

## Imaginable:

# How to See the Future Coming and Feel Ready for Anything Jane McGonigal, Ph.D.

Director of Game Research and Development at the Institute for the Future. Bestselling author of Imaginable, Reality is Broken, and SuperBetter.

## **Curtis Sittenfeld**

New York Times bestselling author of the novels Prep, The Man of My Dreams, American Wife, Sisterland, Eligible, and Rodham.

## Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 7:00 PM Central www.bit.ly/McGonigalFANWebinar

### PLUS: After-Hours Event!

Purchase a copy of *Imaginable* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall to receive a link to an interactive "After-Hours" event hosted by McGonigal. Details on the webinar registration page.

#### Presented by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with

Beacon Academy, Bennett Day School, Catherine Cook School, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Christ Church Winnetka, Compass Health Center, Evanston Scholars, Evanston Township High School D202, Family Service Center, Francis W. Parker School, Fusion Academy, Glencoe D35, Kenilworth D38, Lake Bluff D65, Lake Forest Country Day School, Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools, Loyola Academy, Mindful Psychology Associates, New Trier High School D203, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Country Day, Pope John XXIII School, Regina Dominican High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University, Science & Arts Academy, St. Athanasius School, Stevenson High School D125, The Avery Coonley School, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, University of Chicago Laboratory Schools Parents' Association, Winnetka D36, and Woodlands Academy.

This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+ familyactionnetwork.net





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JANE McGONIGAL, Ph.D. CONTACT: Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, Ionnie@familyactionnetwork.net

#### Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 7:00-8:00 PM, <u>Imaginable: How to See the Future Coming and Feel Ready for</u> <u>Anything</u>, a FAN webinar featuring Jane McGonigal, Ph.D., in conversation with Curtis Sittenfeld.

#### REGISTER: www.bit.ly/McGonigalFANWebinar

**BONUS AFTER-HOURS EVENT:** Attendees who purchase a copy of *Imaginable* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall are invited to attend an AFTER-HOURS event hosted by McGonigal that will start immediately after the webinar. Details on the webinar registration page.

What if we *could* imagine the future and even plan for it? What if there was a way to feel secure while still bracing for the next "unthinkable" event? What if we could still feel hope for the future while squarely facing its challenges? **Jane McGonigal, Ph.D.**, a future forecaster and world-renowned designer of alternate reality games that are designed to improve real lives and solve real problems, not only believes we can imagine the "unimaginable" but wants to teach us all the skills necessary to face the future with what she calls "urgent optimism."

Why is she so confident? In 2008 and 2010, McGonigal and her team ran simulations that predicted human behavior in the face of a 2020 global respiratory pandemic in precise detail, from social distancing to masking to wildfires and even the spread of disinformation, conspiracy theories, and the unbridgeable political divide. Cut to 2020/2021, and not only were McGonigal's predictions proven correct, but her findings have also shown that the participants in the simulation found themselves less shell-shocked when COVID-19 hit, as they had already prepared for specific outcomes and were able to act and adapt faster to change.

In her new book *Imaginable*, McGonigal, the director of Game Research and Development at the **Institute for the Future**, uses games, scenarios, and simulations designed specifically for the book to help us build our collective imagination, dive into the future before we live it, and envision, in surprising detail, what our lives will look like ten years from now. She currently teaches the course "How to Think Like a Futurist" at Stanford University and is the lead instructor for the Institute for the Future's series on the Coursera platform. Her previous books *Reality is Broken* and *SuperBetter* were both *New York Times* bestsellers, and her TED talks are among the all-time most popular and have more than 15 million views.

McGonigal will be in conversation with **Curtis Sittenfeld**, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the novels *Prep*, *The Man of My Dreams*, *American Wife*, *Sisterland*, *Eligible*, and *Rodham*, and the story collection *You Think It*, *I'll Say It*, which have been translated into thirty languages.

This event suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded and available on our website and YouTube channel.

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