



PRESS RELEASE

America's Future Foundation and The Publius Foundation to host free panel discussion on Ayn Rand

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (April 8, 2011) — The Publius Foundation and America's Future Foundation (AFF) Pittsburgh Chapter will host the "Ayn Rand: The Woman Behind Atlas Shrugged" panel discussion on Thursday, April 14 at the Penn Brewery Restaurant, 800 Vinial Street, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The panel discussion will focus on who Ayn Rand was and the lasting impression she has made on political and philosophical discourse with her novel, *Atlas Shrugged*. Guest speakers at the event include Dr. Allan Gotthelf who knew Rand and is a visiting professor at the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Mark Hendrickson, an adjunct faculty member and economist at Grove City College.

AFF Pittsburgh Coordinator Elizabeth Stelle said this event presents a great educational opportunity to learn about Rand and understand her philosophy in the context of today's difficult economic climate.

"It's important for young professionals to understand that our free market economy is the key to their future success," she said. "Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* paints a vivid picture of what happens when we fail to protect the free market and depend on government for all our needs."

Publius Foundation President Giles Howard said he is eagerly looking forward to the panel discussion.

"I think this will be a great opportunity to not only learn more about Ayn Rand, but also to help develop an awareness among young people today of just what liberty means so that they can become effective leaders in their community and world."

About America's Future Foundation

America's Future Foundation works to build a nationwide network of young professionals, who are committed to the principles of limited government, free markets and personal responsibility. The AFF Pittsburgh chapter was founded in 2009. For more information on the national organization, visit <http://americasfuture.org/>.

About The Publius Foundation

Founded February 2010, The Publius Foundation serves as a nonpartisan student think tank in Western Pennsylvania with the mission of advancing personal and economic liberty at the local level. The Publius Foundation provides information, policy briefings and commentary on campuswide, city, state and federal issues affecting young people today. For more information, visit: <http://www.publiusfoundation.com/>.

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