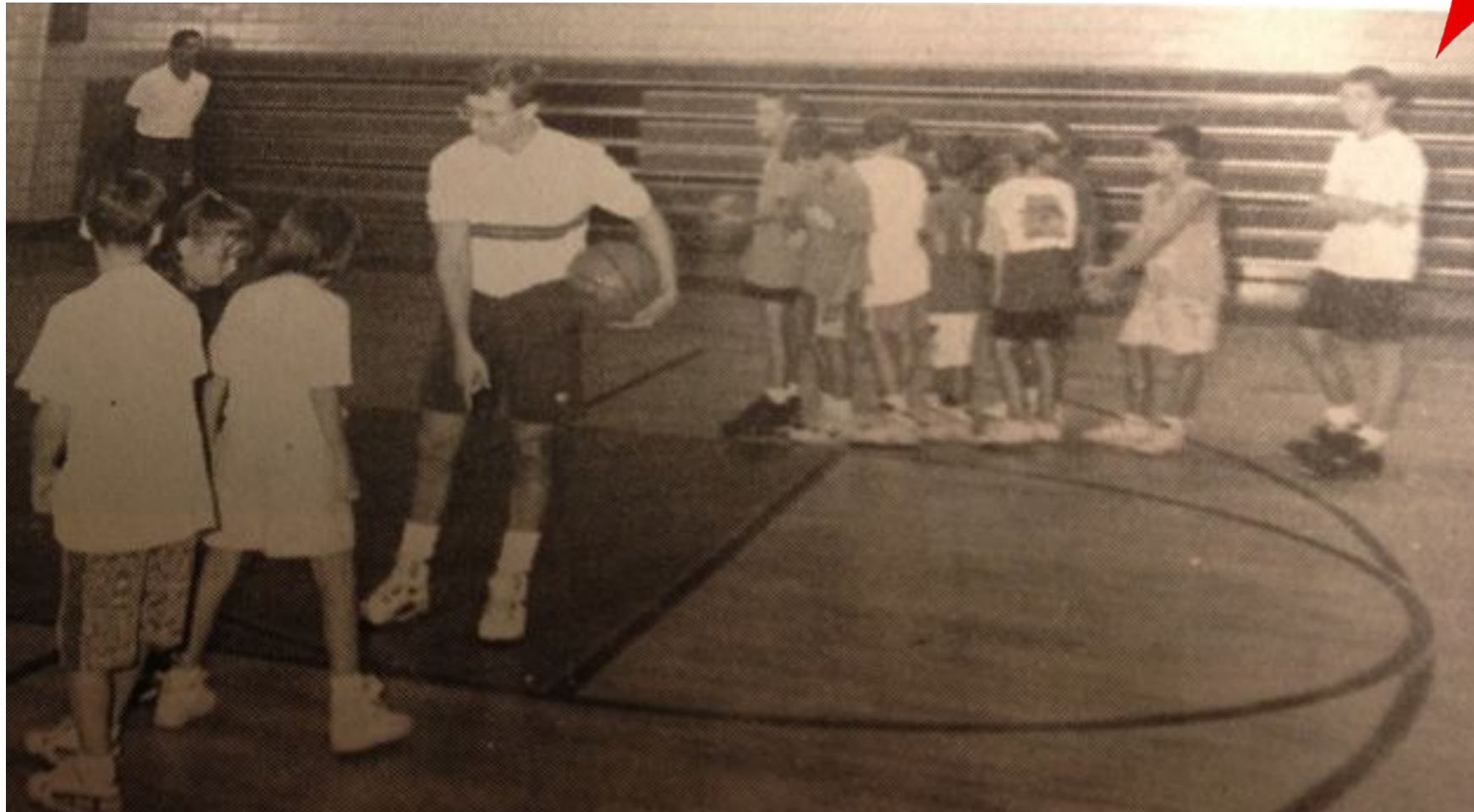
TEACHER

PRINCIPAL

LEARNING UNIVERSITY EDUCATION TRAINING COMMUNITY BOOKS BACHELOR DISCIPLINE STUDY DISCIPLINE COURSES PRACTICE SCIENCE STUDENT SUCCESS KNOWLEDGE INFORMATION PROGRAM

**CURRICULUM**

# World's Tallest 6th Grade Basketball Player





## Newly established Readiness Institute at Penn State names inaugural leader

December 3, 2020 • by Christie Black

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Penn State has announced the appointment of Justin W. Aglio as senior director of the Readiness Institute (RI) at Penn State, a unit of Penn State Outreach. The RI at Penn State, created with a grant from The Heinz Endowments (THE), is designed to serve as a learning lab for students and educators, advancing THE's vision of a more "Just Pittsburgh" by enabling learners from diverse backgrounds to develop skills and values needed for success. The RI at Penn State operates in coordination with THE and the Consortium for Public Education and is located in the Energy Innovation Center in Pittsburgh.

Aglio brings nearly 20 years of experience in various leadership and



Justin W. Aglio, senior director of the Readiness Institute at Penn State

# THE HEINZ ENDOWMENTS

HOWARD HEINZ ENDOWMENT

VIRA I. HEINZ ENDOWMENT

Strategic Area of Learning

- Dr. Stanley Thompson

What does “Readiness” mean today?

The Heinz Endowments asked:

What would it look  
like to aim for  
*Community and  
Future Readiness?*

# Steps to explore this question

**1**  
White paper

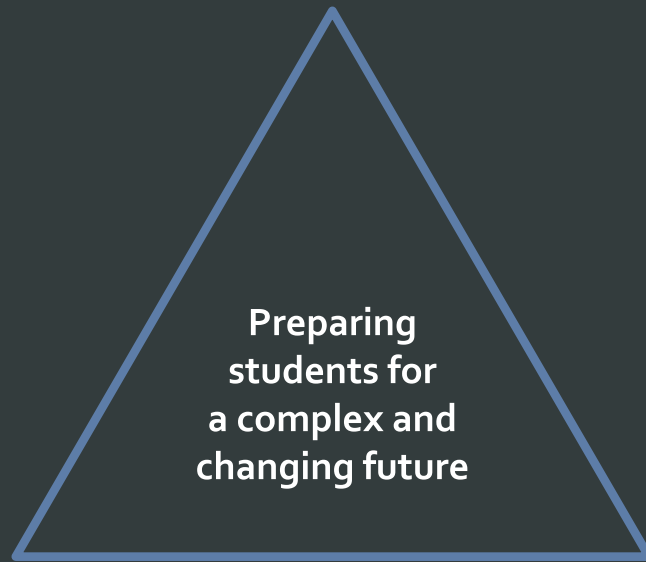
**2**  
Landscape  
scan

**3**  
Stakeholder  
design  
sessions

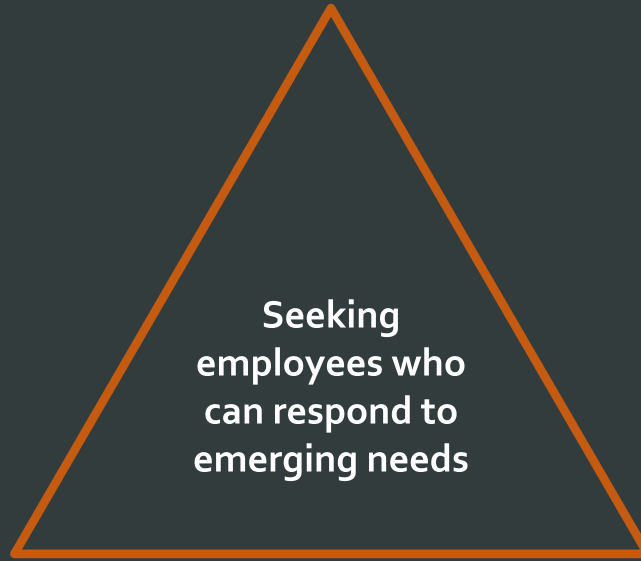
**4**  
Advisory  
committee

**5**  
Prototype

# What we have: silos



Education



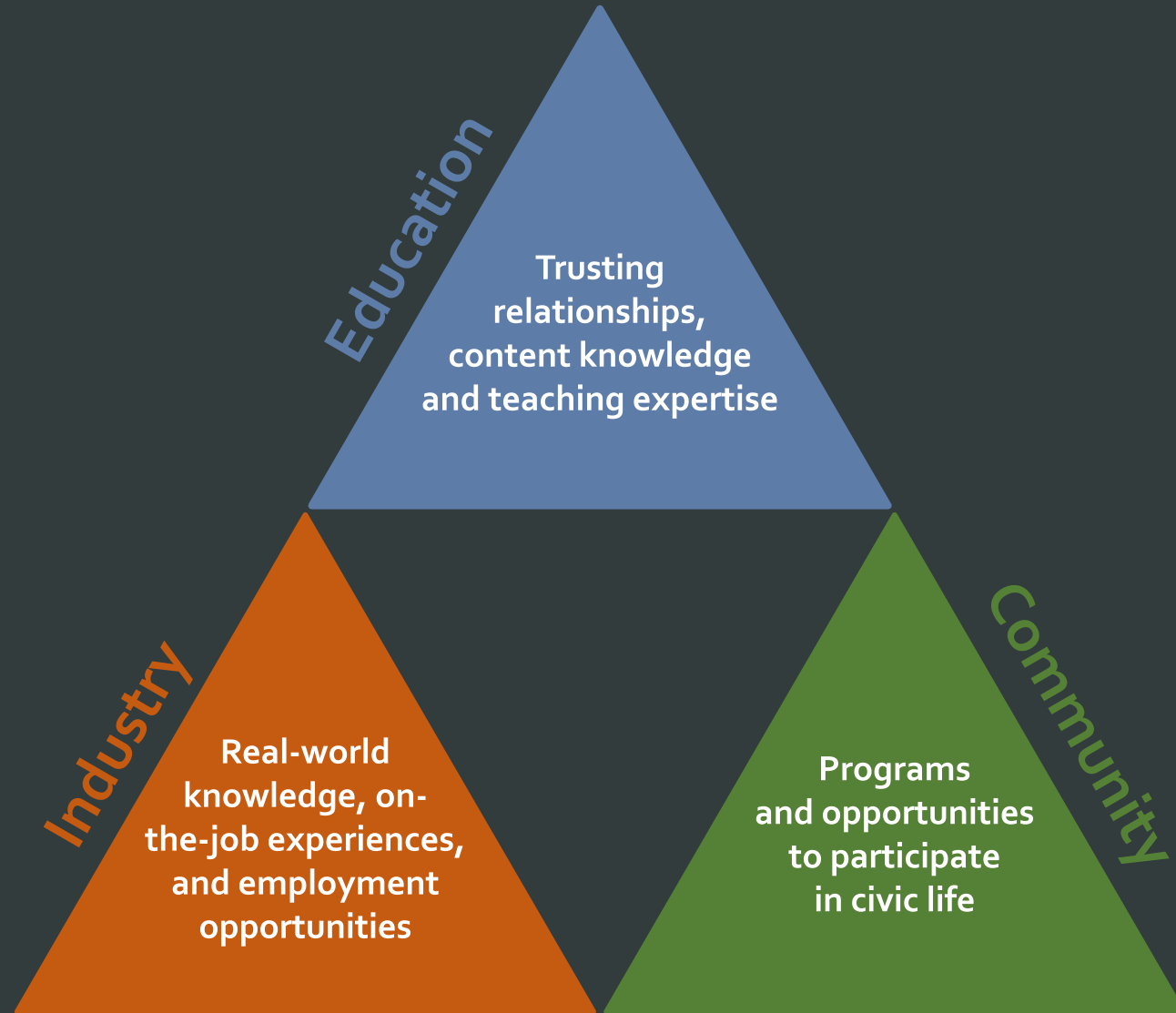
Industry



Community

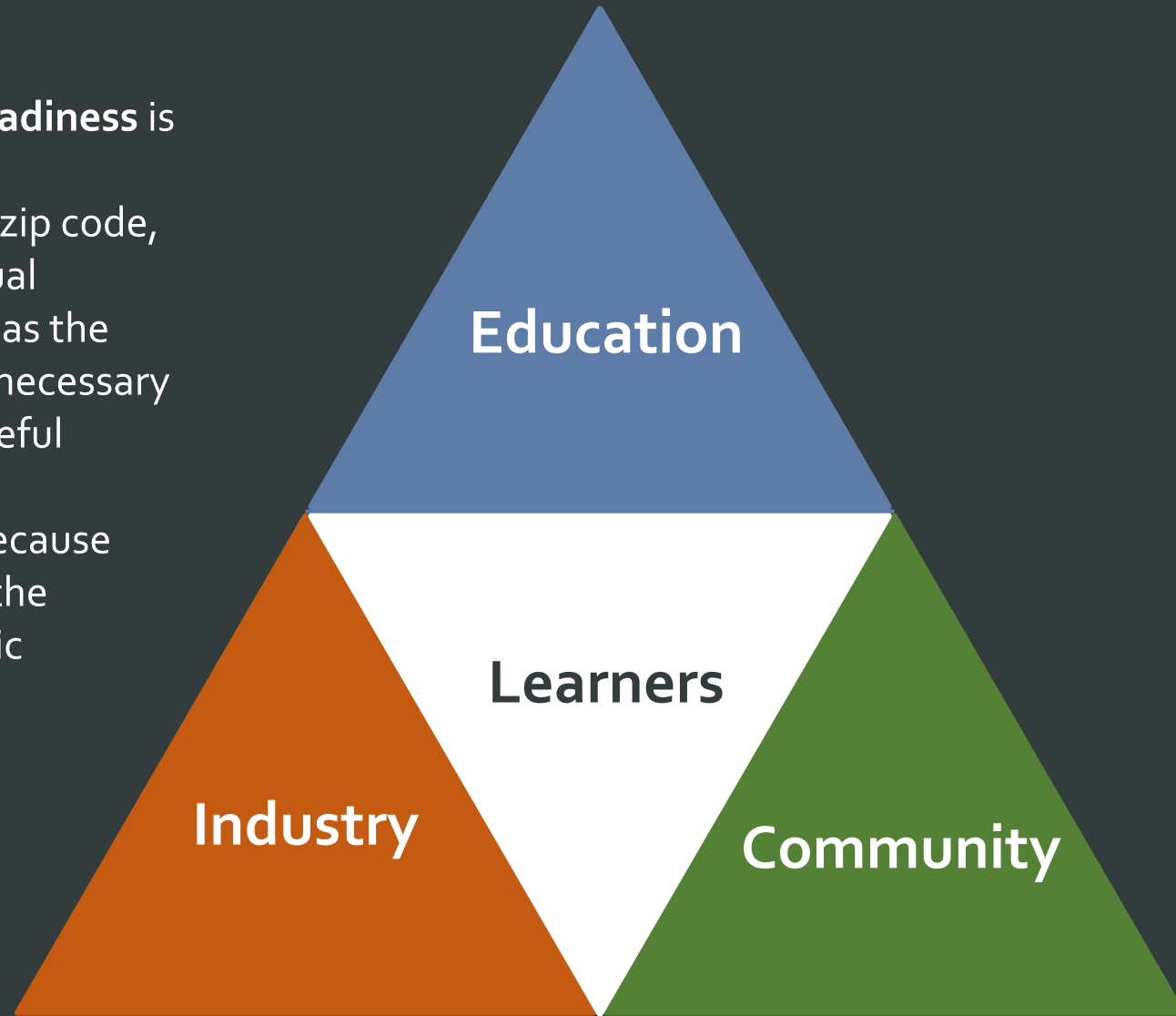
- Learning, work, and civics are disconnected from one another
- Children of color and children in poverty face inequitable conditions from the start
- Complex, opaque systems make pathways challenging to navigate

# What we need: **connection**



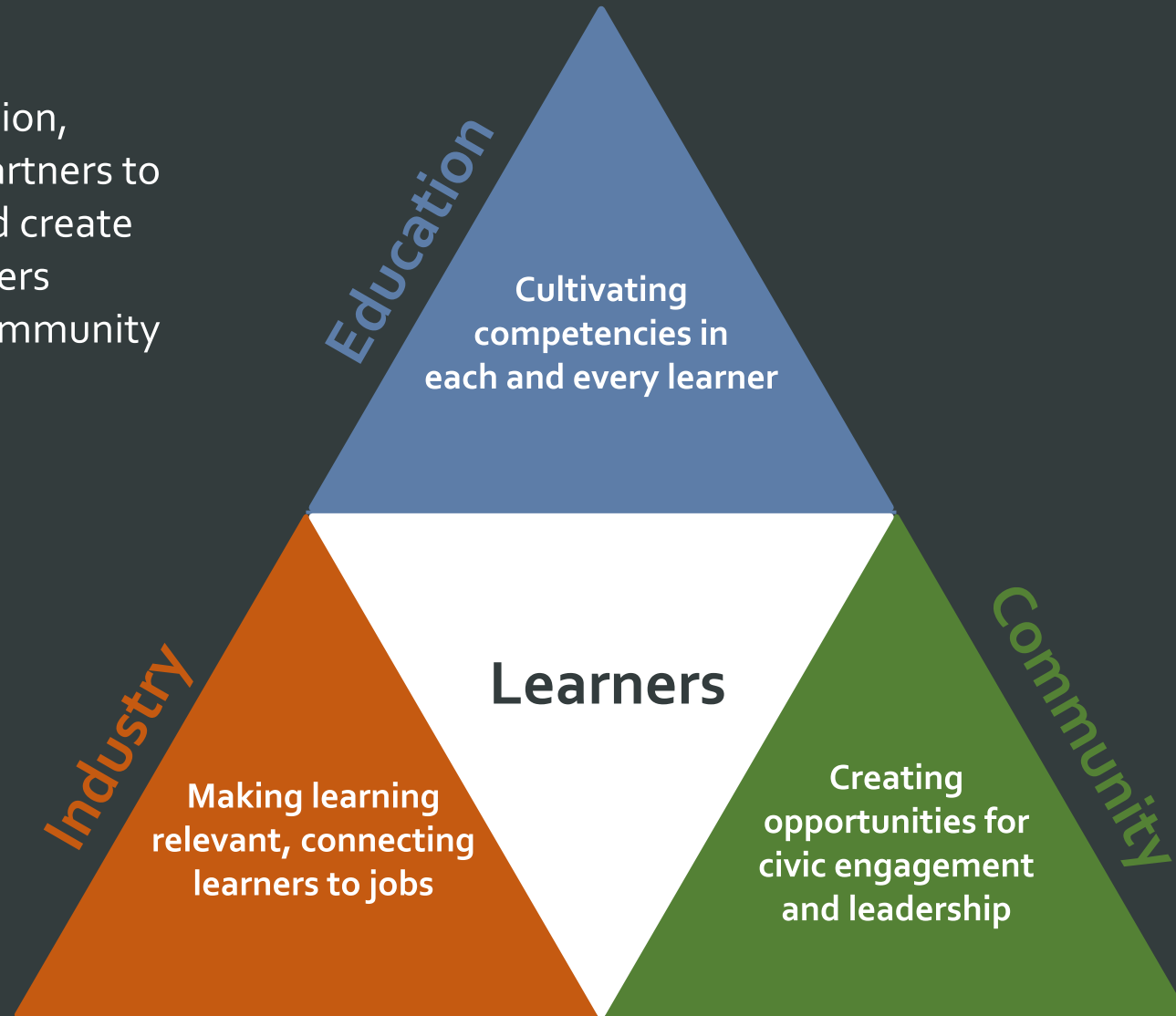
# This is **Community and Future Readiness**

**Community and Future Readiness** is achieved when every learner—regardless of their zip code, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, and ability level—has the skills, attitudes, and values necessary to design and lead a purposeful life—in matters personal, professional, and public—because they are well supported by the schools, employers, and civic institutions..



# The result: **Readiness Institute**

**Mission:** To enable education, industry, and community partners to coordinate, collaborate, and create experiences that offer learners opportunities to achieve Community and Future Readiness.





**PennState**  
Outreach

**Readiness**  
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# Penn State to operate Readiness Institute, funded by The Heinz Endowments

December 1, 2020 • by Christie Black

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — The Heinz Endowments (THE) has approved a grant for \$450,000 that will be awarded to Penn State Outreach in January 2021 to operate the Readiness Institute at Penn State. This initiative, which began with a pilot program this fall, will enable education, industry and community partners to create meaningful experiences that offer learners the opportunity to achieve community and future readiness.

The Readiness Institute at Penn State (RI) will be a unit of Penn State Outreach, in coordination with THE and the Consortium for Public Education and will be located in the Energy Innovation Center in Pittsburgh. It will



# Hope Moonshot



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[readinessinstitute.psu.edu/hope-moonshot/](https://readinessinstitute.psu.edu/hope-moonshot/)

# Hope

a feeling of  
expectation and desire  
for a certain thing to  
happen



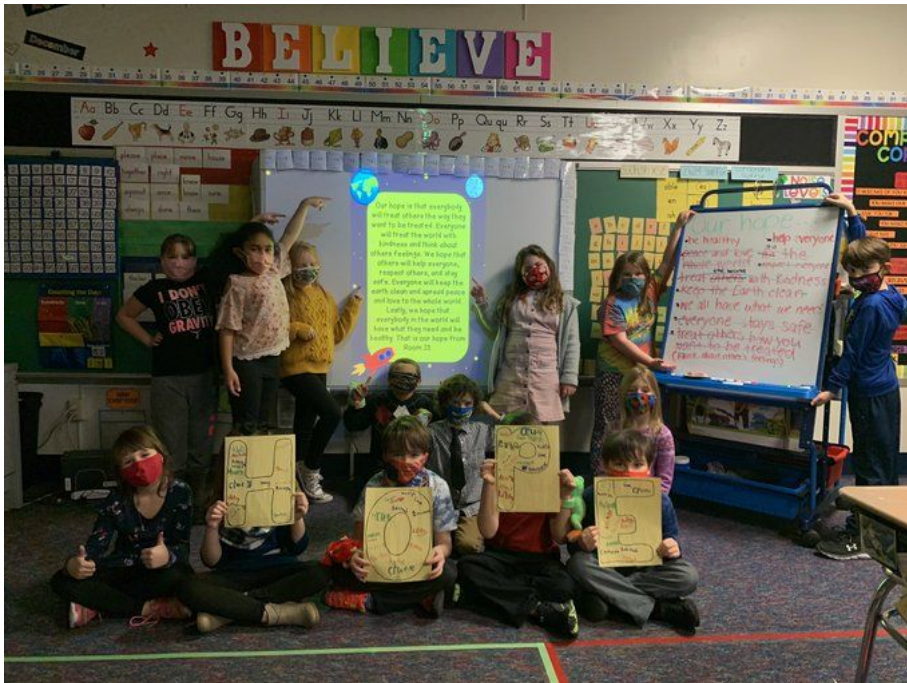


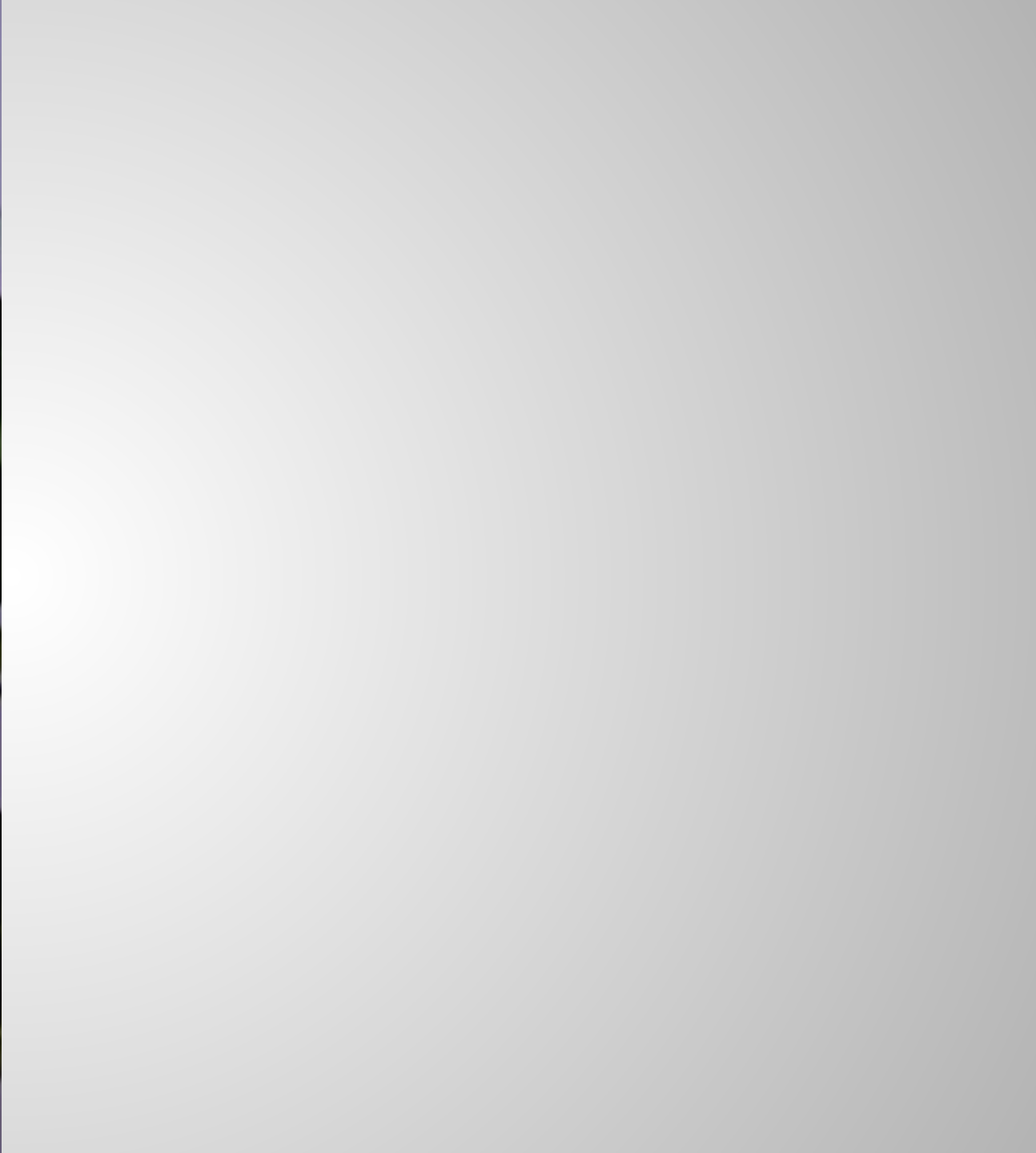
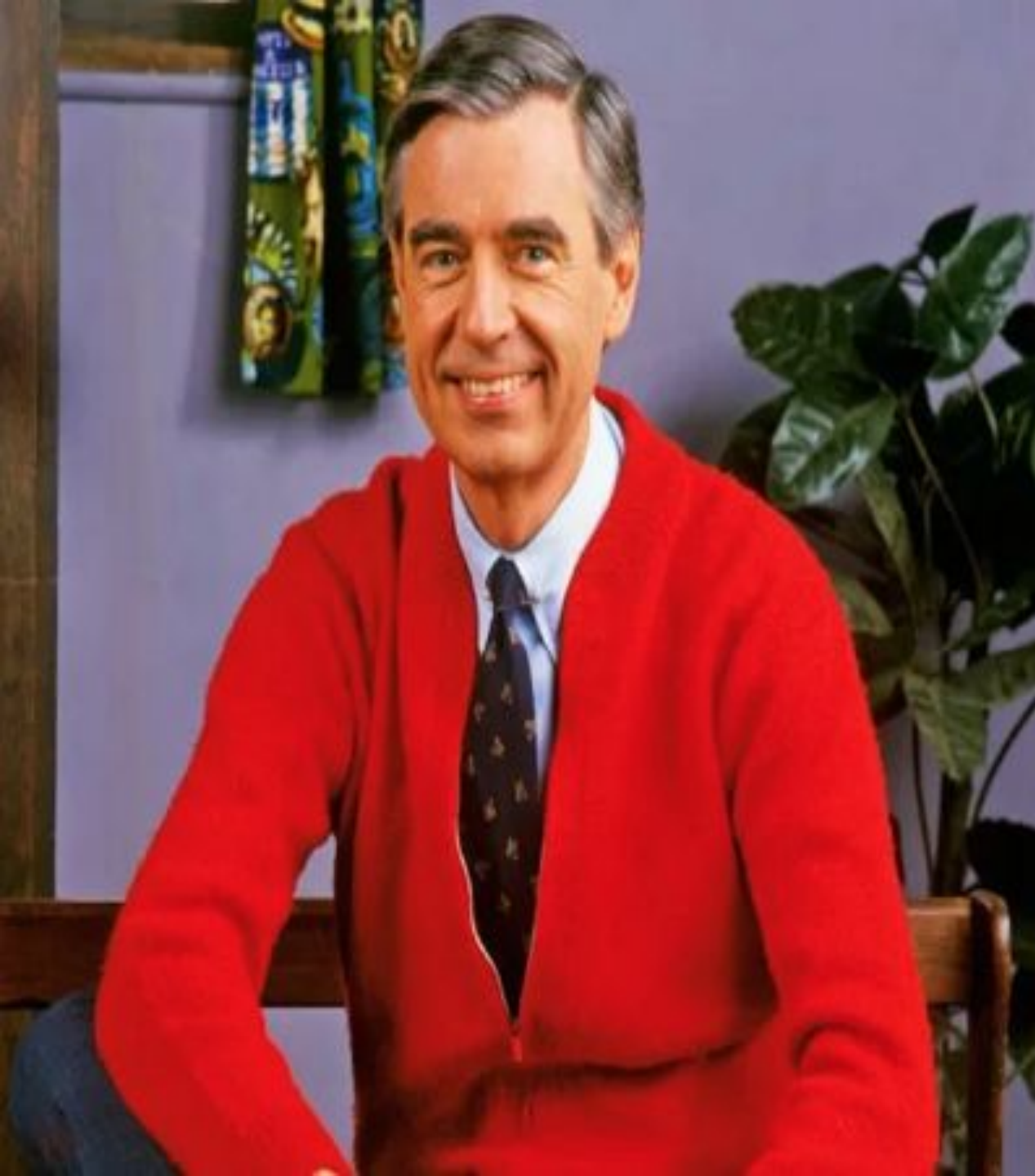
Miss Gailey

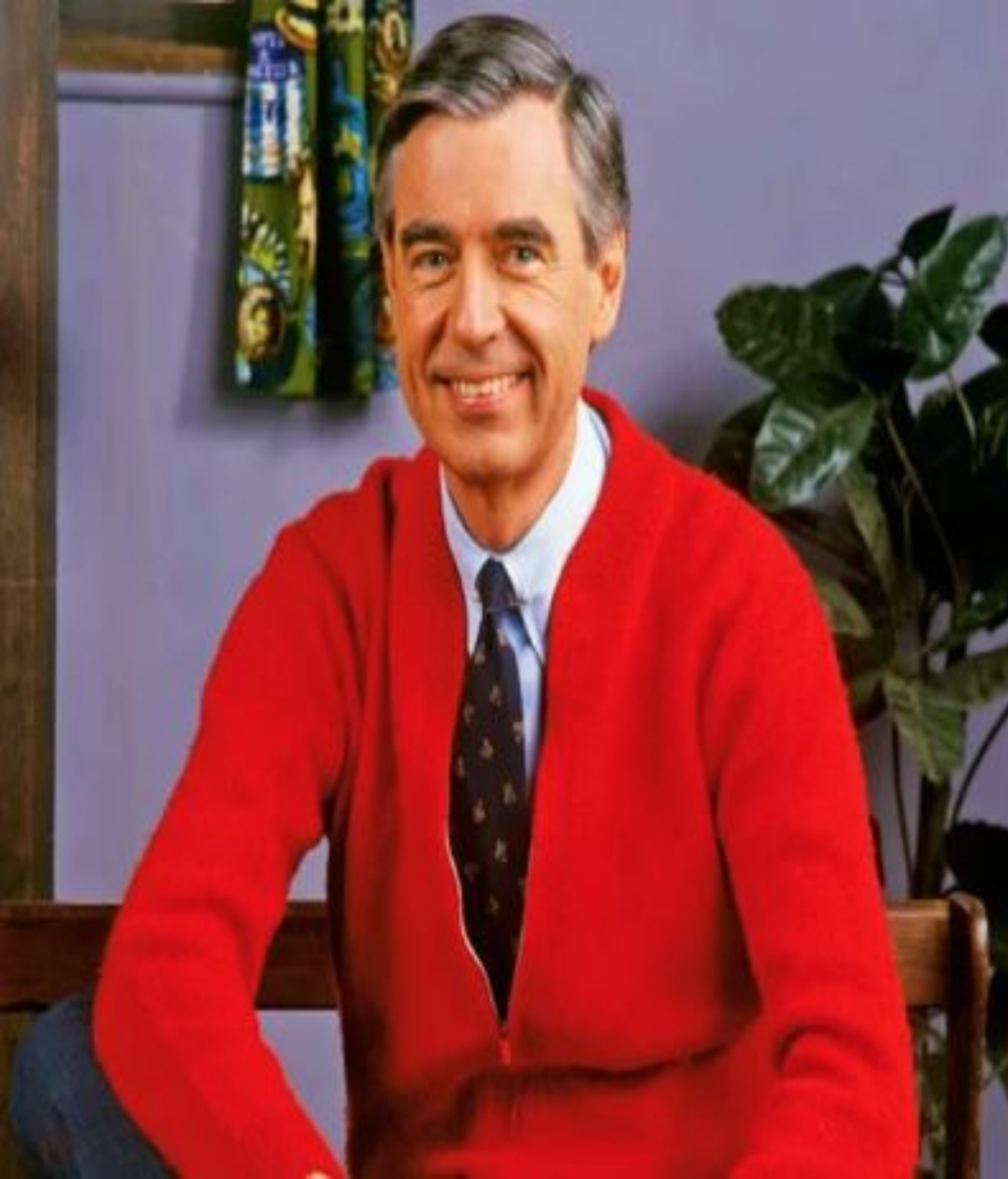
@MissZoeyGailey



Room 15 Family's hope for the world! The white board shows our draft of ideas before putting it into writing. Of course we had to sign our names in the word "hope" to make it official! Our hope was submitted to be sent to the moon! 🖋️😊🌍 #IASDHopeMoonshot #HopeMoonshot







*You can wish or hope or  
contemplate a thing you'd like to  
do,*

*But until you start to do it, you will  
never see it through*

*'Cause the make-believe  
pretending just won't do it for you.*

*You've got to do it.*

*Mister Rogers*

# Summer 2021: RI Summer Program

## Rising Seniors

### Weeks 1-2: Establishing relationships

- Learners meet their mentor, create personal asset maps, and begin weekly coaching
- Exposure to local businesses, civic leaders, and career pathways
- Cohort creates a charter of shared values and begins reflective practices

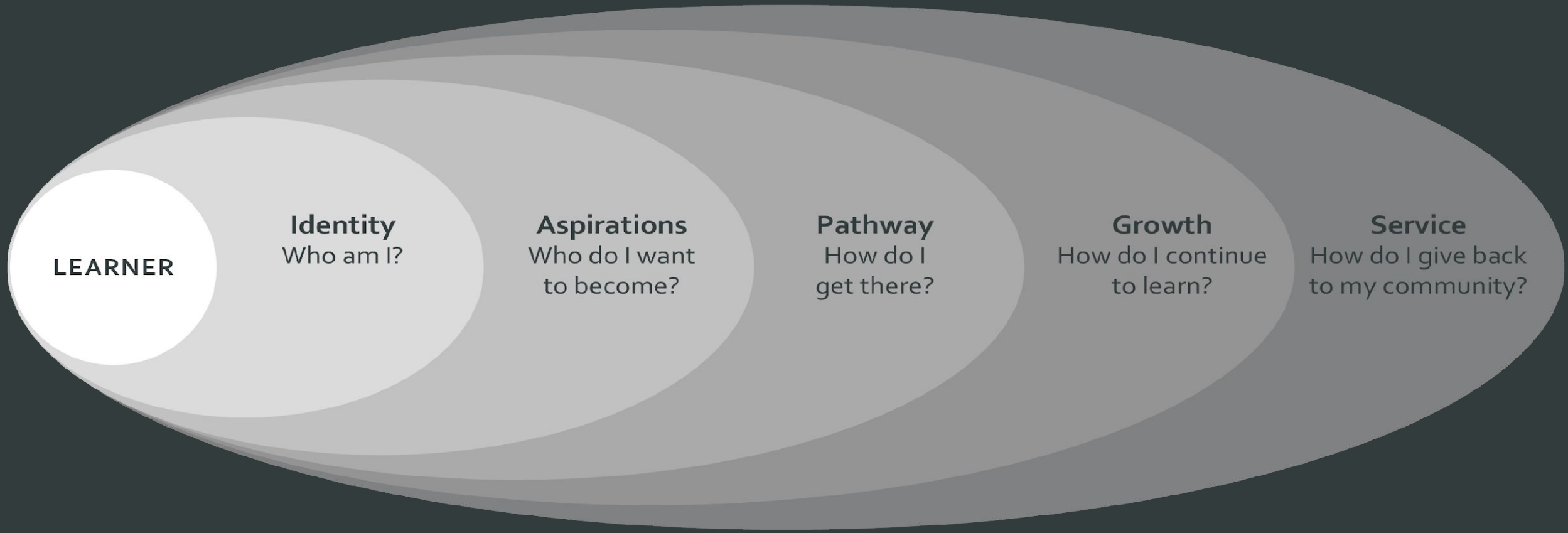
### Weeks 3-5: Project sprints to solve real problems

- During weeklong project sprints, learners solve real-world problems in groups
- Project roles change each week, so learners experience all aspects of leadership and labor
- Ongoing mentor meetings, skill development, field trips, employer visits, and reflective practices

### Week 6: Reflecting, sharing, and planning

- Learners consolidate what they've learned and made into personal readiness portfolios
- Learners work with mentors to create a roadmap of next steps
- Summer culminates in a public presentation of learning and portfolio critiques by professionals

# A learner-centered approach



Let's make learning relevant  
to the world our kids live in!

@JustinAglio









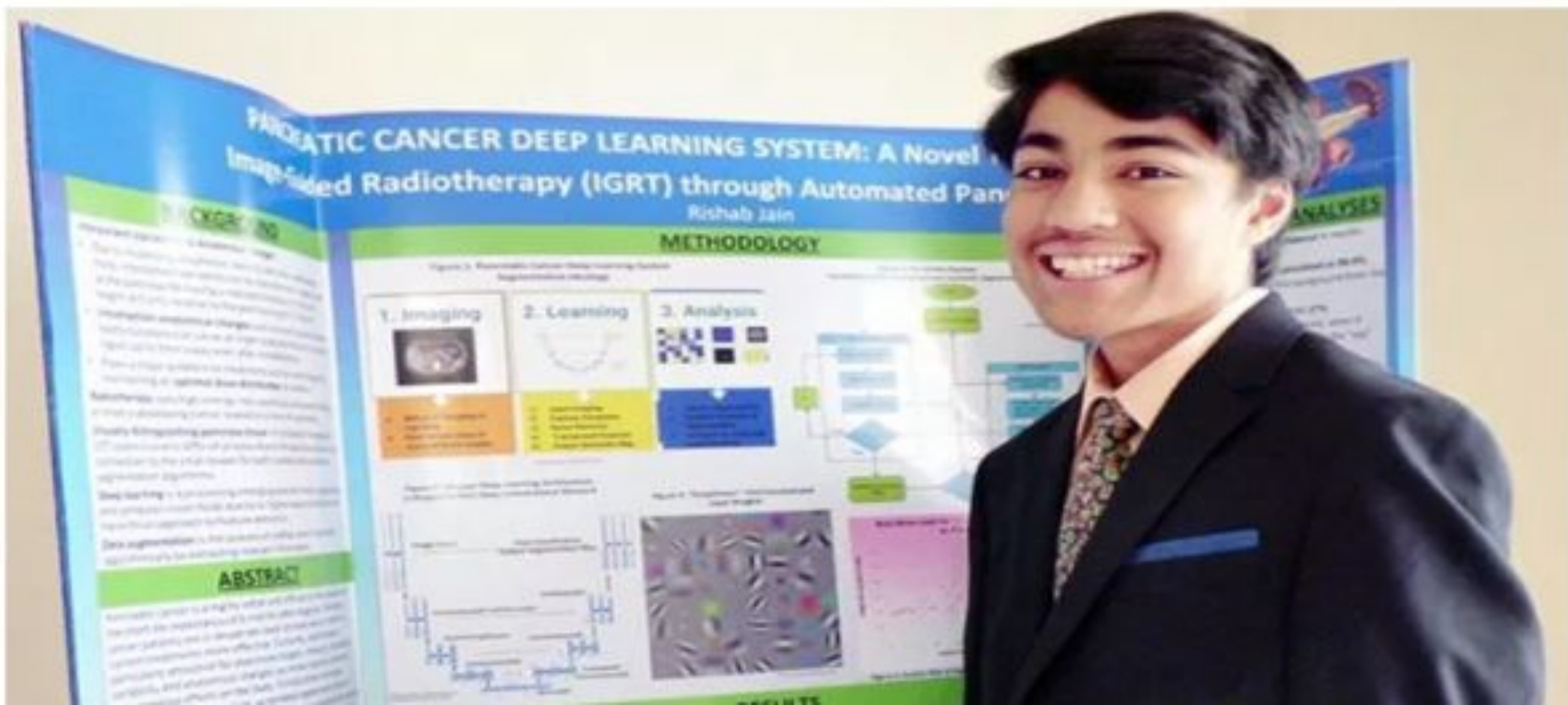
# Teen Hopes Artificial Intelligence Will Improve Patient Outcomes

BY ALLISON ROSENZWEIG, PHD — SEP 25, 2018

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✉ Email





# Artificial Intelligence Generation

**VS**

# Cassette Tape Generation



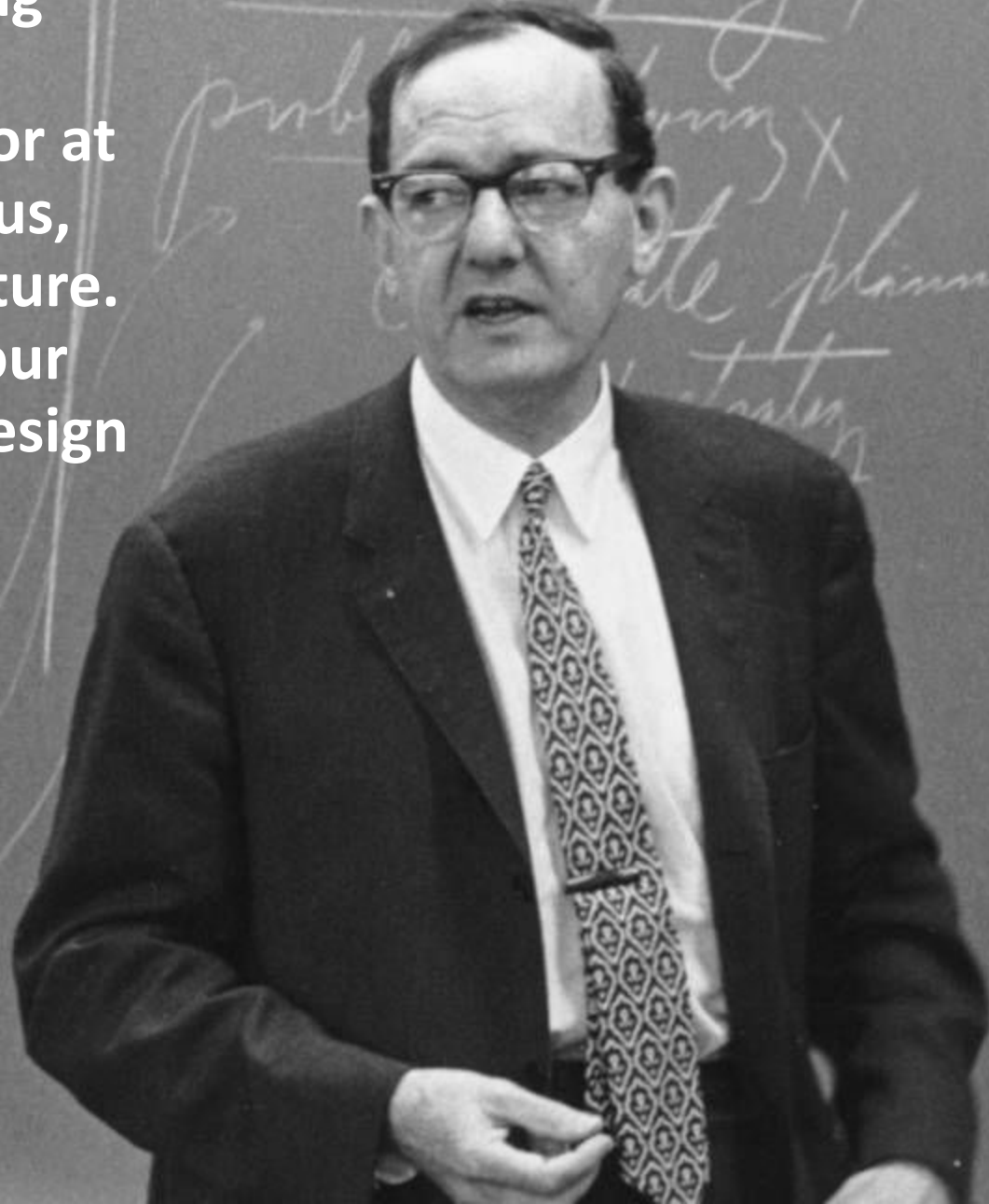
"...I don't believe that predicting the future is really what we're about. After all, we ourselves, or at least the younger ones among us, are going to be a part of the future. So, being a part of the future, our task isn't to predict it. It is to design it..."

- Herbert A. Simon

[www.cs.cmu.edu](http://www.cs.cmu.edu)

**Carnegie  
Mellon  
University**

School of  
Computer  
Science



# What it must include



Future pathways



Stipends for learners



Financial literacy training



Soft (essential) skills training



Social/emotional learning support



Mentoring



Personalized career coaching



Digital literacy training



Civic engagement experience



Higher ed & employer visits

# Long-term vision



Shift the “readiness”  
paradigm towards  
Community and Future  
Readiness

Offer year-round workshops  
and experiences

Scale programs and best  
practices to create and  
support readiness regional  
ecosystems

Establish a network of  
readiness learners

“Send forth a tiny ripple of hope.”

- Robert Kennedy



A stage with red curtains and spotlights. The word "Worthy" is written in yellow in the center. The stage floor is lit with a bright orange and yellow glow, and there are many small, sparkling lights scattered across it. The background is dark red with several bright spotlights shining down from above, creating a dramatic atmosphere.

Worthy

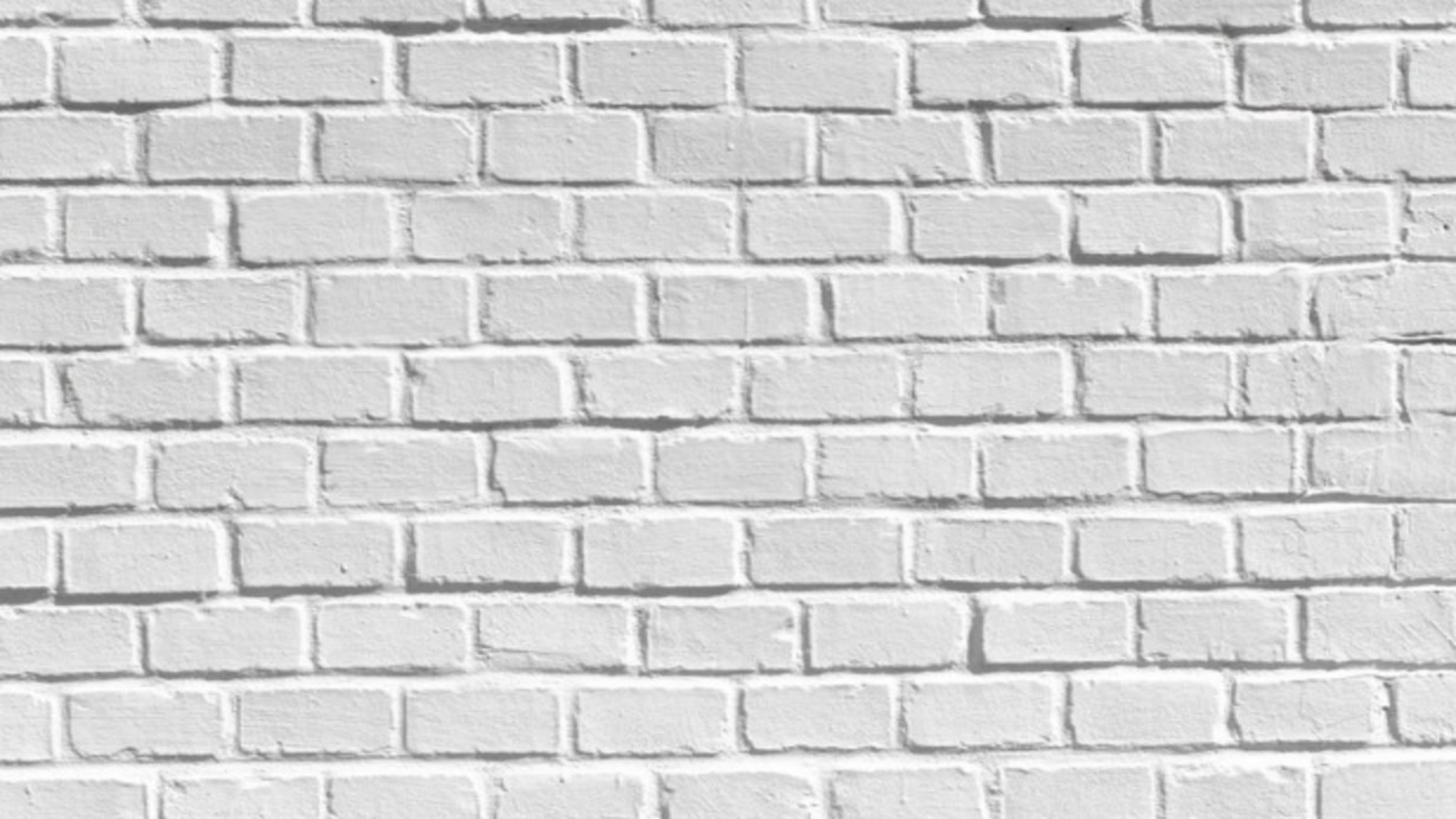
# Worthy



I'm  
Willing!

**The brick walls aren't there to keep us out, the brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something.**

**- *Randy Pausch, The Last Lecture***







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