



Thursday and Friday, September 9-10 2021
Intercontinental Hotel Saint Paul, Riverfront
11 E Kellogg Blvd, St Paul, MN 55101 (see note)

Homework: Please watch [“The Social Dilemma”](#) on Netflix or [“The Social Dilemma: Filmmaker and Tech Experts in Conversation with Katie Couric”](#) on YouTube. For homework, talk with someone in a different age-group (older or younger) to ask about the role of social media in their life.

Thursday, September 9th

1:00pm

Welcome & Checking-In

Lisa Fobbe, Futures Co-Chair and Sherburne County Commissioner
Carolyn McDonald, Futures Co-Chair and Lyon County Human Resources Director

1:45pm

“The Social Dilemma” Discussion

Lisa Fobbe & Carolyn McDonald, Futures Co-Chairs



The Social Dilemma is an exploration of the impact that a small number of engineers in Silicon Valley have over the way we think, act, and live our lives. The film tackles an underlying cause of conspiracy theories, mental health issues, misinformation, and political polarization, and makes these issues understandable and urgent. Through a combination of documentary investigation and narrative drama, filmmakers explain “the invisible” by telling us what is behind everyone’s favorite social media and search platforms.

3:00pm

Art from the Inside: Giving a Visual Voice to Incarcerated Artists

Antonio Espinosa, Senior Corrections Officer, Stillwater Facility & 2021 Bush Fellow
Jessica Espinosa, Director, College Transitions, Minnesota State Colleges & Universities



Antonio Espinosa envisions a correctional system where people come out of it stronger and more resilient than when they entered, supported by a community committed to their success. As a senior corrections officer in the Stillwater prison, he believes his purpose is to inspire hope, healing, and transformation. In partnership with an individual serving a life sentence, he launched a support group to help prisoners and correctional officers learn from each other as peers. He also started “Art from the Inside,” an initiative that brings purpose to people who are incarcerated and shares their humanity with the wider community.

4:30pm

Discussion - Lisa Fobbe & Carolyn McDonald, Futures Co-Chairs

5:15pm

Evening Remarks: A Lifetime in Journalism, Technology, and Government

Steve Grove, DEED Commissioner (Dept. of Employment & Economic Development)

Commissioner Steve Grove was previously an executive at Google for 12 years, most recently serving as the founding director of Google’s News Lab, a global division of the company that partners with media companies and startups to drive innovation in the news industry. Grove wrote for *The Boston Globe* and ABC News prior to joining Google. He has served as an advisor to the White House and U.S. State Department.



6:15pm

Closing Remarks and Adjourn for Dinner on your Own



Friday, September 10th

8:15am

Welcome back, Debrief, & Coffee
Lisa Fobbe & Carolyn McDonald, Futures Co-Chairs

9:00am

An Examination of Misinformation & Disinformation
Panayiota (Pani) Kendeou, Ph.D., Distinguished McKnight University Professor; Guy Bond Chair in Reading, Dept. of Educational Psychology at the University of Minnesota



Dr. Kendeou is an expert on the science of learning and debunking misinformation. Her work has been featured in two recently published international efforts, the “Debunking Handbook” and the “Covid-19 Vaccine Communication Handbook,” both providing guidelines to engaged citizens, journalists, and health care professionals for effective debunking of misinformation and communication. Her work has been featured in national and local media, including *The Guardian*, *Healthline*, *VICE*, *Voice of America*, *Morning Consult*, *Star Tribune*, *MplsStPaul Magazine*, and *KSTP Channel 5 News*.

10:45am

“Good Disagreement” in 2021 and Beyond
Mariah Levison, Director, Office of Collaboration & Dispute Resolution, MN Dept. of Admin.
Julie Ring, Executive Director, Association of Minnesota Counties



In this time of polarization and change, we’d like to propose that AMC Futures create a statewide model of how to disagree productively and reach consensus. This closing discussion will explore possibilities and questions related to a “good disagreement” session where we delve into a complex issue at our next gathering in February.

11:45am

Adjourn



LODGING: To make hotel reservations, contact [the InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront \(1.5 miles from AMC\)](#) directly at **651-292-1900** or call the InterContinental’s Central Reservations at 1-866-686-2867. Please mention that you are part of the **“AMC Futures Task Force”** to receive the discounted rate.

Note: During the summer County Government 201 Conference, many commissioners recommended **“The Citizen” Restaurant and Bar** on the first floor.

**We are currently planning to meet at the Intercontinental-Riverfront, Saint Paul. At this time, the CDC is recommending masks for indoor gatherings. We do not anticipate requiring masks at this meeting and ask that you do what feels right for you. We will have AMC logo masks for anyone who might want one. We know that masking is a sensitive topic for many, but we have faith in AMC Futures members and know that this will not be something that creates division among us.*

We’ll be in touch with further information again soon. Thank you for all you do.