

CELEBS

celebs

Ellen DeGeneres addresses 'toxic' workplace allegations

Reuters | Los Angeles

Embattled talk show host Ellen DeGeneres has addressed allegations of a "toxic" workplace culture in a memo to staff.

The longtime host wrote that she intends to "correct" issues raised about behind-the-scenes behavior on her eponymous show, according to the Hollywood Reporter, which first revealed the memo.

"As we've grown exponentially, I've not been able to stay on top of everything and relied on others to do their jobs as they knew I'd want them done. Clearly some didn't," she wrote. "That will now change and I'm committed to ensuring this does not happen again."

While DeGeneres does not list specific actions that will

be taken, according to the Hollywood Reporter, the show's executive producer, Ed Glavin, will be let go.

Insiders have been vocal about suggesting that DeGeneres, 62, isn't the sunny person fans see on-screen. In the memo, DeGeneres suggested that something had shifted backstage to alter her intended "happy" vibe there.

"On day one of our show, I told everyone in our first meeting that 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show' would be a place of happiness — no one would ever raise their

voice, and everyone would be treated with respect," wrote DeGeneres. "Obviously, something changed, and I am disappointed to learn that this has not been the case.

And for that, I am sorry. Anyone who knows me knows it's the opposite of what I believe and what I hoped for our show."

The program had faced allegations of both racism and intimidation, and showrunners had said they were "truly

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ELLEN DEGENERES



Ellen DeGeneres

heartbroken" to learn about the issues. In DeGeneres' new staff message, she expressed "compassion" for the workers

who opened up.

"As someone who was judged and nearly lost everything for just being who I am," said DeGeneres in her memo, alluding to her rocky coming-out in the 1990s, "I truly understand and have deep compassion for those being looked at differently, or treated unfairly, not equal, or — worse — disregarded."

On Monday, it was reported that WarnerMedia's employee relations group and a third-party firm would interview former and current staff members about allegations. DeGeneres' series also has faced the possibility of cancellation during the brouhaha. When asked about cancellation rumours by The Post, DeGeneres' production company representatives said, "Telepictures can confirm it's untrue."

Lady Gaga's Rose Bowl appearance canceled after Chainsmokers debacle

Pagesix | Los Angeles

A surprise appearance by Lady Gaga and Ariana Grande at the Rose Bowl in LA was canned on Thursday due to fear of crowds not following social-distancing rules.

The pop stars were expected to appear at Voss Events' Drive 'N Drag show Friday, but the venue pulled the plug after the Chainsmokers' Hamptons concert made headlines for maskless fans crowding in front of the stage at what was meant to be a safer "drive-in" event.

"Gaga really wanted to do it, but the Rose Bowl pulled the plug because of what happened in the Hamptons," a music insider told Page Six. "They feared that once the crowd realized who it was, they would run toward the stage, not social distance, and they feared they'd lose their license."

The drive-in event will go on, with drag stars Asia O'Hara, Plastik Tiara, Kameron Michaels, Jaida Essence Hall, Vanessa Vanjie Mateo and Violet Chachki performing.



Lady Gaga

Katie Holmes: 'Lockdown has had a lot of silver linings'

IANs | Los Angeles

Actress Katie Holmes has learned several lessons amid the Covid pandemic.

In an interaction with etonline.com, Katie spoke about her quarantine life with her 14-year-old daughter, Suri.

"This lockdown has had a lot of silver linings. I've been taking time to FaceTime and really be there, be present. This year has also been a reminder that the simple things are really beautiful and that is, those are the gifts of life," she said.

Katie is all set to feature in the film, "The Secret: Dare To Dream". She portrays Miranda Wells, a widow with three children who is struggling to be there for her family.

"The narrative is a good accompaniment to the book. She's really struggling to provide financially and emotionally, and you just see her exhausted and really not surrendering to anything, just kind of fighting it all. That's taking its toll on her children and her relationship with herself," Katie shared.



Katie Holmes

Matthew McConaughey set to release his memoir in October

Los Angeles

Matthew McConaughey has written a memoir.

The 50-year-old actor — who is one of the best-paid stars in Hollywood — has revealed that 'Greenlights' will be comprised of his personal journal entries and musings, describing it as a "playbook based on adventures".

He told ABC News: "This is not a traditional mem-

oir, or an advice book, but rather a playbook based on adventures in my life.

"Adventures that have been significant, enlightening, and funny, sometimes because they were meant to be but mostly because they didn't try to be."

The Oscar-winning star has also discussed the memoir on his Twitter account.

In a video clip on the micro-blogging platform, McConaughey said: "Ever since I learned to write, I've been keeping a journal. Writing down anything that turned me on, turned me off, made me laugh, made me cry, and made

me question what kept me up at night.

"Two years ago I worked up the courage to take all those journals off into solitary confinement just to see what I had and I returned with a book."

The movie star also revealed he named the memoir 'Greenlights' because it's about how "we all can catch more of them in this life we're living".

Leonardo DiCaprio to develop utopian series 'Island'

ANI | Washington

Actor Leonardo DiCaprio's production house, Appian Way, and In Good Company Films are all set to develop a utopian series 'Island', which is based on Aldous Huxley's novel of the same name.

According to Variety, the writer's final book, published in 1962, revolves around the story of a cynical journalist shipwrecked on the fictional utopian island of Pala in the Indian Ocean.

Originally tasked with exploiting Pala's natural resources, he uncovers an independently developed society and embraces the people, their culture and traditions. His experience and adventures alter the course of his mission.

DiCaprio and Jennifer Davisson are the executive producers for Appian Way along with George



Leonardo DiCaprio

DiCaprio and Roe Sharon. Andrew Alter and Jason Whitmore will executive produce for IGC Films, cited Variety.

Appian Way Productions is a Los Angeles-based film and television production company founded by DiCaprio and has been producing credits on

Aldous Huxley's final book, published in 1962, revolves around the story of a cynical journalist shipwrecked on the fictional utopian island of Pala in the Indian Ocean

more than a dozen feature films, including 'The Aviator', 'Shutter Island', 'The Ides of March', 'Runner Runner', 'The Wolf of Wall Street', and many more.

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Yesterday's solution

5	9	8	1	4	2	6	3	7
7	1	2	6	9	3	4	8	5
4	3	6	8	5	7	1	9	2
2	7	4	5	8	1	3	6	9
6	8	3	7	2	9	5	4	1
1	5	9	4	3	6	7	2	8
3	6	5	9	1	8	2	7	4
8	4	7	2	6	5	9	1	3
9	2	1	3	7	4	8	5	6

How to play
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Across

1- Smallest; 6- Camera setting; 11- Dos Passos trilogy; 14- Academy award; 15- French wine valley; 16- Henpeck; 17- Gaffer Calvin; 18- Inactive; 19- "Cats" monogram; 20- Chinese dynasty; 22- Elevate; 24- Postal carrier's tote; 28- Feeling cold; 30- Ultimate purpose; 31- Israeli seaport; 32- Line in a play directed to the audience; 33- Dying for a noble cause; 37- Friend of Tigger; 38- Mexican money; 39- Bordeaux buddy; 40- Diametrically opposite; 43- Gogo's " Bulba"; 45- Rare delight; 46- Believable; 47- "Fiddler on the Roof" setting; 49- North Star; 50- Pub perch; 51- Melodies; 52- Suffix with ball; 53- Grammarian's concern; 56- Scarpia's killer; 61- It may come after you; 62- Clod of turf; 63- Pungent bulb; 64- Roulette bet; 65- Adonais; Thanatopsis; or In Memoriam; 66- Tall tales;

Down

1- Chop off; 2- Nationality suffix; 3- Good hole card; 4- Watched the kids; 5- Quiver; 6- Throw with force; 7- Album unit; 8- Bind; 9- Eight-time Norris Trophy winner; 10- Convert into stone; 11- Pending; 12- Impudent; 13- "A Death in the Family" author James; 21- Proverb ending; 23- Banned apple spray; 24- Funny Anne; 25- Baseball Hall of Famer Cap; 26- Dostoyevsky novel, with "The"; 27- Fellow; 28- Christmas song; 29- Strikes; 31- Attacks; 33- Decoration; 34- Challenger; 35- Muscat native; 36- Thin fogs; 38- Ovid, e.g.; 41- What's ___ you?; 42- Overture; 43- Russian novelist; 44- Turkish title; 46- ___ anglais (English horn); 47- Put away; 48- Sharpened; 49- Devoutness; 50- Fly; 51- Excited; 54- Part of RSVP; 55- Hail, to Caesar; 57- ___ roll; 58- Poitier role; 59- Jailbird; 60- Ques response;

CROSSWORD

Yesterday's solution

A	S	O	N	G	T	E	A	R	B	U	S	H
L	O	V	E	R	A	U	R	A	A	N	T	E
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M	E	X	I	C	O	S	E	M	I	T	I	N
M	E	R	U	E	T	W	A	S	S	N	O	
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B	L	E	S	S	F	O	O	T	L	O	O	S
R	A	N	I	F	I	L	M	A	T	S	E	A
A	M	I	D	E	R	L	E	T	A	L	E	S
M	A	C	E	W	E	A	R	E	L	O	P	E