**“Harnessing Our Collective Strength” Speaker Bios**

**Shaun Casey** is a senior fellow with the Luce Project on Religion and Its Publics at the University of Virginia and a Pulaski Institution non-resident fellow. He served as director of the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs and professor of the practice in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University from 2017 to 2021. He previously was U.S. special representative for religion and global affairs and director of the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Religion and Global Affairs. He has also served as professor of Christian ethics at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, and held positions at the Center for American Progress and the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Casey has written on the ethics of the war in Iraq, as well the role of religion in American presidential politics. He is the author of *The Making of a Catholic President: Kennedy vs. Nixon 1960* (2009) and co-editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Political Theology* (forthcoming, with Michael Kessler); he is writing a book on ethics and international politics tentatively titled *Niebuhr’s Children*. Casey holds a B.A. from Abilene Christian University, MPA from Harvard Kennedy School, and M.Div. and Th.D. in religion and society from Harvard Divinity School.

**Lieutenant Livio Rodriguez**, originally from the Dominican Republic and raised in New York, fulfilled his childhood dream of becoming a police officer. He joined MPD in 2007 and in 2022 was selected to lead the Department’s highly regarded Special Liaison Branch (SLB). SLB is a model for community policing in its work with historically underserved communities. The Branch serves as a bridge to these members of the larger community whose diversity contributes to the vibrancy of the city. The SLB encompasses the Asian Liaison Unit, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Unit, the LGBTQ+ Liaison Unit, and the Latino Liaison Unit. In his role, he spearheaded the first Spanish-language citizen engagement academy for the Latino community and is actively involved in the FBI Hate Crime Statistics Working Group. In 2023, Lieutenant Rodriguez received the Somos DC Public Safety Award. He has a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

**Sister Laura Lee Seubert, L.S.J.** [Little Sisters of Jesus] was born in Cottonwood, Idaho, where she attended St. Gertrude Academy. She continued her education at Mankato State University (B.S.) in Makato, Minnesota, Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, and the Institute of Integral Human Formation in Montreal, Quebec. She is a C.P.E. graduate from MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C. Sister Laura Lee’s ministry has included inner-city life in Chicago, traveling circus ministry across the United States and Canada, and contemplative presence, friendship, and work in Anchorage, Alaska; Rome, Italy; Gallitzin, Pennsylvania; and Baltimore. She currently serves as a part-time contract chaplain at MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C. Sister Laura Lee follows the spirituality of Blessed Charles de Foucauld in being a contemplative presence in the heart of the world.

**Kate Soules, PhD** is an education researcher and independent consultant specializing in religious literacy and religious diversity education. She works with organizations to assess the outcomes and effects of their programs so that they can increase the reach and impact of this work. Her research examines the assessment and evaluation of religious literacy education, teacher professional learning about religion, and the impacts of religious literacy education for both students and educators. She is the co-founder and Executive Director of the [Religion and Education Collaborative (REC)](https://www.religionanded.com/), an interdisciplinary network of scholars and practitioners working at the intersections of religion and schooling. Dr. Soules holds a Phd in Curriculum and Instruction from the Boston College Lynch School of Education and Human Development, a Masters of Theological Studies from the Boston University School of Theology, and a BA in Sociology from Wellesley College.

**Dr. Inez Tuck**, Professor Emeritus at Virginia Commonwealth University, had a remarkable career in higher education as a university professor, administrator and researcher. She held faculty positions at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and Virginia Commonwealth University. She retired from academia in 2019 following her most recent positions as the dean of two Schools of Nursing: North Carolina A&T State University and MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston, Massachusetts. She was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2017, one of the highest honors in the nursing profession. In her faculty role, she focused on healing individuals, organizations, families, and communities and spirituality, trauma and health of individuals with stigmatized illnesses or who have experienced the homicidal death of a family members. Dr. Tuck has a diverse educational background with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Master’s degree in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, an MBA, a PhD degree in Child Development and Family Relations, and a Master of Divinity degree. She mentored students and faculty and is a strong advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion. She was selected to participate in an inter-religious experience in Israel, Jordan, Palestinian West Bank, and Oman. The latter was as a member of an ecumenical group exploring the relationship of Christians, Jews, and Muslims.