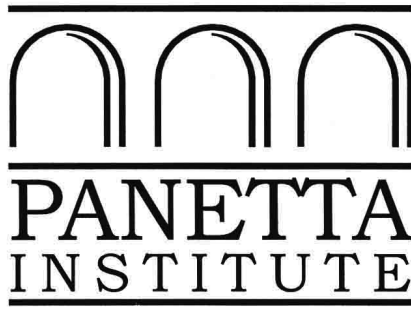




The Panetta Institute for Public Policy

PRESS RELEASE

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Attention: Assignment Editors/News Directors

First Event in the 2021 Leon Panetta Lecture Series to Feature Anthony Fauci in a Discussion

The COVID-19 Pandemic—Can We Finally Win the War?

Moderated by Secretary Leon E. Panetta

TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE

The annual twenty-fourth *Leon Panetta Lecture Series* season, *New Leadership in a New Decade: Can America Be Healed?*, begins Monday evening, February 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via webinar teleconferencing. Event tickets and season subscriptions are available and can be purchased by calling the Panetta Institute at 831-582-4200. Secretary Leon E. Panetta will moderate this discussion.

The first forum will focus on *The COVID-19 Pandemic—Can We Win the War?* Speaking with Secretary Panetta will be Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID) and Chief Medical Advisor to the President.

“I know of no one more qualified to speak authoritatively on the subject of COVID-19 than Anthony Fauci,” said Institute Chairman Leon E. Panetta. “I will not only address the most commonly

asked questions regarding the pandemic that deal with masks, social distancing, the available vaccines, the safety of our nation's blood supply, and the like. But, I will ask Dr. Fauci if researchers and scientists are able to shed light on whether or not the vaccines will provide protection from variant strains of viruses? Further, does he believe that, given the disparities in the national delivery of healthcare, might COVID-19 be the catalyst that begins to reunify the social and biological divide in our nation? Does Dr. Fauci believe that there is sufficient research to allow schools to re-open safely? Does the rise of technologies like telemedicine and teleconferencing mean the changes in medical care are likely to be permanent? Why was the nation and world so poorly prepared to deal with the pandemic? I will discuss these issues and many others with Dr. Fauci as we launch the twenty-fourth year of the Institute's *Lecture Series*."

Dr. Anthony Fauci, an adviser to seven United States presidents, was appointed Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) in 1984. He oversees extensive research to prevent, diagnose, and treat established infectious diseases, respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, tuberculosis and malaria as well as emerging diseases such as Ebola and Zika. He was one of the principal architects of the Bush Administration's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a program that has saved millions of lives throughout the developing world. He also is the longtime chief of the Laboratory of Immunoregulation. He is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the *Presidential Medal of Freedom*, the *National Medal of Science*, the *George M. Kober Medal* of the Association of American Physicians, and the *Canada Gairdner Global Health Award*. He has received forty-five honorary doctoral degrees from universities in the United States and abroad. He is the author, coauthor, or editor of more than 1,300 scientific publications, including several textbooks.

For safety reasons, the 2021 season will take place via live webinar. Season subscriptions to the *Leon Panetta Lecture Series* are available for \$400. Individual tickets to the February 22 lecture sell for \$100. To order a subscription or individual ticket, call the Panetta Institute at 831-582-4200 to pay with a credit card.

Each of the four live lectures will be available only to sponsors, subscribers and individual ticket purchasers. After the final program in mid-May, all recorded lectures will be released for viewing on the Panetta Institute website at www.panettainstitute.org.

For additional information on tickets, subscriptions or the lecture broadcast schedule, please call the Panetta Institute at 831-582-4200 or visit www.panettainstitute.org.