Preview the next season of WETA series *If You Lived Here*!
Stream three *new* episodes with WETA Passport starting December 11.
Dear Friends,

The incomparable Judy Woodruff, PBS NewsHour’s longtime anchor and managing editor, is a trusted friend — an unflappable presence who imparts to us what we need to know in these eventful times. In truth, Judy is an icon — a consummate, dedicated professional and respected leader who embodies journalism’s highest ideals and utmost integrity. To us at WETA and PBS NewsHour, she is also a cherished, gracious colleague.

After making her decision, my dear friend Judy announced publicly in mid-November what she has been planning with us for some time: she will step aside from the anchor desk after December 30 to undertake a new role at PBS NewsHour.

We are extraordinarily grateful that the public we serve can continue to enjoy Judy’s sterling journalism. We are fortunate that Judy will remain an integral part of our team, reporting as senior correspondent with her trademark precision and insight on those issues that help us to understand our world. She will lead a multiyear national reporting initiative that seeks to comprehend better how the American people see their country and whether today’s deep political divisions can be healed. The project, Judy Woodruff Presents: America at a Crossroads, will explore how our nation arrived at its current fractured political state and what solutions people envision.

Judy is excited to undertake her project, the latest role in a stellar career of more than five decades in journalism, including 25 years with PBS NewsHour. Her history with us runs deep; she was chief Washington correspondent for The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour from 1983 to 1993, before rejoining NewsHour in 2007 after years at CNN. Judy has been a regular presence at PBS NewsHour’s anchor desk since 2009, when she began serving as a rotating anchor for the broadcast. In 2013, she made history with Gwen Ifill when they became the first women to co-anchor a national news broadcast. Since Gwen’s untimely passing in 2016, Judy has anchored the broadcast solo.

We are also very pleased to welcome to the NewsHour anchor desk two familiar faces who will share this key role on the newscast as of January 2 — our wonderful, talented colleagues Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett, whom we congratulate! We will spotlight Amna and Geoff for you in the January issue of this magazine.

I know you join me in appreciating Judy’s devoted service in the anchor seat and as managing editor of PBS NewsHour. If you wish to share thanks for her service as anchor and good wishes for her new role, visit weta.org/thankyoujudy to do so. I look forward to the next chapter in Judy’s vital work on behalf of the American people.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our service to the public.

Sharon Percy Rockefeller
Sharon Percy Rockefeller, president and chief executive officer, WETA

WETA – ON THE AIR & ONLINE

WETA PBS
26.1 via antenna
Comcast 26, 219, 800, 1026
Cox 26, 1003, 1026
DirecTV 26, 26-1, Stream
Dish 8076, Fios 26, 526
RCN 26, 613

WETA Metro
26.5 via antenna
weta.org/livestream
PBS Video App
YouTube TV
Fios 470
RCN 599

WETA UK
26.2 via antenna
Comcast 265, 1146
Cox 800
Fios 474
RCN 39, 602

WETA World
26.4 via antenna
Comcast 270, 1148
Cox 802
Fios 475
RCN 37

Cover: Cathedral Choral Society, Washington Bach Consort (by Kate Wichlinski) and Maryland State Boychoir
Enjoy the sounds of the season on WETA Classical as Greater Washington's exclusive classical music radio service adds holiday music into its broadcasts in late November. Seasonal offerings air throughout December, increasing on December 17 and culminating with special programming on December 24-25. This year's Christmas Eve specials include the traditional Christmas Eve CarolFest (6 a.m.-1 p.m.); Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge (5 p.m.); and Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker (7 p.m.). On Christmas Day, December 25, WETA Classical presents Christmas in Washington (11 a.m.), featuring performances of holiday music by D.C.-area choral and instrumental ensembles; Handel's Messiah (3 p.m.); and Bach's Christmas Oratorio (9 p.m.). Also tune in to WETA Classical's Sunday-night, 9 p.m. program Choral Showcase, which is devoted to Christmas music all month. For more seasonal music on WETA Classical, see pages 20-21 and visit weta.org/happyholidays.

Holiday Specials on WETA PBS & WETA Metro
Visit weta.org/happyholidays for holiday programs on WETA's TV channels

WETA Arts: Songs of the Season Mon 12/19, 9pm (8pm, WETA Metro);
Rpts Sat 12/24, 7pm, 11pm; Sun 12/25, 7pm
O Holy Night: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir Tue 12/13, 8pm;
Rpts Tue 12/20, 9pm; Sun 12/24, 7pm
St. Olaf Christmas Festival: Love Divine Sun 12/12, 7am
Holiday Handbells: The Raleigh Ringers Tue 12/20, 10pm; Rpts 12/25, noon
Celebrate and Sing! Glory to the newborn King Wed 12/21, 9:30pm
The Nutcracker and the Mouse King Fri 12/23, 9pm; Rpts Sat 12/24, 11am
Clown by Quentin Blake Fri 12/23, 10:30pm
Rick Steves’ European Christmas Sat 12/24, 8am
Real Rail Adventures: Swiss Winter Magic Sat 12/24, 9am
Mysteries of the Jesus Prayer Sat 12/24, 10am
Christmas on the Danube Sat 12/24, 12:30pm
America’s Test Kitchen Special: Home for the Holidays Sat 12/24, 1pm
Mary Berry Christmas specials Sat 12/24, 2pm & 3pm
Christmas in New York: Inside the Plaza Sat 12/24, 4pm
Santa School Sat 12/24, 5pm
In Performance at the White House: Spirit of the Season (2021)
Sat 12/24, 8pm; Rpts 12/25, 4pm, 12pm
Mary Berry’s Ultimate Christmas Sat 12/24, 7pm, Rpts 1am;
Sun 12/25, 1am
Lucy Worsley’s 12 Days of Tudor Christmas Sat 12/24, 10pm
Repeat the Sounding Joy: A Concordia Christmas Sun 12/25, 8am
20 Years of Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir Sun 12/25, 9am
Ella Wishes You a Swinging Christmas, with Vanessa Williams
Sun 12/25, 11am
Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir (featuring):
Kelli O’Hara & Richard Thomas Sun 12/25, 1pm
Kristin Chenoweth Sun 12/25, 2pm
Christmas at Belmont 2021 Sun 12/25, 3pm
All Is Bright! A Concordia Christmas Sun 12/25, 6:30pm
Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2022 Sun 12/25, 9pm; Rpts 10:30pm

Holiday specials on WETA UK:
BBC’s The Lights Before Christmas, Saturday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. & 10 p.m.;
additional Call the Midwife holiday shows on December 25, 3 p.m.-midnight. See page 16.

For program and membership inquiries, visit weta.org or call 703-998-2724.
Local student quiz show airs Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS Video App

Local programs on WETA

Around Town Best Bets
A new video recommending local cultural activities and events is posted each Friday at 3 p.m. on WETA’s Facebook page and YouTube channel — and at weta.org/bestbets

After a two-year hiatus as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the Emmy Award-winning production Around Town has returned to WETA PBS under a new title, Around Town Best Bets, spotlighting the best in local cultural offerings around Greater Washington. The production is posted online and appears as interstitial segments between programs on WETA PBS and WETA Metro, providing weekly recommendations for must-see local film, art, theater and events — presented by one Around Town critic each week.

Around Town Best Bets welcomes back the familiar critics from the long-running pre-pandemic series — arts critic Robert Aubry Davis (at right, in a November segment on the Peacock Room in the Smithsonian’s Freer Gallery of Art), who has participated in Around Town since its inception in 1986; fine arts critics Janis Goodman and Peter Winant; film critics Tim Gordon and Travis Hopson; and theater critics Jane Horwitz and Chris Klimek. Each Friday one of the seven critics helps to illuminate the vibrant cultural offerings of the D.C. area, giving their recommendations about arts and entertainment, from engrossing films, show-stopping performances and dazzling museum exhibitions to special events and little-known treasures.

A list of upcoming installments of Around Town Best Bets provides a snapshot of the kinds of cultural offerings among the critics’ reviews and suggestions. December 2: Peter Winant spotlights the Kreeger Museum exhibition “Perplexity” (on view through Dec. 10), featuring artworks in a diverse range of media. December 9: Tim Gordon reviews the film The Whale, which premieres in theaters that day. December 16: Chris Klimek spotlights the Folger Shakespeare Library production of “The Tempest” (which runs through Jan. 1). December 23: Gordon reviews the new film Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery, premiering that day on Netflix. And December 30: Klimek illuminates the Signature Theatre production of “Into the Woods” (which runs through Jan. 29).

Watch for new installments each week, released Fridays at 3 p.m. on WETA’s Facebook page and YouTube channel, and online at weta.org/bestbets.

Local student quiz show airs Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS Video App

Local quiz show It’s Academic, featuring talented high school students from around the D.C. metropolitan area, promotes learning, teamwork and friendly competition, spotlighting the achievements of local students through tests of knowledge in a selection of academic categories. Hosted by Emmy Award-winning journalist Hillary Howard, the program in each season brings together high school teams to compete in a single-elimination knowledge tournament.

This month, featured teams are: Dec. 3: Fauquier, La Plata and Sherwood; Dec. 10: Bullis, Northwest and Quince Orchard; Dec. 17: Kipps DC College Prep, Sandy Spring Friends and Washington International; and Dec. 31: Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Edison and South County. Note: The show takes a break on Christmas Eve, December 24. The programs are currently produced on Zoom.

It’s Academic airs Saturdays on WETA PBS and WETA Metro, repeating Mondays at 3 p.m. on WETA PBS and 7 p.m. on WETA Metro. The program can be streamed on the PBS Video App and via WETA’s website.

Major funding for It’s Academic is provided by MITRE.

Stream WETA local video content at weta.org or on the PBS Video App
weta.org/itsacademic • weta.org/ifyoulivedhere • weta.org/signaturedish • weta.org/weta-arts • weta.org/bestbets

2 DECEMBER 2022 • Stream select programs via the PBS Video App.
For the third year, WETA’s local production WETA Arts presents a spirited hour-long holiday music special featuring performances by choral groups from all around the D.C. area. WETA Arts hosts Felicia Curry introduces the show, Songs of the Season.

Fifteen choral groups from D.C., Maryland and Virginia are featured this year, including the Maryland State Boychoir performing its rendition of “Jubilate Deo,” and the Alfred Street Baptist Church Trinity Choir singing “Have You Heard About the Baby.” The program also features Cathedral Choral Society; The Thirteen; Children’s Chorus of Washington; Alexandria Harmonizers; The Reston Chorale; Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington, DC; The Choral Arts Society of Washington; Fairfax Choral Society’s Vocal Arts Ensemble; Thomas Circle Singers; Washington Bach Consort; Capitol Hill Chorale; Encore Creativity for Older Adults; and Washington Master Chorale.

WETA Arts: Songs of the Season premieres December 19 on WETA PBS and WETA Metro (see timings above) and repeats Saturday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 25 at 5 p.m. on both channels, with an additional WETA Metro airing on Thursday, Dec. 22 at 9 p.m.

The popular seasonal program was conceived in 2020 by Margaret Nomura Clark, the artistic director of the Children’s Chorus of Washington, as a way to share local choirs’ holiday music during the coronavirus pandemic. In collaboration with Michael Ehrlich, the artistic director of the Fairfax Choral Society, and Lynne Babcock, former director of choral music at Centreville High School in Clifton, Virginia, Clark set about soliciting and judging performances from across the DMV for musicianship, stage presence and song selection. Now, WETA Arts: Songs of the Season has become a WETA holiday tradition that draws participants and viewers from around the region.

Be a part of next year’s Songs of the Season! Local vocal groups are encouraged to submit their holiday video recordings for broadcast consideration. Groups interested in participating should remember to capture this year’s holiday concerts on video and be prepared to submit them for an anticipated fourth annual WETA Arts special in 2023. The deadline for video submissions is July 1, 2023. Visit weta.org/songsoftheseason for submission information.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.

If You Lived Here: John & Christine’s Favorite Moments

Saturday, Dec. 10, 2–6 p.m. and 8-11 p.m.
on WETA PBS & WETA Metro

A special broadcast event features the hosts of WETA’s popular local house-hunting and neighborhood exploration series sharing their favorite moments from the production’s first two seasons. The duo — John Begeny and Christine Louise — also offers behind-the-scenes stories from the production team’s visits to communities throughout Greater Washington to tour homes and illuminate distinctive locations, meet locals, and learn about the history and flavor of each area. Among the featured episodes are programs on Silver Spring, Alexandria, Anacostia, Southwest Waterfront, Capitol Hill, Brookland, Hillcrest, Kensington, Falls Church and Bowie.

While Season 3 of the program debuts in January with 12 more neighborhoods in the spotlight — at the end of the December 10 TV event, John and Christine introduce an exciting “sneak peek” opportunity ahead of the broadcast premieres. WETA is making three new Season 3 episodes available for streaming with WETA Passport: binge-watch episodes that visit Navy Yard in D.C.; Annapolis, Maryland; and Fort Hunt/Mt. Vernon in Virginia. See page 6 for details!

Funding for If You Lived Here is provided by The Yuen Foundation.
Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2022
Sunday, December 25 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS, WETA Metro & WETA UK; stream on the PBS Video App

The popular drama that follows a team of nurse midwives in the Poplar neighborhood of London’s East End presents an annual holiday special on Christmas Day. In this 90-minute episode, it is December 1967 and with Christmas fast approaching, life in Poplar is returning to normal after a terrible train crash. Trixie (Helen George) arrives back from Portofino, much to the delight of Matthew (Olly Rix). The midwives move the maternity clinic into new premises and are delighted when one of their first patients is a familiar face — a woman whose previous child was born with limbs affected by Thalidomide. Nurse Crane (Linda Bassett) cares for a pregnant single mother recently released from prison, while Sister Frances (Ella Bruccoleri) is called out to deliver a Sylheti mother’s child in a garment factory in a rough area. Elsewhere, Fred (Cliff Parisi) seeks to raise money for families affected by the train wreck and pitches the idea of a festive talent show in Poplar.

On WETA UK, watch recent Call the Midwife holiday specials (2018 to the present) on December 25 starting at 3 p.m., leading up to the new episode at 9 p.m.; or stream them with WETA Passport.

Christie Mysteries on WETA PBS Thriller Thursdays

Agatha Christie dramas take center stage on Thriller Thursdays in December. The 2018 drama Agatha and the Truth of Murder (Dec. 8, 8 p.m.) features Ruth Bradley portraying Christie investigating a prominent murder. The next week, the 1981 adaptation Agatha Christie’s Seven Dials Mystery (Dec. 15, 9 p.m.) follows a young aristocrat who probes murder, stolen state secrets, and a mysterious secret society. Cheryl Campbell, John Gielgud and James Warwick star. Then, WETA presents two episodes of Agatha Christie’s Poirot, starring David Suchet as the famed Belgian detective: Hercule Poirot’s Christmas (Dec. 22, 8 p.m.) features the sleuth as a Christmas guest probing murder; and renowned case Murder on the Orient Express (Dec. 22, 10 p.m.) co-stars Eileen Atkins, Barbara Hershey and Hugh Bonneville. Rounding out the offerings are adaptations Agatha Christie’s Why Didn’t They Ask Evans? (Dec. 29, 8 p.m.), and Agatha Christie’s They Do It With Mirrors (Dec. 29, 9:30 p.m.).
Finding Common Ground on Guns

Monday, Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS; 9 p.m. on WETA Metro

A majority of Americans say gun policies are very important. Yet despite Congress coming together to pass the first major gun-safety legislation in 30 years, voters remain closely divided along party lines over whether it is more important to support gun control or gun rights. Can our country find a path toward the common good? On September 27, 2022 at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) (below, right), who spearheaded the passage of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, and ex-CIA officer, author and former U.S. Representative Will Hurd (R-TX) (below, center), came together to discuss the issue. Murphy and Hurd, who both come from communities that have experienced mass shootings at local elementary schools, engaged in a debate over ongoing gun violence in the country and how to find common-sense solutions. Former CBS News Correspondent Jacqueline Adams (on left) moderated the conversation, which was presented by the Common Ground Committee, a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) citizen-led organization dedicated to bringing healing to the national challenges of polarization and incivility.

In a Different Key

Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro

In 2021, one in 44 children in the U.S. was diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum. But what is autism and how broad is the spectrum? And how can we create inclusive communities that welcome and celebrate developmental differences? The film In a Different Key, a true story of parental love, difference and the fight to belong, seeks answers to these and other questions. The two-hour documentary, based on the Pulitzer Prize-finalist book by journalists Caren Zucker and John Donvan (the film’s directors), follows Zucker, mother of an autistic son, as she tracks down and befriends the first person ever diagnosed with autism — Donald Triplett, now an elderly man living in rural Mississippi — to learn if his life story holds promise for her own son.

Zucker seeks answers to the unknowable: will the non-autistic majority embrace and protect her child when she is no longer here? Her journey exposes the worst and best of society’s response, a startling record of cruelty and kindness alike, framed by forces such as race, money and privilege — but leads to hope that more people are learning to understand and support those who are “different.”

The Adventures of Saul Bellow:
American Masters

Saturday, December 17, 8 p.m. on WETA PBS; stream on the PBS Video App

A new American Masters biographical film explores Nobel Prize-winning writer Saul Bellow’s impact on modern American literature and how he navigated through the issues of his time, including race, gender, and the Jewish immigrant experience. The film features rare archival footage; and interviewees include Bellow family members, Philip Roth, Salman Rushdie, Stanley Crouch and many others. The Adventures of Saul Bellow traces the author’s rise to eminence and examines his many identities: reluctant public intellectual, “serial husband,” father, Chicagoan, and Jewish American. It also sheds light on his willingness to confront social issues, his criticisms of American society and materialism, and his provocative political view.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
Stream new If You Lived Here, Season 3 episodes!
Binge three programs with WETA Passport as of Dec. 10, 11 p.m.
Get a sneak peek of the next season of If You Lived Here, WETA’s local house-hunting and neighborhood exploration series, as three new episodes of the show are made available for binge-viewing on WETA Passport ahead of their scheduled January broadcast premiere dates. On December 10 at 11 p.m., at the close of the evening’s If You Lived Here TV event on WETA PBS, stream new Season 3 episodes spotlighting Southeast D.C.’s Navy Yard; Maryland’s capital, Annapolis; and Virginia’s Mount Vernon and Fort Hunt neighborhoods. If You Lived Here visits D.C.-area locations as hosts John Begeny and Christine Louise (left, in Annapolis) tour homes and communities with help from local realtors, guess listing prices and learn about neighborhood history along the way. Season 3 of If You Lived Here premieres January 9 on WETA PBS and WETA Metro.

Binge-watch Miss Scarlet and The Duke, Season 3!
New season of Masterpiece drama available now with WETA Passport
Binge the next season of the popular Victorian-era detective drama Miss Scarlet and The Duke on Masterpiece on WETA Passport weeks before its broadcast premiere January 8 on WETA PBS and WETA Metro. The series’ six new episodes became available for streaming as of Nov. 24. In Season 3, Eliza (Kate Phillips) finds herself in fresh mysteries, ranging from a disappearing magician to police corruption, as she struggles to build her detective agency. Competition from a rival agency creates trouble, and Scarlet continues to juggle her relationship with Scotland Yard Inspector William Wellington, aka the Duke (Stuart Martin), but she discovers that she may have some competition on that front as well.

Catch up!: All Creatures Great and Small
All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 premieres in early January on Masterpiece! Catch up on the popular drama that follows a veterinarian in rural 1930s England — stream Season 2, now available with WETA Passport.

Dickens & Austen dramas
Binge watch now with WETA Passport: Oliver Twist (6 episodes); Dickensian (10 episodes), with Stephen Rea heading an ensemble cast; and Emma, with Romola Garai and Jonny Lee Miller (4 episodes).

Also streaming this month with WETA Passport: Watch for 30 new curated international drama, mystery and thriller series that become available on successive Thursdays in late November and in December. Browse these binge-viewing offerings in the WETA Passport drama show menu.

6 DECEMBER 2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>8:00</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Thu</td>
<td>Sister Boniface Mysteries, Series 1 (Crimes and Miss Manners)</td>
<td>Broadchurch, Series 3 (Pt 8 of 8)</td>
<td>Suze Orman’s Ultimate Retirement Guide (to 12m)</td>
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<td>2 Fri</td>
<td>Washington Week</td>
<td>The Doobie Brothers with Michael McDonald: 50th Anniversary at Radio City Music Hall</td>
<td>My Music: John Sebastian Presents: Folk Rewind (to 12m)</td>
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<td>3 Sat</td>
<td>Harriet Tubman: Visions of Freedom</td>
<td>My Music: Burt Bacharach’s Best</td>
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<td>4 Sun</td>
<td>All Creatures Great and Small on Masterpiece, Series 2 Marathon (10:36am-6pm)</td>
<td>The Musicians’ Green Book: An Enduring Legacy</td>
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<td>5 Mon</td>
<td>Harriet Tubman: Visions of Freedom</td>
<td>Signature Dish, Encore: Next-Level Sandwiches</td>
<td>Eat Your Medicine: The Pegan Diet with Mark Hyman, MD (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>6 Tue</td>
<td>Rick Steves’ European Christmas</td>
<td>Frontline: Crime Scene: Bucha</td>
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<td>7 Wed</td>
<td>Great Performances: Andrea Bocelli Live in Central Park</td>
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<td>8 Thu</td>
<td>Agatha and the Truth of Murder</td>
<td>Happy Birthday Mr. Bean (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>9 Fri</td>
<td>Washington Week</td>
<td>Ken Burns: America’s Storyteller</td>
<td>Suze Orman’s Ultimate Retirement Guide (to 12:30am)</td>
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<td>10 Sat</td>
<td>If You Lived Here: John &amp; Christine’s Favorite Moments (2-6pm, 8-11pm)</td>
<td>WETA Member Favorites</td>
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<td>11 Sun</td>
<td>Finding Common Ground on Guns</td>
<td>Signature Dish, Encore: A Taste of Mexico</td>
<td>Signature Dish, Encore: Korean Flavors</td>
<td>POV: Let the Little Light Shine (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>12 Mon</td>
<td>0 Holy Night: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir</td>
<td>In a Different Key</td>
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<td>13 Tue</td>
<td>The Earthshot Prize 2022</td>
<td>NOVA: Rebuilding Notre Dame</td>
<td>Test Tube Babies: American Experience</td>
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<td>14 Wed</td>
<td>Sister Boniface Mysteries, Series 1 (Love and Other Puzzles)</td>
<td>Agatha Christie’s Seven Dials Mystery (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>15 Thu</td>
<td>Washington Week</td>
<td>The David Rubenstein Show: Peer to Peer Conversations, Season 4</td>
<td>Craft in America: Inspiration</td>
<td>Craft in America: Home</td>
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<td>17 Sat</td>
<td>All Creatures Great and Small on Masterpiece, Series 2 Marathon (Pts 4-7 of 7) (Pts 1-3 air 2-5pm)</td>
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<td>18 Sun</td>
<td>Antiques Roadshow: Naughty or Nice</td>
<td>WETA Arts: Songs of the Season</td>
<td>Independent Lens: We Believe in Dinosaurs (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>19 Mon</td>
<td>Finding Your Roots w/ Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Encore: The New World</td>
<td>0 Holy Night: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir</td>
<td>Holiday Handbells: The Raleigh Ringers</td>
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<td>20 Tue</td>
<td>The Letter: A Message for Our Earth</td>
<td>Celebrate and Sing! Glory to the Newborn King</td>
<td>The Man Who Tried to Feed the World (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>21 Wed</td>
<td>Agatha Christie’s Poirot: Hercule Poirot’s Christmas</td>
<td>Agatha Christie’s Poirot: Murder on the Orient Express (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>22 Thu</td>
<td>Washington Week</td>
<td>The Nutcracker and the Mouse King</td>
<td>Clue by Quentin Blake</td>
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<td>23 Fri</td>
<td>In Performance at the White House: Spirit of the Season</td>
<td>Mary Berry’s Ultimate Christmas</td>
<td>Lucy Worsley’s 12 Days of Tudor Christmas</td>
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<td>24 Sat</td>
<td>All Creatures Great and Small, Series 2: On Masterpiece (Pt 7 of 7: The Perfect Christmas)</td>
<td>Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2022 (+ encore presentation 10:30pm-12m)</td>
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<td>25 Sun</td>
<td>Antiques Roadshow: Best Bargains</td>
<td>Signature Dish, Encore: European Classics</td>
<td>The Great American Recipe (Pts 1 &amp; 2 of 8) (to 11:30pm)</td>
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<td>26 Mon</td>
<td>Groucho &amp; Cavett: American Masters</td>
<td>The Great American Recipe (Pt 3 of 8)</td>
<td>The Great American Recipe (Pt 4 of 8)</td>
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<td>27 Tue</td>
<td>Nature: American Arctic</td>
<td>NOVA: The Truth About Fat</td>
<td>The Great American Recipe (Pts 5 &amp; 6 of 8) (to 12m)</td>
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<td>28 Wed</td>
<td>Agatha’s Christie’s Why Didn’t They Ask Evans?</td>
<td>Agatha’s Christie’s They Do It With Mirrors</td>
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<td>29 Thu</td>
<td>Washington Week</td>
<td>The David Rubenstein Show: Peer to Peer Conversations, Season 4</td>
<td>The Great American Recipe (Pt 7 of 8)</td>
<td>The Great American Recipe (Pt 8 of 8)</td>
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<td>30 Fri</td>
<td>United in Song 2022: Ringing in the New Year Together (+ encore presentation 9:30-11pm)</td>
<td>PBS NewsHour airs weeknights at 7 p.m.</td>
<td>PBS News Weekend airs Sat./Sun. at 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Amanpour and Company airs late weeknights (check listings).</td>
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WETA PBS in December

Listings are accurate as of press time. For latest schedules, visit weta.org/schedule or call 703-998-2724. WETA PBS is devoted to children’s educational programming 8 a.m.–3 p.m., Monday–Friday. For 24 hours of children’s programming each day, tune in to the WETA PBS Kids channel. See page 15 for information.

Program Key
Blue type = WETA productions, co-productions and presentations.
R = Repeat of recent programming.

1 Thursday

WEEKDAYS IN DECEMBER:
6AM NHK NEWSLINE
6:30AM BBC WORLD NEWS
7AM (Mondays) PBS NEWS WEEKEND
7:30AM (Mondays) WASHINGTON WEEK – R
7AM (Tuesdays-Saturdays) PBS NEWSHOUR – R
8AM-3PM WETA KIDS PROGRAMMING
3PM IT’S ACADEMIC
5PM AMANPOUR AND COMPANY – Rpt of previous night
6PM BBC WORLD NEWS – BBC World News Outside Source
6:30PM BBC WORLD NEWS AMERICA
7PM PBS NEWSHOUR – Each weeknight, the WETA production provides in-depth analysis of current events with a news summary, live interviews and discussions of domestic and international issues. Judy Woodruff anchors. Visit pbs.org/newshour. Rpts next day, 7am

8:00 SISTER BONIFACE MYSTERIES – Episode 10 of 10. Crimes and Miss Demeanors. Felix must choose between his friends and career when Sister Boniface (Lorna Watson) investigates a death at The Miss United Britain beauty contest, held in their community. Met officer DCI Clifford Winner arrives to oversee the high profile case.

9:00 BROADCHURCH, SERIES 3 – Part 8 of 8. In their investigation, DI Alec Hardy and DS Ellie Miller uncover the truth, and lives in Broadchurch are changed forever.

10:00 SUZE ORMAN’S ULTIMATE RETIREMENT GUIDE – Join the acclaimed personal finance expert for essential advice on planning for and thriving in retirement. With empathy, straight talk and humor, Orman provides information about key actions. Topics include when to retire, how to save and invest for retirement, Social Security strategy, long-term care insurance, and more. Repeats Sat 12/3, 2:30pm; Tue 12/6, 11pm; Fri 12/9, 10:30pm

2 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK – WETA’s weekly production, moderated by Yamiche Alcindor, presents a roundtable discussion with award-winning journalists who provide reporting and analysis of the major news stories from the nation’s capital. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek.

8:30 THE DOOBIE BROTHERS WITH MICHAEL MCDONALD: 50TH ANNIVERSARY AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL – Famous for their feel-good hits, The Doobie Brothers helped turn the “SoCal” sounds of the 1960s into 1980s rock gold. Then they reinvented themselves as soft-rock hit-makers, with Michael McDonald breathing new life into classic songs. This concert was taped in September 2022 when the band reunited for a 50th Anniversary performance at Radio City Music Hall.

10:00 MY MUSIC: JOHN SEBASTIAN PRESENTS: FOLK REWIND – A music special spotlights the singers and songwriters of the classic 1950s and 1960s folk era. Presented by John Sebastian of The Lovin’ Spoonful, the program features a trove of performances by artists such as Pete Seeger, Judy Collins, Harry Belafonte, Trini Lopez, Rod McKuen, Bobby Darin, The Kingston Trio and others. Repeats Sat 12/3, 12:30pm

12M AGING BACKWARDS 3 WITH MIRANDA ESMONDE-WHITE – You have a choice in how you age and whether you remain mobile, healthy and pain-free throughout life. Former ballerina Miranda Esmonde-White presents a six-point plan for keeping one’s mind sharp and body active using gentle daily movement.

Sunday, Dec. 4 at 9:30 p.m. on WETA PBS
The Musicians’ Green Book: An Enduring Legacy explores the stories and music of Black artists who relied on an underground guide to navigate the injustices of racial segregation while out on the road. The program features performances by an array of musical artists.

Sunday, Dec. 4, 10:30 a.m.–8 p.m. on WETA PBS
In preparation for a new third season beginning January 8, WETA features a special marathon airing of Season 2 of the blockbuster Masterpiece drama All Creatures Great and Small. Season 2 repeats Sundays, December 18 & 25 on WETA PBS (see listings for times).
**Sunday**

6AM MY MUSIC: BURT BACHARACH'S BEST – R
7:30 HARRIET TUBMAN: VISIONS OF FREEDOM – R
9AM MISS SCARLET AND THE DUKE: SECRETS REVEALED – Go behind the scenes of Season 2 of the popular Masterpiece with interviews of the cast and executive producer Rachael New, production designer Paki Smith, and costume designer Leonie Prendergast, who provide insights about the series.
10:30 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 2 MARATHON – Return to the Yorkshire Dales to follow the adventures of Scottish veterinarian James Herriot in the 1930s as he makes his way in the farming town of Darrowby, England. WETA reprises Season 2 of the drama in its entirety. Parts 1-6 of 7 air 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Part 7 airs 6:30 p.m. Nicholas Ralph stars.
6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – Geoff Bennett anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am.
6:30 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 2 MARATHON – The encore presentation of Season 2 continues with the season finale: Part 7 of 7. The Perfect Christmas.
8:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT & SMALL: THE NEXT CHAPTER – Go behind the scenes of the hit Masterpiece series about veterinarian James Herriot and his menagerie of animal patients. Interviews with cast members, creators and those who work with the animals provide interesting background to the drama.
9:30 THE MUSICIANS’ GREEN BOOK: AN ENDURING LEGACY – Explore the stories and music of Black artists who relied on an underground guide to navigate the injustices of racial segregation while out on the road. The program features performances in addition to interviews with vocalists, musicians, activists, historians and others. Repeats Thur 12/8, 11:30pm.
11:00 GREAT PERFORMANCES: JOSH GROBAN’S GREAT BIG RADIO CITY SHOW – Experience the world-renowned baritone performing songs from many musical genres alongside several special guest stars including Cyndi Lauper, Darice Bentson, New York City Ballet principal dancer Tiler Peck, and others.

**Monday**

7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR – Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour. Repeats next day, 7am.
8:00 HARRIET TUBMAN: VISIONS OF FREEDOM – R
9:30 SIGNATURE DISH – WETA’s local restaurant exploration series spotlights standout dishes at establishments around Greater Washington. Seth Tillman hosts.
Encore: Episode 8: Next-Level Sandwiches. Seth enjoys a Guatemalan street sandwich at Nim Ail, a fried chicken sandwich at Open Crumb, and Fight Club’s namesake sandwich.
10:00 EAT YOUR MEDICINE: THE Pegan Diet with Mark Hyman, MD
11:30 YOU, HAPPIER WITH DANIEL AMEN, MD – R

**Saturday**

6AM WASHINGTON WEEK – R
6:30 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER – R
7AM PBS NEWS – R
8AM YOU, HAPPIER WITH DANIEL AMEN, MD – Americans are the unhappiest they’ve been since the Great Depression, and it’s causing problems: being unhappy is associated with health issues and a harder (and shorter) life. Learn to cultivate happiness with brain-based methods; psychiatrist Daniel Amen shares how.
10:00 JOHN SEBASTIAN PRESENTS: FOLK REWIND – See the Friday, December 9, 8:30 p.m. listing.
10:30 KEN BURNS: AMERICA’S STORYTELLER – See the Friday, December 9, 9:30 p.m. listing.
12N RICK STEVES: WHY WE TRAVEL
12:30 JOHN SEBASTIAN PRESENTS: FOLK REWIND – R
2:30 SUZE ORMAN’S ULTIMATE RETIREMENT GUIDE – R
4:30 HAPPY BIRTHDAY MR. BEAN – See the Thursday, December 8, 10:30 p.m. listing.
6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – Geoff Bennett anchors.
6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK – R
7:00 IT’S ACADEMIC – Weekly, Saturdays at 10 a.m./7 p.m. on WETA PBS and WETA Metro; stream on the PBS Video App. The TV quiz show showcases the academic achievements of local D.C.-area high school students. Journalist Hillary Howard hosts. Competing this week are students from Fauquier, La Plata and Sherwood high schools.
Repeats Mondays, 3pm on WETA PBS, 7pm on WETA Metro.
7:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 1 – In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based financier and philanthropist David Rubenstein interviews some of America’s top scholars and writers to illuminate how history is made. Episode 10 of 10. Douglas Brinkley, presidential historian and author.
8:00 HARRIET TUBMAN: VISIONS OF FREEDOM – In Stanley Nelson’s film, meet the woman who repeatedly risked her own life and freedom to liberate others from slavery. Tubman was an Underground Railroad conductor, a Civil War scout, and a spy. Repeats Sun 12/4, 7:30am; Mon 12/5, 8pm.
11:00 BLACK ARTS REPERTORY: THE MUSICIANS’ GREEN BOOK: AN ENDURING LEGACY – Explore the stories and music of Black artists who relied on an underground guide to navigate the injustices of racial segregation while out on the road. The program features performances in addition to interviews with vocalists, musicians, activists, historians and others. Repeats Thur 12/8, 11:30pm.
11:00 GREAT PERFORMANCES: JOSH GROBAN’S GREAT BIG RADIO CITY SHOW – Experience the world-renowned baritone performing songs from many musical genres alongside several special guest stars including Cyndi Lauper, Darice Bentson, New York City Ballet principal dancer Tiler Peck, and others.
1AM BEST OF THE JOY OF PAINTING: SPECIAL EDITION – R
2:30 HAPPY BIRTHDAY MR. BEAN
4:30 JOHN SEBASTIAN PRESENTS: FOLK REWIND
6:30 PBS NEWS WEEKEND
8:00 HARRIET TUBMAN: VISIONS OF FREEDOM
9:30 SIGNATURE DISH – WETA’s local restaurant exploration series spotlights standout dishes at establishments around Greater Washington. Seth Tillman hosts.
Encore: Episode 8: Next-Level Sandwiches. Seth enjoys a Guatemalan street sandwich at Nim Ail, a fried chicken sandwich at Open Crumb, and Fight Club’s namesake sandwich.
10:00 EAT YOUR MEDICINE: THE Pegan Diet with Mark Hyman, MD
11:30 YOU, HAPPIER WITH DANIEL AMEN, MD – R

**For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.**
IF YOU LIVED HERE: JOHN & CHRISTINE’S FAVORITE MOMENTS
A WETA PRODUCTION

Sat., Dec. 10, 2-6pm, 8-11 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA METRO
A special If You Lived Here TV event features hosts John Begeny and Christine Louise sharing stories and memorable moments from WETA’s local house-hunting and neighborhood exploration series.

6 Tuesday

8:00 RICK STEVES’ EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS – Join the travel expert for a colorful celebration of Christmas across Europe, in England, Wales, France, Norway, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy. Enjoy Christmas markets, hear local choirs, share holiday traditions with families, and visit the neighborhoods of the countries. Repeats Sat 12/11, 10:30am; Sat 12/18, 8am

10:00 FRONTLINE: CRIME SCENE: BUCHA – Frontline, with the AP and SITU, investigates Russian war crimes through eyewitness accounts, videos and exclusive 3D data, mapping the atrocities in Bucha, Ukraine. Also on the broadcast: the story of a family’s struggle to reunite after separation at the U.S.-Mexico border.

11:00 SUZE ORMAN’S ULTIMATE RETIREMENT GUIDE – R

7 Wednesday

8:00 GREAT PERFORMANCES: ANDREA BOCELLI LIVE IN CENTRAL PARK – In this encore broadcast of the 2011 concert, renowned tenor Andrea Bocelli performs a free concert on Central Park’s Great Lawn with the New York Philharmonic, conducted by Alan Gilbert. Joining Bocelli on stage are Céline Dion, Tony Bennett, Chris Botti and David Foster. Soprano Ana Maria Martinez and Pretty Yende, violinist Nicola Benedetti, bass baritone Bryn Terfel and flutist Andrea Griminelli also perform, along with the Westminster Symphonic Choir. Repeats Fri 12/10, 11pm

11:00 THE AGING BREAKTHROUGH WITH DR. KELLYANN – Nutrition expert and naturopath Dr. Kellyann Petrucci explores how to slow down the aging process. She reveals her blueprint, introducing a powerful ingredient that helps replenish skin and draws on the science of the gut-skin axis. A healthy gut may be one of the most powerful secrets to weight loss and anti-aging. Repeats Thur 12/8, 3pm; Sat 12/10, 8am

8 Thursday

8:00 AGATHA AND THE TRUTH OF MURDER – In this 2018 drama, follow crime writer Agatha Christie as she investigates the murder of Florence Nightingale’s goddaughter during her own 11-day disappearance in 1926. Christie’s involvement in the case influenced her later work. Ruth Bradley portrays Christie.

10:00 HAPPY BIRTHDAY MR. BEAN – Explore the magic behind Rowan Atkinson’s iconic comic character, and learn how the Mr. Bean TV show became a global sensation. The series spawned two major feature films, three animated series and an online phenomenon. The program features classic clips and interviews from key creators.

11:30 MUSICIANS’ GREEN BOOK: AN ENDURING LEGACY – R

9 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK – Repeats Sat 12/10, 6am, 6:30pm; Mon 12/12, 7:30am

10 Saturday

6AM WASHINGTON WEEK – R
6:30 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER – R
7AM PBS NEWSHOUR – R
8AM THE AGING BREAKTHROUGH WITH DR. KELLYANN – R
10AM IT’S ACADEMIC – See tonight’s 7 p.m. listing.
10:30 RICK STEVES’ EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS – R
12:30 EAT YOUR MEDICINE: THE PEGAN DIET WITH MARK HYMAN, MD – R

2:00 IF YOU LIVED HERE: JOHN & CHRISTINE’S FAVORITE MOMENTS – John Begeny and Christine Louise, hosts of WETA’s local house-hunting and neighborhood exploration series If You Lived Here, share memorable moments from Seasons 1 and 2 of the production, spotlighting some favorite houses they visited and offering behind-the-scenes details about the making of the show. The event continues at 9 p.m.

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – Geoff Bennett anchors.

6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK – R
7:00 IT’S ACADEMIC – See tonight’s 7 p.m. listing.

7:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 2 – In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based financier and philanthropist David Rubenstein interviews America’s top scholars and writers to illuminate how history is made. Episode 1 of 10. Ambassador Susan E. Rice.

8:00 IF YOU LIVED HERE: JOHN & CHRISTINE’S FAVORITE MOMENTS – John Begeny and Christine Louise, hosts of WETA’s local house-hunting and neighborhood exploration series If You Lived Here, share memorable moments from Seasons 1 and 2 of the production, spotlighting some favorite houses they visited and offering behind-the-scenes details about the making of the show. If You Lived Here, Season 3 premieres in January; preview three new episodes on WETA Passport tonight as of 11 p.m.!

11:00 GREAT PERFORMANCES: ANDREA BOCELLI LIVE IN CENTRAL PARK – R

11 Sunday

6AM-6PM WETA MEMBER FAVORITES

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – Geoff Bennett anchors. Repeats Monday, 7pm.

6:30PM-6AM WETA MEMBER FAVORITES

Friday, Dec. 9 at 8:30 p.m. on WETA PBS
Ken Burns: America’s Storyteller presents a tribute to the acclaimed filmmaker, a longtime WETA production partner who has created extraordinary, landmark television documentaries that explore a wide array of fascinating topics and figures in American history.
Paris’s iconic Notre Dame Cathedral. Go behind the scenes with a team of engineers, masons, and timber workers tackling the daunting challenges of restoring the historic landmark.

10:00 TEST TUBE BABIES: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE – Learn how pioneering researchers attempting to conceive babies through in vitro fertilization faced obstacles and controversy before the world’s first test tube baby was born on July 25, 1978.

15 Thursday

8:00 SISTER BONIFACE MYSTERIES – Love and Other Puzzles. Sister Boniface is faced with a serial killer targeting women through the Albion Bugle lonely hearts ads. Can she, Sam and Felix and members of the Great Slaughter community unmask the killer before he claims his next victim?

9:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE’S SEVEN DIALS MYSTERY – Set in the late 1920s, this 1981 adaptation of Christie’s thriller involves international intrigue, romance, murder and a shoal of red herrings. Lady Eileen “Bundle” Brent is an aggressive young aristocrat who insinuates herself into a series of murders, stolen state secrets, and a mysterious secret society. The cast includes Cheryl Campbell, James Warwick, Sir John Gielgud, Rula Lenska and John Vine. (2.5 hrs)

16 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK – Repeats Sat 12/17, 6am; 6:30pm; Mon 12/19, 7:30am

8:30 THE DAVID KEMPZINSKI SHOW: PEER TO PEER CONVERSATIONS, SEASON 4 – Episode 12 of 15. Chris Kempczinski, McDonald’s CEO. Repeat Sun 12/18, 4:30pm

9:00 CRAFT IN AMERICA: INSPIRATION – Explore the splendor of American culture crafts, the people behind the artistry, and their impact on our nation’s cultural heritage. Inspiration. Meet artists who reveal the magic and influence of craft.

10:00 CRAFT IN AMERICA: HOME – Explore the many meanings and environments of home in craft art.

17 Saturday

4AM WASHINGTON WEEK – R

6:30 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER – R

7AM PBS NEWSHOUR – Repeats Sat 12/17, 7am

8AM JOSEPH ROSENDO’S TRAVELSCOPE

8:30 RICK STEVES’ EUROPE

9AM THIS OLD HOUSE – ASK THIS OLD HOUSE

10AM IT’S ACADEMIC – See tonight’s 7 p.m. listing.

10:30 MOTOR WEEK

11AM HOW SHE ROLLS

11:30 KEVIN BELTON’S COOKIN’ LOUISIANA

12N A CHEF’S LIFE

12:30 CHRISTOPHER KIMBALL’S MILK STREET TELEVISION

1:00 NICK STELLINO: STORYTELLER

1:30 LIDIA’S KITCHEN

2:00 IN JULIA’S KITCHEN WITH MASTER CHEFS

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
12 DECEMBER 2022  •  Stream select programs via the PBS Video App.

WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON
A WETA PRODUCTION

Monday, Dec. 19 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS, 8 p.m. on WETA Metro
WETA Arts: Songs of the Season, now in its third year, presents performances of holiday music by local choral groups, including the Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington, D.C. (above in concert).

18 Sunday
6AM-9AM WETA KIDS PROGRAMMING
9AM WHITE HOUSE CHRONICLE
9:30 TO THE CONTRARY WITH BONNIE ERBE
10AM THIS IS AMERICA AND THE WORLD WITH DENNIS WHOLEY
10:30 THE OPEN MIND
11AM FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER — Repeats Saturdays, 6:30am
11:30 TO DINE WITH KATE SULLIVAN
12N IN A DIFFERENT KEY — R
2:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 2 MARATHON — Return to the Yorkshire Dales to follow the adventures of Scottish veterinarian James Herriot in the 1930s as he makes his way in the farming town of Darrowby. WETA reprises Season 2 of the drama in its entirety. Parts 1-3 of 7 air 2-5 p.m. today; Parts 4-6 air 6-11 p.m. tonight, and Part 7, the Season 2 finale episode A Perfect Christmas, airs next Sunday, December 25 at 8 p.m. Nicholas Ralph stars. Repeats tonight.
5:00 THE CHAVIS CHRONICLES — Journalist, civil rights icon and intellectual influencer Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. interviews thought leaders.

5:30 A SEAT AT THE TABLE — A talk show series featuring hosts Denene Millner, Monica Pearson and Christine White gives voice to African American women from their diverse experiences, perspectives and challenges.
6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND — Geoff Bennett anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am
6:30 THE DAVID RUBENSTEIN SHOW: PEER TO PEER CONVERSATIONS, SEASON 4 — Episode 12 of 15. Chris Kempczinski, McDonald’s CEO. R
7:00 TELL ME MORE WITH KELLY CORRIGAN, SERIES 4 — In this WETA co-production, New York Times bestselling author Kelly Corrigan interviews influential people. Episode 8 of 10. Lisa Feldman Barrett, Neuroscientist; plus a Series 3 encore.
8:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 2 MARATHON — The encore airing of Season 2 continues with parts 4-6. Part 7, the Season 2 finale, holiday episode A Perfect Christmas, airs next Sunday, December 25 at 8 p.m. Nicholas Ralph stars. Repeats tonight.
11:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 2 MARATHON — Encore presentations of Season 2, Parts 1-6 of 7, air 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. R

19 Monday
7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR — Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour. Repeats next day, 7am
8:00 ANTIQUES ROADSHOW: NAUGHTY OR NICE — Einviving the year-end holiday season, highlights include an 1863 Temperance lithograph illustrating the evils of spirits; a letter from Gerald Ford to his kindergarten teacher; and a dress worn by Marilyn Monroe in the film Some Like It Hot.
9:00 WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON — WETA produces a spirited holiday music special, now in its third year, featuring choral groups from all around the D.C. area. Conceived in 2020 to celebrate choral music during the pandemic, Songs of the Season has become a WETA holiday tradition. This year’s special showcases 15 talented choral groups from D.C., Maryland and Virginia. Repeats Tue 12/20, 3pm; Sat 12/24, 7pm; Sun 12/25, 5pm
10:00 INDEPENDENT LENS: WE BELIEVE IN DINOSAURS — In this film, explore what happens when the Bible and science collide amid the battleground of a Creation Museum and a $120 million Noah’s Ark-inspired theme park in rural Kentucky. (90 min.)

20 Tuesday
8:00 FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR. — In this WETA co-production, join Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. as he delves into the genealogy of famous Americans. Encore: The New World. Gates traces ancestors of actor John Lithgow and journalist Maria Hinojosa who thrived in North America long before the birth of the United States.
9:00 HOLY NIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNACLE CHOIR — See the Tuesday, December 13, 8 p.m. listing.

Saturday, Dec. 17 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS
The Adventures of Saul Bellow on biography series American Masters explores the Nobel Prize-winning writer’s impact on American literature and how he navigated issues of his time, including race, gender and the Jewish immigrant experience. Above: Bellow in 1995.
— Experience 10:30
— Murder on the Orient Express, he tackles his toughest case.

— double-feature starring David Suchet. On Thriller Thursday, WETA presents an Agatha Christie’s Poirot

Thursday, Dec. 22 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS

On Thriller Thursday, WETA presents an Agatha Christie’s Poirot double-feature starring David Suchet. Hercule Poirot’s Christmas finds the super-sleuth investigating a murder during the holidays, and in Murder on the Orient Express, he tackles his toughest case.

10:00 HOLIDAY HANDBELLS: THE RALEIGH Ringers — The acclaimed community handbell choir based in Raleigh, North Carolina, presents seasonal song selections ranging from old yuletide favorites to modern additions. David Harris conducts. Repeats Sun 12/25, noon

21 Wednesday

8:00 THE LETTER: A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH — Experience Pope Francis’ encyclical letter to care for our planet, interwoven with personal stories from five characters on their voyages of discovery. Their life-changing experiences point to how both science and spirituality are vital to solving perhaps the biggest globally defining issue of our time: climate change.

9:30 CELEBRATE AND SING: GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING — A Christmas concert of secular and sacred music from Dallas is performed by Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church’s renowned 150-voice Sanctuary Choir, orchestra and Organist/Artist-in-Residence Bradley Hunter Welch. The program also features handbells, bagpipes, a jazz ensemble and soloists.

10:30 THE MAN WHO TRIED TO FEED THE WORLD: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE — Explore the life of 1970 Nobel Peace Prize-winner Norman Borlaug, who tried to solve world hunger home, after Lee receives six diamonds from his friend. After a series of incidents, he finds a home with a poor but loving family.

22 Thursday

8:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE’S POIROT: HERCULE POIROT’S CHRISTMAS — In the Agatha Christie adaptation, the great Belgian detective Poirot (David Suchet) is asked to spend Christmas with Simeon Lee at his Gorston Hall home, after Lee receives six diamonds from his putative father. After a series of incidents, he finds a home with a poor but loving family.

10:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE’S POIROT: MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS — Famed sleuth Hercule Poirot (David Suchet) — solves the greatest case of his career aboard the world’s most glamorous train, The Orient Express. Co-stars include Dame Eileen Atkins, Barbara Hershey and Hugh Bonneville. (90 min.)

23 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK — Repeats 12/24, 6am, 6:30pm; Mon 12/26, 7:30am

8:30 THE DAVID RUBENSTEIN SHOW: PEER TO PEER CONVERSATIONS, SEASON 4 — Episode 13 of 15. Tricia Griffith, Progressive Insurance CEO.

9:00 THE NUTCRACKER AND THE MOUSE KING — Enjoy a wondrously imaginative Christmas story by famed fantasy artist Quentin Blake. The Nutcracker, recounted by actor Alan Cumming. Based on E.T.A. Hoffmann’s 1816 book, the program presents the origin story of how a prince takes the form of a nutcracker. Repeats Sun 12/24, 11am

10:30 CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE — In a story of resilience and hope, a half-hour animation brings to life the adventures of a small toy clown that has been thrown away. On Christmas Eve he goes on a journey to find a new place for himself. After a series of incidents, he finds a home with a poor but loving family.

24 Saturday

6AM WASHINGTON WEEK — R
6:30 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER — R
7AM PBS NEWSHOUR — R
8AM RICK STEVES’ EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS — R
9AM REAL REAL ADVENTURES: SWISS WINTER MAGIC — Hosted by train buff Jeff Wilson, a program showcases the construction marvels and visual splendors of the Swiss rail system, including scenic routes and cog trains. The journey includes the alpine city of Chur, the ski resort of St. Moritz, the car-free village of Zermatt, and the famous Matterhorn.

10AM MYSTERIES OF THE JESUS PRAYER — Learn about the ancient Orthodox prayer first recited by the Apostles more than 2,000 years ago in the Egyptian desert. In the film, visit the caves, monasteries and convents where the faithful still chant this meditation.

11AM THE NUTCRACKER AND THE MOUSE KING — R
12:30 CHRISTMAS ON THE DANUBE — Enjoy Christmas markets along the majestic Danube River as it passes through stunning European landscapes. The program visits Vienna, Budapest, Salzburg, Oberdorf, and the Melk Abbey, the old town of Passau, and the charming Christmas market in Bratislava.

1:00 AMERICA’S TEST KITCHEN SPECIAL: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS — Bridget Lancaster, Julia Collin Davison and the rest of the America’s Test Kitchen cast share their tips and tricks for planning a stress-free Christmas feast with all the trimmings — from the traditional turkey to her classic Christmas pudding, it’s a recipe for a festive holiday.

2:00 MARY BERRY’S ABSOLUTE FAVORITES: CHRISTMAS — The iconic British baker and chef draws on her wealth of knowledge to share her favorite Christmas recipes, serving up traditional seasonal staples alongside new ideas.

2:30 MARY BERRY’S ABSOLUTE FAVORITES: CHRISTMAS DAY — The beloved British baker and chef shares some of her favorite recipes for the big day itself with easy classics for a stress-free Christmas Day and enjoyable feast.

3:00 MARY BERRY’S COUNTRY HOUSE AT CHRISTMAS — Visit the state-of-the-art House at Winterthur, 17th-century home of Henry and Maria duPont. The film, visit the caves, monasteries and convents where the faithful still chant this meditation.

3:30 MARY BERRY’S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS — Join English historian Lucy Worsley as she discovers the origin story of how a prince takes the form of a nut-cracker. Repeats Sun 12/24, 11am

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
25 Sunday


7AM ST. OLAF CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL: LOVE DIVINE — Minnesota's St. Olaf Christmas Festival is one of the oldest musical celebrations of Christmas in the USA, and features more than 450 students from St. Olaf College's choirs and orchestra. The program presents carols, choral works, and new compositions.

8AM REPEAT THE SOUNDOING JOY: A CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS — The ensembles of Concordia University Irvine and friends present festive Christmas songs.

9AM 20 YEARS OF CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNACLE CHOIR — Tony Award-winner Brian Stokes Mitchell joins the Choir and Orchestra for this 20th anniversary retrospective with performances from Audra McDonald, Kristin Chenoweth, Gladys Knight, Angela Lansbury, Hugh Bonneville, Renée Fleming and others.

11AM ELLA WISHES YOU A SWINGIN’ CHRISTMAS, WITH VANESSA WILLIAMS — Enjoy an evening celebrating Ella Fitzgerald’s iconic album of holiday classics presented by the American Pops Orchestra. Among those participating are Dee Dee Bridgewater, Norm Lewis, Carmen Ruby Floyd, Nova Payton, Dave Detwiler and Morgan James.


4:00 IN PERFORMANCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE: SPIRIT OF THE SEASON — See the Monday, December 19, 9 p.m. listing.

6:30 ALL IS BRIGHT A CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS — Join the vocal and instrumental musical ensembles of Concordia University Irvine, and friends, for a festive collection of music that brings light, hope, and joy to the season.

7:00 HOLY NIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNACLE CHOIR — Tony Award-nominee Megan Hilty and television and film actor Neil McDonough join the Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square for an Irish-inspired edition of this annual celebration of music and holiday traditions.

8:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SEASON 2 ON MASTERPIECE — WETA reprises the Season 2 finale. Watch for new Series 3 episodes in January, Part 7 of 7. The Perfect Christmas. James and Helen question their future together in the run-up to Christmas Day, while things look grave for one of Darrowby’s most beloved animals.

9:00 CALL THE MIDWIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2022 — The popular London-set midwifery drama presents its annual holiday special. With Christmas Day celebrations, birth at the hospital, and the famous Midwife House midwives move to their maternity clinic and are delighted when their first patient is a familiar face. Life in the Poplar neighborhood in London’s East End returns to normal after a tragedy, and all unite for a festive talent show. Repeats tonight.

10:30 CALL THE MIDWIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2022 — Encore R

12M IN PERFORMANCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE: SPIRIT OF THE SEASON — R

1AM MARY BERRY’S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS — R

26 Monday

7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR — Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour.

8:00 ANTIQUES ROADSHOW: BEST BARGAINS — Roadshow spotlight great bargains. Which item was found at a flea market for $40 and is now highly valued?

9:00 SIGNATURE DISH — WETA’s local restaurant exploration series spotlights standout dishes at establishments around Greater Washington. Seth Tinkham hosts. Encore: Episode 11: European Classics. Seth samples chateaubriand at L’Auberge Chez François, scarf at Piccolina, and jaegerschnitzel at the Old Stein Inn.

9:30 THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPE — WETA reprises the Summer 2022 recipe competition, featuring 10 talented home cooks showcasing signature dishes and competing to win. Episode 1 of 8. If I Were a Recipe. Join the cooks for their first challenges: creating a dish that expresses their story and talents, and putting their spin on regional dishes and ingredients. BBQ chicken and Korean tacos are on the menu.

10:30 THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPE — Episode 2 of 8. The Daily Dish. The Audra McDonald-winning home cooks share their favorite go-to quick meals, including shrimp tacos and spicy srichacha pasta.

27 Tuesday

8:00 GROUCHO & CAVETT: AMERICAN MASTERS — Discover the enduring friendship between television personality Dick Cavett and his mentor, iconic comedian Groucho Marx. Their relationship is chronicled through interviews with Cavett, archival footage and interviews with George Burns and others.

9:30 THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPE — Episode 3 of 8. Love Language. Be in the kitchen as the remaining cooks share favorite comfort foods and dishes inspired by a loved one — including sentimental recipes passed down through generations.

10:30 THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPE — Episode 4 of 8. Moveable Feasts. The competition’s remaining 7 cooks

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prepare handheld treats and dishes for outdoor dining. From picnics to tailgating to poolside, everyone has an offering that tastes like fun.

**28 Wednesday**

8:00 **NATURAL AMERICAN ARCTIC** – Vast, wild and remote, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is where some of the world’s greatest wildlife spectacles unfold. Situated in northeastern Alaska, this Refuge has long protected animals that still roam a frozen wilderness. Now, with climate change, for the caribou, musk oxen, polar bears, and Arctic foxes, the Ice Age is melting away.

9:00 **NOVA: THE TRUTH ABOUT FAT** – Scientists are coming to understand fat as a system akin to an organ—one whose size may have more to do with biological processes than personal choices. Explore the mysteries of fat and its role in hormone production, hunger and even pregnancy.

10:00 **THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPES** – Episode 5 of 8. Party on the Plate: The six remaining home cooks share their favorite special-occasion and holiday recipes—from modern takes on classic gourmet fare to old-time family recipes.

11:00 **THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPES** – Episode 6 of 8. Mix it Up. Watch what happens when the five remaining cooks have to swap recipes and prepare each other’s dishes.

**29 Thursday**

8:00 **AGATHA CHRISTIE’S WHY DIDN’T THEY ASK EVANS?** – Julia McKenzie stars as Miss Marple. As witness to a dying man’s last words, a young adventurer teams up with Miss Marple and a beautiful socialite to solve the riddle of the man’s utterance.

9:30 **AGATHA CHRISTIE’S THEY DO IT WITH MIRRORS** – During rehearsal for an amateur show, the power goes out and a murder takes place. As witness to the confusion, Miss Marple must decipher the elaborate conjuring trick played by the killer.

**30 Friday**

8:00 **WASHINGTON WEEK** – Repeats 12/31, 6am, 6:30pm; Mon 1/2, 7:30am

8:30 **THE DAVID RUBENSTEIN SHOW: PEER TO PEER CONVERSATIONS, SEASON 4** – Episode 14 of 15. Shouzi Chew, TikTok CEO.

9:00 **THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPES** – Episode 7 of 8. Family. Celebrate family as the competition’s four remaining cooks prepare dishes inspired by loved ones.

10:00 **THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPES** – Episode 8 of 8. The Great American Recipe. It’s time for the finale as the three remaining cooks go head-to-head to win. They’ll have some surprise helpers.

**31 Saturday**

6:00 **WASHINGTON WEEK** – R

6:30 **FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER** – R

7AM **PBS NEWSHOUR** – R

8AM-6PM See the Saturday, December 17 listings.

6:00 **PBS NEWSWEEKEND**

6:30 **WASHINGTON WEEK** – R

7:00 **IT’S ACADEMIC** – Weekly, Saturdays at 10 a.m./7 p.m. on WETA PBS and WETA Metro; stream on the PBS Video App. The TV quiz show showcases the academic achievements of local D.C.-area high school students. Journalist Hillary Howard hosts. Competing this week are students from Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Edison and South County high schools. Repeats Mondays, 3pm on WETA PBS; 7pm on WETA Metro.


8:00 **UNITED IN SONG 2022: RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER** – Ring in the New Year with music that celebrates our nation’s diversity—from folk and rock to opera, country, hip hop, Broadway, bluegrass and beyond. This special performance also reflects on what brings us together as Americans. Repeats tonight.

9:30 **UNITED IN SONG 2022: RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER** – R

11:00 **THE GREAT AMERICAN RECIPES** – The series repeats overnight.

Visit weta.org/schedule for complete WETA Kids listings.
### DECEMBER P.M. PROGRAMMING ON WETA UK

**VISIT WETA.ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A COMPLETE PROGRAM LINEUP**

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Also in December: WETA UK presents a marathon airing of the full series All Creatures Great and Small, Season 2 on Masterpiece, Sunday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Also tune in for Call the Midwife Holiday Specials (2018 through 2022), airing Sunday, December 25, 3-10:30 p.m.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
WETA Metro is the streaming and broadcast television channel that features popular PBS programming and engaging content curated for our local audience, including offerings spotlighting the Metro D.C. community. The channel is simulcast with WETA PBS most evenings. Each day on WETA Metro, enjoy local programs, news and public affairs offerings (such as PBS NewsHour, weekdays at 6 p.m./11 p.m.), and lifestyle and cultural shows.

VISIT WETA.ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A COMPLETE PROGRAM LINEUP

Stream at weta.org/livestream or via the PBS Video App

POV: Let the Little Light Shine
Saturday, Dec. 17 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro; Dec. 12 on WETA PBS; stream on the PBS App

A POV film details the story of activists fighting to save a thriving, top-ranked South Side Chicago elementary school on the brink of closure due to neighborhood gentrification. Let the Little Light Shine, directed and produced by Kevin Shaw, follows parents, educators and students embroiled in a battle over closing National Teachers Academy (NTA) — a safe haven for Black children and a community bedrock — and transforming it into a high school favoring the needs of wealthier residents. The program considers race and other factors at play — including class, gentrification, power, privilege and politics — as they collide to create discord in a community seeking the best possible education for its children.

Groucho & Cavett: American Masters
Tuesday, Dec. 27 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro & WETA PBS; stream on the PBS App

A new American Masters film explores the enduring friendship between Emmy Award-winning television personality Dick Cavett and iconic comedian Groucho Marx. Cavett, a writer for Jack Parr on The Tonight Show, met Marx at the funeral of playwright George S. Kaufman in 1961. When Cavett made the transition from writer to comedian in 1965, he was encouraged and mentored by Marx. In 1968, Cavett became the host of his own talk show and Marx became a frequent guest. The film chronicles the pair’s friendship through new interviews with Cavett, footage from Marx’s visits to The Dick Cavett Show and other rare recordings.

Independent Lens:
Leftover Women
Monday, Dec. 5 at 9:30 p.m. on WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App

A new Independent Lens film spotlights three successful modern Chinese women’s search for Mr. Right before their society deems them “leftover” for putting jobs ahead of marriage. Leftover Women follows a lawyer (34); a public radio professional (28); and an assistant college professor (36) in Beijing, who, despite thriving careers, are still labeled sheng nu, a derogatory term used in China to describe educated, professional unwed young women. With 30 million more men than women in China, women struggle to stay true to their personal and professional ambitions while dealing with pressure to marry from family, friends and a government that launched a state-sponsored campaign to stigmatize unwed women.

WETA Arts: Songs of the Season — WETA’s production featuring Washington-area choral ensembles performing seasonal offerings — airs Monday, Dec. 19 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro (9 p.m. on WETA PBS) and repeats Dec. 24, 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. & Dec. 25, 5 p.m. See page 3 for details.
The WETA World channel is a 24/7 news and public affairs service devoted to fact-based nonfiction programming, sharing broad perspectives, stories and ideas. WETA World informs and educates, presenting award-winning documentaries and domestic and international news broadcasts. The channel features a slate of original programs that examine issues with a diversity of voices and illuminate conflicts, movements and cultures around the globe.

VISIT WETA.ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A COMPLETE PROGRAM LINEUP

Real Stories from Around the World

Religion and Spirituality programs on WETA World

WETA World presents more than 40 programs featuring themes of religion and spirituality in December, including the following films and miniseries: Standing on Sacred Ground (Dec. 8, 15 & 22, 7 p.m.); Inside the Vatican (Dec. 11, 10 p.m.); Three Faiths, One God: Judaism, Christianity, Islam (Dec. 12, 7 p.m.); American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story (Dec. 17, 7 p.m.); Buddha (Dec. 18, 10 p.m.); Gandhi’s Awakening & Gandhi’s Gift (Dec. 19, 7 p.m.); Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet (Dec. 23, 8 p.m.); However Wide the Sky: Places of Power (Dec. 24, 7 p.m.); Your Health: A Sacred Matter (Dec. 25, 10 p.m.); The Letter: A Message for Our Earth (Dec. 26, 7 p.m.); Great 14th: Tenzin Gyatso, The 14th Dalai Lama in His Own Words (Dec. 28, 7 p.m.); Spiritual Audacity: The Abraham Joshua Heschel Story (Dec. 29, 9 p.m.); and Earth’s Sacred Wonders (Dec. 31, 7 p.m.).

America ReFramed: The Blessing

Thursday, Dec. 1 at 8 p.m. on WETA World

Documentary series America ReFramed presents the The Blessing, spotlighting a Navajo coal miner, Lawrence, who is raising his secretive daughter — a senior at the local reservation high school — as a single father while struggling with his part in the irreversible destruction of his tribe’s sacred mountain at the hands of America’s largest coal producer. This deep spiritual sacrifice has caused him decades of emotional turmoil while providing for his family. Meanwhile, his daughter Caitlin searches for her inner identity amidst the expectations of her traditional father. The 90-minute character-driven film, captured over the course of five years, spotlights the search for acceptance through this poetic social and environmental story.

Stories from the Stage

Mondays at 9:30 p.m. on WETA World

The ongoing series featuring storytellers speaking on a theme presents two new episodes this month. In Holiday Spirit (Dec. 5), three storytellers share tales that conjure the holiday spirit. David Dean Bottrell discovers his passion after stealing the school play’s spotlight; Andrea Kamen’s bright menorah cuts through the darkness of antisemitism; and Joe Charnitski tries to break a nightmare-before-Christmas bad luck streak. In The Perfect Gift (Dec. 19), storytellers speak to the power of gifts to simply bring a smile or even save a life. Christine Gentry donates a kidney to a stranger; Stacey Bader Curry dreams of one gift but gets another; and on the night of a high school dance, Mary D’Alba (above) gets an amazing gift from her father.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org
NSO Showcase
Wednesday, December 7 at 9 p.m.

A note from NSO Showcase host Nicole Lacroix: The National Symphony Orchestra has a December tradition: each year, a new conductor leads the ensemble in performance of Handel’s Messiah in the Kennedy Center’s Concert Hall, offering a personal interpretation of the beloved masterpiece. This year’s broadcast features guest conductor Jeannette Sorrell in her 2017 NSO debut performance. Sorrell is renowned as the founder and music director of Apollo’s Fire, one of the country’s premier early-music ensembles. Messiah airs December 7.

NSO Showcase airs the first Wednesday of the month at 9 p.m. on WETA Classical.

Choral Showcase
Sunday, December 18 at 9 p.m.

Bill Bukowski, WETA Classical weekday midday host, recommends a special Choral Showcase program on the Sunday before Christmas. The December 18 program presents an old favorite — Jakob Jan Ryba’s Czech Christmas Mass (also known as Hail Master, because of its opening words), a charming folk-inspired work that’s more of a cantata than a traditional mass. “It will be presented along with Christmas and New Year carols from Ukraine, a country and people very much in our minds and hearts this year,” Bukowski said.

Choral Showcase airs Sundays at 9 p.m. on WETA Classical.

Front Row Washington
Monday, December 19 at 9 p.m.

WETA Classical host and producer John Banther invites listeners to celebrate the holiday season on Front Row Washington with a performance of The Passion of Scrooge or a Christmas Carol, a work by American composer John Deak for baritone and chamber orchestra. In the December 2017 performance at the Smithsonian American Art Museum by Washington, D.C. ensemble 21st Century Consort, guest soloist William Sharp sings the role of Scrooge and Marley with a cast of characters portrayed by various instruments in the orchestra.

Front Row Washington airs Mondays at 9 p.m. on WETA Classical.

Center Stage from Wolf Trap
Saturdays, December 3, 10 & 17 at 9 p.m.

The ongoing Saturday-night series Center Stage from Wolf Trap, featuring chamber music recorded in concert at The Barns at Wolf Trap, takes a holiday hiatus December 24 and 31 but this month presents the following performances:

• Dec. 3: Escher String Quartet and Jason Vieaux (guitar): Boccherini, Quintet No. 4 in D major for Guitar and String Quartet, G 448; Tárrega, Capricho árabe for Guitar (1892); Albéniz, “Rumores de la Caleta (malagueña)” (arr. for Guitar); Wolf, Italian Serenade for String Quartet.
• Dec. 17: Montrose Trio: Tchaikovsky, Trio in A minor, Op. 50
Another spectacular season of live broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera in New York gets underway this month, and WETA Classical’s Opera Matinee is delighted to bring these performances to you every Saturday afternoon. The 2022-2023 season includes new productions, company premieres and treasured favorites, all performed by world-class artists. Met General Manager Peter Gelb sums up the upcoming offerings: “Our lessons learned during the two years of the pandemic are that the future of the Met, and of opera, rely upon ceaselessly breaking new and diverse artistic ground. It’s our path forward.”

Broadcasts begin with the world-premiere staging of Kevin Puts’s *The Hours* (Dec. 10), based on the novel by Michael Cunningham that was adapted into the 2002 Oscar-winning film. This production, under Met Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin’s baton, features a dazzling array of star singers: soprano Renée Fleming — who makes her highly anticipated return to the Met — soprano Kelli O’Hara, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, and Washington’s own Denyce Graves. Additional performances this month include Verdi’s *Rigoletto* (Dec. 17) and Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* (Dec. 24).

In other exciting presentations, renowned soprano Sondra Radvanovsky sings the title role of Cherubini’s rarely performed *Medea* (Jan. 7), from a recently recorded Met premiere; and Terence Blanchard’s *Champion* (May 27), the story of boxer Emile Griffith, features Ryan Speedo Green and Eric Owens in another Met premiere conducted by Maestro Nézet-Séguin. The line-up of stellar singers on the bill this season also includes Jamie Barton, Angel Blue, Lawrence Brownlee, Isabel Leonard, Peter Mattei, Matthew Polenzani and Sonya Yoncheva.

Opera lovers and those just learning the joys of opera will also savor the many eternal favorites scheduled this season, including Mozart’s *Idomeneo* (Apr. 22) and *Don Giovanni* (May 20); Puccini’s *Tosca* (Apr. 8) and *La Bohème* (May 6); and Richard Strauss’s *Der Rosenkavalier* (Apr 15). Also on the bill is a new production of Wagner’s *Lohengrin* (March 18), starring tenor Piotr Beczała. Beloved Verdi favorites include a vintage 1973 performance of *Macbeth* (Feb. 4) with Sherrill Milnes in the title role, the grand *Don Carlo* (Feb. 18), *La Traviata* (March 11), and *Aida* (May 13). Wagner’s *Der Fliegende Holländer* (June 10) wraps up the season.

Special performances chosen from the Met’s storied history include the New Year’s Eve bash “Met Debuts on the Air,” featuring highlights of artists who made their Met debuts during live Met broadcasts from the 1930s through the 2000s; an historical broadcast in February, yet to be announced; and in March, the popular “Listener’s Choice” program, a favorite Met production from its vast archives, as voted by listeners.

Commentary and special features will be guided by the Met’s broadcast host, Debra Lew Harder. Check the weekly opera schedule on wetaclassical.org, as start times occasionally vary, and share thrilling operatic experiences with us!
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