Celebrate the Holidays with Music and Specials
including local choral production
WETA Arts: Songs of the Season
The holidays have arrived, and in December WETA radio and television broadcasts present our annual celebratory programming, including inspiring music, uplifting concerts, entertaining dramas and much more. Among our notable television offerings this month is the vibrant annual special WETA Arts: Songs of the Season, created here at WETA, which features vocal ensembles from around the Washington, D.C. area performing holiday selections. In highlights adjacent to this column, find details about the choral production and many other holiday presentations, which we round up on our website at weta.org/happyholidays.

In other programming, with so much happening in the world at present, and Election 2024 coming into focus, stay informed of developments by watching WETA news and public affairs programs PBS NewsHour, Washington Week with The Atlantic and PBS News Weekend, all of which report on current events and issues. On December 19, be sure to tune in to our special production America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff for the distinguished journalist’s reporting from around the country on the rifts in America and ways we might bridge the divides.

Best wishes for happy holidays — and thank you for your ongoing support of WETA.

WETA Focus

The Emmy Award-winning local WETA series WETA Arts showcases the Washington, D.C.-area’s talented and dedicated choral communities in a lively one-hour holiday episode. The national capital area is home to dozens of outstanding local choirs and choruses that present holiday concerts — and WETA Arts invites audiences to hear 19 of these vocal groups perform in Songs of the Season. Now in its fourth year, the annual WETA production again features ensembles from D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

This special program was conceived in 2020 to celebrate local choirs during the pandemic and has become a WETA holiday tradition. WETA Arts: Songs of the Season premieres Dec. 11, is available to stream throughout the holiday season, and repeats Dec. 24 at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. on WETA PBS and WETA Metro.

Be a part of next year’s Songs of the Season! Submit your vocal group’s holiday video performances for consideration. Deadline for submission is July 1, 2024. To learn more, visit weta.org/localchoirs.

WETA Arts: Songs of the Season
WETA production airs Monday, Dec. 11 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; 8 p.m. on WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App

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
YouTube.com/wetapbs

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

WETA Metro
26.5 via antenna weta.org/livestream
PBS App
YouTube TV
Hulu + Live TV
Comcast 270, 1148
Fios 470 RCN 599

WETA World
26.4 via antenna
Cox 802
Fios 475
RCN 37

Holiday Specials on WETA PBS

As per tradition, WETA PBS features a wide array of seasonal television specials in December, from music and performance programs to dramas, from cultural/travel experiences to cooking presentations, and more. WETA’s own annual choral special, WETA Arts: Songs of the Season, is spotlighted opposite this page; and in other new music programming, enjoy Season of Light: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir (airing Dec. 12, 8 p.m.), featuring Lea Salonga and Sir David Suchet; and an encore performance of The Nutcracker and the Mouse King (Dec. 26, 9 p.m.) with Alan Cumming. In drama offerings, Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2023 (Dec. 25, 8 p.m.) features a seasonal storyline; A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong (Dec. 24, 7 p.m.), with Dame Diana Rigg and Sir Derek Jacobi, offers some dramatic holiday fun; and All Creatures Great and Small: Christmas in the Dales (Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.) celebrates holiday moments in the beloved Masterpiece series. Holiday classic Rick Steves’ European Christmas (Dec. 4, 9:30 p.m.) spotlights traditions on the Continent; The Savoy at Christmas (Dec. 17, 7 p.m.) illuminates the season at London’s luxury hotel; and new special Mary Berry’s Highland Christmas (Dec. 18, 9 p.m.) features the iconic chef and baker in Scotland. Tune in to WETA PBS (and WETA Metro) on December 24-25 for holiday programming throughout the day.

For program and membership inquiries, visit weta.org or call 703-998-2724.
Season of Light: Christmas with The Tabernacle Choir
Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App

The beloved annual Christmas with The Tabernacle Choir holiday special returns this month for its 20th televised year, featuring Tony Award-winning Disney and Broadway star Lea Salonga (of Mulan and Miss Saigon) and world-renowned screen and stage actor Sir David Suchet (Agatha Christie’s Poirot). In the 90-minute special, Salonga joins The Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square in singing inspirational favorite holiday tunes as well as performing a World War II-era song in Tagalog, “Payapang Daigdig,” to honor her Filipina heritage. As the evening’s narrator, Suchet powerfully recounts the story of Sir Nicholas Winton, an English stockbroker who worked tirelessly in the months before World War II to save endangered Jewish children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia, orchestrating the safe passage of 669 refugees, with a known posterity of 6,000. Combining timeless music with examples of sharing light, the program invites hope and welcomes the spirit of sharing goodness this holiday season.

Lookingglass Alice
Friday, Dec. 15 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App

Created and performed by Chicago’s Tony Award-winning Lookingglass Theatre Company, this program presents a circus-infused special inspired by Lewis Carroll’s beloved stories. Both faithful to the stories and innovative in its incorporation of dazzling circus arts and acrobatics, Lookingglass Alice offers up a fantastical, dizzyingly playful and gravity-defying spectacle, staged with bountiful wit, astonishing physicality, breathtaking aerial acrobatics and theatrical daring. The production, adapted and directed by ensemble member David Catlin, was produced in association with The Actors Gymnasium and has toured the country to perform for audiences of all ages. Founded in 1988 by eight graduates of Northwestern University (including future Friends star David Schwimmer), Lookingglass creates and presents new, cutting-edge theatrical works, guided by an artistic vision centered on core values of collaboration, transformation and invention. Variety praises the show as “surreal enchantment,” The Chicago Tribune lauds it as “ingenious,” and the Chicago Sun-Times calls it “spectacular … pure, unadulterated magic.”

Mary Berry’s Highland Christmas
Monday, Dec. 18 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; stream on the PBS App

In an enchanting holiday special, beloved home cook Dame Mary Berry heads to the Scottish Highlands on a winter break, cooking up some truly indulgent dishes that can be enjoyed anytime over the festive season. But this isn’t just any Christmas — it’s deeply meaningful for Berry because she’s spending it in her mother’s homeland. Amid the abundance of rich cultural delights, Berry reflects on her heritage with fascinating anecdotes about her Scottish roots. And she’s not going alone — accompanying her on this magical adventure are special guests who make this a holiday to remember.

Also enjoy an encore broadcast of the 2022 program Mary Berry’s Ultimate Christmas, Dec. 22 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; and a Mary Berry marathon on WETA UK, Monday, Dec. 25, that features these two Christmas specials, 7-9 a.m., in addition to episodes of cooking series Mary Berry’s Absolute Favorites and Mary Berry: Cook and Share, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and an Ultimate Christmas encore at 4 p.m.
Barbra Streisand: Back to Brooklyn
Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS; repeats Dec. 8 at 11 p.m.

For two magical nights in October 2012, hometown legend Barbra Streisand made a triumphant and emotional return to her roots and the borough where she grew up. The shows marked the Academy Award-winning actress, singer, director and philanthropist’s first public performances in her hometown of Brooklyn, New York, since she was in grade school. This encore presentation of Back to Brooklyn includes an array of songs that Streisand had never performed on stage, and features special guests trumpeter Chris Botti; Italian singing group Il Volo; and Streisand’s son, actor-director Jason Gould. Following the first of her Brooklyn shows, which helped inaugurate the then-brand-new Barclays Center, The New York Times praised Streisand’s “spellbinding voice” and noted: “Like few singers of any age, she has the gift of conveying a primal human longing in a beautiful sound.” Among the songs on the program are “Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered,” “Smile,” “The Way We Were/Through the Eyes of Love,” “You’re the Top,” “What’ll I Do/My Funny Valentine,” “People” and “Somewhere.”

Neil Diamond: Thank You Australia
Saturday, Dec. 2 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS

One of the most dynamic live showmen of his generation, and one of the most successful singer-songwriters of the last 40 years, Neil Diamond is an American legend. This concert “Down Under” by the multi-platinum-selling recording artist — filmed at the Sydney Sports Stadium — was the culmination of his Australia and New Zealand tour in 1976, an event that marked his comeback to the live stage after a years-long sabbatical from live performance. The vast crowd was typical of this record-breaking tour, which is still one of the most memorable in Australian history, and Neil Diamond delivered an enthralling performance. Among the songs Diamond performs are “Solitary Man,” “Cherry, Cherry,” “Sweet Caroline,” “Song Sung Blue,” “Cracklin’ Rosie” and “I Am…I Said.” Throughout the wide-ranging career of the Grammy-winning artist, and member of both the Rock & Roll and Songwriter Halls of Fame, he has sold more than 130 million albums worldwide.

Celtic Woman 20th Anniversary Concert
Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; repeats Dec. 3 at 2:30 p.m.

After the success of Postcards from Ireland, Celtic Woman returns with a 20th anniversary special celebrating a milestone with the Grammy-nominated ensemble. Filmed at The Helix in Dublin, this new concert includes new arrangements, Irish classics, contemporary songs and stirring originals, featuring the group’s trademark harmonies and instrumental virtuosity. Among the performers are sopranos Mairéad Carlin and Muirgen O’Mahony; fiddle and Irish harp maestro Tara McNeill; and newest ensemble member Emma Warren, who has participated in Riverdance, Heartbeat of Home and, in London, Les Misérables. The ensemble is accompanied onstage by a choir, an orchestra, and dancers, in addition to a band playing an array of traditional Celtic instruments. The show also includes original members Chloé Agnew, Lisa Kelly, Máiréad Nesbitt and Méav Ní Mhaolchatha. On the bill are familiar songs such as “When You Believe,” “Caledonia” and “Dúlamán” — and the concert culminates with fan favorites “You Raise Me Up” and “The Parting Glass” by the lineup of eight Celtic women.
At a time of heightened partisanship, declining trust in institutions, increased political violence, and rapid social change, distinguished journalist Judy Woodruff — senior correspondent and former anchor and managing editor of PBS NewsHour — explores the forces driving Americans apart and asks people from all walks of life and all political persuasions what might be done to reverse these worrying trends. The special America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff presents both new and recent reporting on this subject. The one-hour program also examines solutions — engaging academics and civic leaders to talk about strategies that seem to be working and to find out what more can be done to reconnect Americans across partisan division and build stronger communities. Woodruff’s reporting is part of her two-year national journalism project America at a Crossroads, which aims to understand better how the American people see their country. The reporting initiative explores how America arrived at this fractured political state and what can be done to bridge the divide.

Funding for America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff is provided by Jim and Nancy Bildner; Mary Graham; Jon Q. and Ann S. Reynolds Fund; Roger Sant; Alison Blair Taylor; Dr. Carl A. and Susan Hinko Batlin; Edith H. and C. Hastings Johnson Family Fund; Jay and Sharon Rockefeller; FJC – A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds; Ann and Thomas L. Friedman Charitable Fund; Anne Kelleher and Ray Boedecker; Donna and Mack McLarty; Sunrise Foundation; Kettering Foundation; Carnegie Corporation of New York; Rockefeller Brothers Fund; The Opportunity Fund; Pritzker Traubert Foundation; Omidyar Network; and PBS.
An Iconic Author in the Spotlight

WETA presents a new series illuminating the life of bestselling crime author Agatha Christie — and features adaptations of her works and depictions of her in additional dramas.

Agatha Christie: Lucy Worsley on the Mystery Queen

Sundays, Dec. 3, 10 & 17 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; Dec. 28, 8-11 p.m. on WETA UK; stream on the PBS App

More than 100 years since the publication of her first novel, Agatha Christie remains the most successful novelist of all time, outsold only by Shakespeare and the Bible. In 75 novels, plays and countless short stories, she revolutionized and defined the detective fiction genre. But the real woman behind the literary persona has long remained an enigma. A new three-part series from BBC Studios’ Documentary Unit follows popular British historian Lucy Worsley as she turns her powers of investigation on the famed crime writer, traveling the world in the author’s footsteps and unraveling the story of her life. Christie was one of the most famous, complex and misunderstood women of the 20th century. How did this seemingly conventional British matron write so convincingly about the dark art of murder? As in the best of Christie’s novels, clues are hiding in plain sight, and Worsley uncovers new evidence and some carefully concealed secrets that illuminate Christie and her world.

Worsley, chief curator at Historic Royal Palaces in the U.K., and the author of numerous historical publications including an acclaimed recent Agatha Christie biography, explores how the arc of Christie’s life followed the dynamic history of the 20th century. The author witnessed extraordinary upheaval; and she plowed all of it into her books. In each episode of the series, Worsley gets to the heart of Christie’s personal experiences — her family, marriages, influences and inspirations, as well as her sorrows and struggles — and analyzes the many hints of the novelist’s life that Christie planted in her works.

Additional Agatha Christie programming in December:

On WETA PBS:

Agatha Christie’s Poirot:

Five Little Pigs Sun 12/3, 9:30pm • Poirot investigates an old murder case at the behest of the alleged perpetrator’s, and victim’s, daughter. Toby Stephens, Gemma Jones and Marc Warren co-star.
Death on the Nile Thur 12/7, 8pm • Poirot must sort out the alibis when a murder takes place on a cruise down the Nile in Egypt. Judy Parfitt, James Fox and Barbara Flynn co-star.
Hercule Poirot’s Christmas Thur 12/21, 9pm • Poirot is an unexpected guest at the holiday gathering of a wealthy patriarch and his family when a murder occurs.

Agatha and the Truth of Murder Thur 12/14, 8:59pm • Ruth Bradley portrays Christie as she investigates a killing during her own famed 1926 disappearance.

Agatha Christie’s England Thur 12/28, 8pm • Retrace Christie’s footsteps to see the places that inspired her literary universe and learn how Christie drew on her surroundings for her works.

Agatha and the Midnight Murders Thur 12/28, 9pm • Helen Baxendale portrays Christie; facing a crisis, the author considers killing off one of her main characters.

On WETA UK:

Agatha Christie’s Marple: (repeats 3 p.m. Thursdays)

Murder Is Easy Wed 12/6, 10pm • A woman confides in Miss Marple that she intends to report a murder. When the woman is slain, Marple seeks the killer. Benedict Cumberbatch co-stars.
They Do It with Mirrors Wed 12/13, 10pm • Miss Marple must try to solve the killing of a friend’s family member during a stage rehearsal. Penelope Wilton, Brian Cox and Joan Collins co-star.
Why Didn’t They Ask Evans? 12/20, 10pm • Miss Marple probes the death of a man and tries to make sense of his last words. Richard Briers, Warren Clarke and Mark Williams co-star.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
Stream your favorite shows with WETA Passport, a member benefit that offers access to a vast library of superb programs available for streaming on demand. To learn how to access programming with WETA Passport, visit weta.org/passporthelp.

The Brokenwood Mysteries, Series 1 & 2
In an early streaming opportunity, enjoy the first two seasons of the New Zealand-set detective drama before it comes to WETA PBS in January. Binge-watch eight episodes now with WETA Passport.

All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3
In anticipation of Series 4, premiering Jan. 7, catch up on Series 3 of the Masterpiece adaptation of James Herriot’s stories about life in 1930s Yorkshire. Binge-watch three seasons now with WETA Passport.

Ms. Fisher’s Modern Murder Mysteries
See the recent Miss Fisher’s Murder Mysteries spin-off that follows Phryne Fisher’s niece as she investigates crimes in the 1960s. Binge-watch 12 episodes now with WETA Passport. Coming to WETA UK Dec. 18.

L’Opera

Miss Scarlet and The Duke, Series 3
With Series 4 set to premiere on January 7, catch up on Series 3 of the Masterpiece detective drama that follows the adventures of a Victorian Era sleuth. Binge-watch three seasons now with WETA Passport.

Mary Berry Series and Specials
 Spend your holiday season with the charming, iconic British chef, baker and cookbook author. Binge-watch an array of Berry’s entertaining series and specials, available now with WETA Passport.

Also streaming on WETA Passport: Watch for new additions to the many curated offerings in the international drama collection Walter’s Choice, including Danish series *Dicte, Series 3* (available now); French detective series *The Wagner Method, Series 2* (Dec. 1); Swedish drama *Miss Friman’s War, Series 2* (Dec. 15); and popular French crime series *The Paris Murders, Series 7* (Dec. 22).
Visit weta.org/schedule for the most up-to-date schedule information.

| Time   | 1 Fri | 2 Sat | 3 Sun | 4 Mon | 5 Tue | 6 Wed | 7 Thu | 8 Fri | 9 Sat | 10 Sun | 11 Mon | 12 Tue | 13 Wed | 14 Thu | 15 Fri | 16 Sat | 17 Sun | 18 Mon | 19 Tue | 20 Wed | 21 Thu | 22 Fri | 23 Sat | 24 Sun | 25 Mon | 26 Tue | 27 Wed | 28 Thu | 29 Fri | 30 Sat | 31 Sun |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 8:00   | WWT   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| 8:30   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| 9:00   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| 9:30   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| 10:00  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| 10:30  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|        | Celtic Woman 20th Anniversary Concert | Neil Diamond: Thank You Australia | Agatha Christie's Poirot: Five Little Pigs (to 11:30pm) | If You Lived Here: Rockville, MD | Frontline: Inside the Ukraine Response | The Jewish Journey: America | Agatha Christie: Lucy Worsley on the Mystery Queen (Pt 1 of 3. Cat Among the Pigeons) | Memory Makeover with Daniel Amen, MD | WETA Viewer Favorites | All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece (Pt 1 of 7. Second Time Lucky!) | Antiques Roadshow: Tearjerkers | WETA Arts: Songs of the Season | CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE | Great Yellowstone Thaw (Pt 1 of 3) | British Antiques Roadshow | Lookingglass Alice | Preserving Presidential History with David Rubenstein | All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece (Pt 3 of 7. Surviving Siegfried) | WETA Arts: Songs of the Season | America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff | Frontline: The Discord Leaks | PBS NewsHour airs weeknights at 7 p.m. | Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2023 (encore) | PBS News Weekend airs Sat./Sun. at 6 p.m. | Amanpour and Company airs late weeknights (check listings). |
**1 Wednesday**

**9AM WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC** – In WETA’s weekly production, journalist and The Atlantic editor-in-chief Jeffrey Goldberg moderates 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.

Repeats Sat 12/2, 6am; Mon 12/4, 7:30am

**8:30AM HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 2** – In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based author/editor, financier and philanthropist David Rubenstein talks with some of America’s top scholars and writers, illuminating how history is made. Episode 9: Entrepreneur Bhu Srinivasan.

**9AM CELTIC WOMAN 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** – Celebrate 20 years of Irish music with a new Dublin concert featuring eight members of the Irish ensemble past and present. This special showcases Celtic Woman’s angelic voices and instrumental virtuosity, presenting fan favorites, originals and more. Repeats Sun 12/3, 2:30pm; Thur 12/1, 3pm

**11AM 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 Wed 12/6, 11pm

**1AM AMANPOUR AND COMPANY** – Capping primetime programming each weekend, Christiane Amanpour leads conversations with global thought leaders on contemporary issues.

Repeats next weekend, 5pm

---

**2 Saturday**

**6AM WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC** – R

**6:30AM FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOODER** – R

**7AM PBS NEWSHOUR** – R

**8AM YOUNG FOREVER WITH MARK HYMAN, MD** – Learn science-based strategies and tips from functional medicine practitioner Dr. Mark Hyman, who offers a practical guide to creating and sustaining health — for life.

Repeats Tue 12/5, 11pm

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

**10:30AM MARY BERRY’S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS** – See the December 22, 9 p.m. listing.

**12N GREAT PERFORMANCES: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BROADWAY’S BEST** – Enjoy a revue of milestone Broadway shows and songs from 1973 to 2023 hosted by two-time Tony Award-winner Sutton Foster. The special program features performances by André De Shields, Chita Rivera, Vanessa Williams and others from Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater.

2:00AM **ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL: CHRISTMAS IN THE DALES** – See the December 3, 6:30 p.m. listing.

**3:30AM RICK STEVES: WHY WE TRAVEL** – European travel expert Rick Steves offers up a love note to exploration, celebrating the value of experiencing our world — whether as a tourist, a traveler or a pilgrim.

4:00AM **MIDSOMER MURDERS, SERIES 22** – Neil Dudgeon and Nick Hendrix star. The Witches of Angel’s Rise, Parts 1 & 2. When a body is found surrounded by ritual symbols on the eve of a Psychic Fair, Barnaby must step into the spiritual world of mediums, psychics, and occult followers to find the killer. Repeats tonight, midnight

**6AM PBS NEWS WEEKEND** – John Yang anchors.

**6:30AM WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC** – R

**7AM PBS NEWSHOUR** – R

**7:00AM PBS NEWSHOUR** – Each weekday, the WETA production provides in-depth analysis of current events with a news summary, live studio interviews and discussions of domestic and international issues. Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett anchor. Visit pbs.org/newshour. Rpts next day, 7am

---

**Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. on WETA PBS**

The Jewish Journey: America chronicles Jewish immigration to the U.S. through the centuries, featuring personal stories and history.
Jefferson and Springbrook high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm; and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at YouTube.com/wetaps.

**3 Sunday**

**6AM** 5 MINUTE YOGA FIX WITH PEGGY CAPPY – Learn how to combat the effects of aging with stretching, breathwork and strength-building to maintain the four pillars that support the structure of our bodies: strength, flexibility, balance and mobility.

**7AM** MISS SCARLET AND THE DUKE ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 3 MARATHON – WETA reprises Series 3 of the mystery drama in its entirety. In this season, Victorian Era private eye Eliza Scarlet (Kate Phillips) finds herself immersed in new mysteries as she struggles to build her detective agency and contends with professional and romantic rivals. Parts 1-2 air at 7 a.m.; Parts 3-4 air at 9:30 a.m.; and Parts 5-6 air at noon.

**2:30** CELTIC WOMAN 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT – R

**4:30** NATURE: PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD – See the December 6, 8 p.m. listing. Repeats Mon 12/4, 11:30pm

**6:00** PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am

**6:30** ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL: CHRISTMAS IN THE DALES – Celebrate holiday moments from the previous three season finales (The Night Before Christmas, The Perfect Christmas and Merry Bloodty Christmas) of popular Masterpiece adaptation All Creatures Great and Small, set in the Yorkshire Dales of the 1930s. Accompanying clips are behind-the-scenes visits with the drama’s cast and creators.

**8:00** AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN – Historian Lucy Worsley investigates author Agatha Christie and the experiences that shaped her fiction. Part 1 of 3. Cat Among the Pigeons. Worsley explores Christie’s unconventional early life to discover the origins of her talent for writing about murder – and uncovers some carefully concealed secrets. Repeats Mon 12/4, 3:30pm; Thu 12/7, 1pm

**9:30** AGATHA CHRISTIE’S POIROT: FIVE LITTLE PIGS – Poirot (David Suchet) must prove anew a notorious 14-year-old murder case. Caroline Crane (Rachael Stirling) was hanged for the murder of her flamboyant artist husband in an apparent crime of passion after he flouted yet another extramarital affair. Their daughter persuades Poirot to re-examine the case. Toby Stephens, Gemma Jones and Marc Warren co-star. Repeats Tue 12/5, 3pm

**11:30** NATURE: PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD – R

**4 Monday**

**7:00** PBS NEWSHOUR – Weeknights. Visit PBS.org/newsHour.

**8:00** FAREWELL DOC MARTIN – Caroline Catz narrates a celebration of the popular series Doc Martin’s 10 seasons. (Stream Season 10 episodes now with WETA Passport!) The special goes behind the scenes of the beloved British dramedy, from the show’s inception to its final days of filming. Learn details about Doc and Louisa’s love story, the inspirations for the medical cases, and more, through on-set footage and interviews with the cast and crew. Repeats Sun 12/17, 5pm


**10:00** THE CITY: WASHINGTON DC – Season 2 (1960-’64) – WETA reprises Series 2 of the long-running drama that信号s the Kennedy years. Repeats Thu 12/11, 1pm

**10:30** THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND – The Smothers Brothers (Tom and Dick) and musical artist Judy Collins host a musical journey through the evolution of modern American folk music. Featured acts include the Brothers Four, Glenn Yarbrough, the Highwaymen, Roger McGuinn and John Sebastian. Repeats Sun 12/3, 11:30pm

**12M** MIDSOMER MURDERS, SERIES 22 – The Witches of Angel’s Rise, Parts 1 & 2 – R

**5 Tuesday**

**8:00** BARBRA STREISAND: BACK TO BROOKLYN – In a 2012 concert, Streisand makes a homecoming to Brooklyn at the Barclays Center arena, marking the superstar’s first Brooklyn performance since her childhood years. Joined by special guests Il Volo and Chris Botti, Streisand delivers an extensive selection of songs from throughout her five-decade career, including a duet with her son, Jason Gould. Repeats Wed 12/1, 3pm; Fri 12/2, 11pm

**10:00** FRONTLINE: INSIDE THE UVALDE RESPONSE – Frontline reports on the real-time accounts of the response, missteps and trauma in the Uvalde school shooting. Using official body cam and audio, with ProPublica and The Texas Tribune, the report reconstructs the chaotic response at Robb Elementary and explores lessons learned.

**11:00** YOUNG FOREVER WITH MARK HYMAN, MD – R

**6 Wednesday**

**8:00** NATURE: PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD – Unlock the mysteries of wild pandas whose counterparts in captivity

**9:00** GREAT AND SMALL: PASSPORT! – The special goes behind the scenes of the series’ final days of filming. Learn details about Doc and Louisa’s love story, the inspirations for the medical cases, and more, through on-set footage and interviews with the cast and crew. Repeats Sun 12/17, 7am

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
are known for their gentle image. Journey through China’s steep Qinling Mountains with filmmakers, scientists and rangers to witness pandas’ startling courtship and aggression behaviors.

9:30 — THE JEWISH JOURNEY: AMERICA — Follow Jewish immigration to the U.S. through the centuries. Top scholars, notable writers and immigrants themselves share stories of those who made a leap of faith to escape persecution or pursue opportunity. R

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

7 Thursday

8:00 — AGATHA CHRISTIE’S POIROT: DEATH ON THE NILE — A mystery adapted from Agatha Christie’s crime thriller set on board a Nile cruise on which a heartbroken woman, seeking help from her former fiancé and his new wife. When someone is murdered, Poirot (David Suchet) must sort out alibis; and tensions rise as the body count increases. Judy Parfitt, James Fox and Barbara Flynn co-star. Repeats Fri 12/8, 3pm

10:00 — AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN — Part 1 of 3. Cat Among the Pigeons. R

11:30 — THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND — R

8 Friday

8:00 — WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC — Jeffrey Goldberg moderates the roundtable discussion of the news with award-winning journalists. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/9, 6am, & 6:30pm; Mon 12/11, 7:30am

8:30 — HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 2 — In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based author/interviewer, financier and philanthropist David Rubenstein talks with some of America’s top scholars and writers, illuminating how history is made. Episode 10. Historian Lillian Faderman.

9:00 — MEMORY MAKEOVER WITH DANIEL AMEN, MD — Psychiatrist, neuroscientist and New York Times bestselling author Dr. Daniel Amen explains how to supercharge memory and remember what matters most to you. The process of strengthening memory is based on overcoming risk factors that destroy the brain’s capacities.

11:00 — GREAT PERFORMANCES: BARBRA STREISAND: BACK TO BROOKLYN — R

9 Saturday

6AM-8AM See the Saturday, December 2 listings.

8AM-10AM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

10AM IT’S ACADEMIC — See 7 p.m. listing.

10:30AM-6PM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

6:00 — PBS NEWS WEEKEND — John Yang anchors. Repeats Mon 12/18, 4pm

6:30 — WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC — R

7:00 — IT’S ACADEMIC — The local studentquiz show this week features Maret, Poolesville and St. Anselm’s high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm; and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at YouTube.com/wetaps.

7:30PM-6AM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

10 Sunday

6AM-6PM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

6:00 — PBS NEWS WEEKEND — John Yang anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am

6:30-8:00 WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

8:00 — AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN — Lucy Worsley investigates author Agatha Christie and the experiences that shaped her fiction. Part 2 of 3. Destination Unknown. Christie’s disappearance in 1926 gripped England. Worsley unravels the mystery and reveals the profound influence this episode had on the author’s writing.

9:00 — ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE — In anticipation of Series 4 in January, WETA presents an encore airing of Series 3 of the drama that follows the life of veterinarian James Herriot in 1930s Yorkshire. Part 1 of 7. Second Time Lucky. A missing ring is just one of several snags as James and Helen’s wedding date approaches, and a farmer’s cow may have TB. Repeats tonight, 12m

10:00 — ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE — Part 2 of 7. Honeymoon’s Over. James and Helen enter married life, while James settles in uneasily as Siegfried’s partner at the clinic. Tristan too must make new adjustments. Repeats tonight, 12m

11:00 — ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE — Parts 1 & 2 of 7. Second Time Lucky! Honeymoon’s Over. R

1AM-6AM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

11 Monday

7:00 — PBS NEWSHOUR — Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour. Repeats next day, 7am

8:00 — ANTIQUES ROADSHOW: TEARJERKERS — Grab your tissues for an emotional special episode full of guests who wear their hearts on their sleeves. One item is now worth $1.5 million-$2 million. Repeats Mon 12/18, 4pm

9:00 — WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON — WETA production WETA Arts presents the fourth year of Songs of the Season, a spirited holiday music special featuring choral groups from throughout the D.C. area. Conceived in 2020 to celebrate local choirs during the pandemic, Songs of the Season has become a WETA holiday tradition. This year’s program showcases 19 talented choral groups from D.C., Maryland and Virginia. Repeats Mon 12/18, 10pm; Sun 12/24, 9am, 5pm; Mon 12/25, 10am

10:00 — POV: HOW TO HAVE AN AMERICAN BABY — Voyage into the shadow economy catering to Chinese tourists traveling to the U.S. to give birth for citizenship; and follow the fortunes and tragedies that befall the ordinary people caught in its web. (2 hrs.)

12 Tuesday

8:00 — SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNACLE CHOIR — Tony Award-winning Disney and Broadway star Lea Salonga and renowned actor Sir David Suchet shine in this holiday special that weaves together inspirational music with a hope-filled story

Monday, December 11, 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; 8 p.m. on WETA Metro

WETA Arts presents the annual Songs of the Season holiday choral special, which showcases area vocal ensembles in concert. Above: The Washington Revels Chorus is among 19 groups in the 2023 show.
Manages to survive in the wild North. Above: Arctic fox kits.

Nature: Canada: Surviving the Wild North

Wednesday, December 13 at 8 p.m.

6:30 CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE
— In a story of resilience and hope, a half-hour animation brings life to 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.

10:00 FRONTLINE: THE DISCORD LEAKS
— Frontline investigates how a young National Guard recruited allegedly leaked classified documents onto the Discord chat platform. With The Washington Post, Frontline explores Jack Teixeira’s alleged leak of national security secrets, why he wasn’t stopped, and the role of platforms like Discord.

10:30 HISTORICAL DIALOGUE: THE ATLANTIC
— In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based author/interviewer David Rubenstein interviews scholars and authors to spotlight the American story. Episode 1 of 10.

11:00 BRENDALI CHIL: IN A DISCUSSION RANGEING FROM PRESIDENT JACKSON’S INDIAN REMOVAL ACT TO AGGRESSIVE ASSIMILATION EFFORTS IN BOARDING SCHOOLS AND BEYOND, SCHOLAR BRENDA CHILD SHEDS LIGHT ON HOW NATIVE AMERICANS WERE AFFlicted BY THE ARRIVAL OF COLONIAL SETTLERS.

9:00 LOOKING GLASS ALICE
— Created and performed by Chicago’s Tony Award–winning Looking Glass Theatre Company, a live adaptation of “Alice In Wonderland” presents a marvel for all ages, going down the rabbit hole to a circus-infused playground for an exhilarating adventure inspired by Lewis Carroll’s beloved stories. (2 hrs.)

16 Saturday

4:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC – R
6:30 FIERING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER – R

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC – R
8:30 RICK STEVES’ EUROPE
9:00 THIS OLD HOUSE
9:30 ASK THIS OLD HOUSE
10:00 IT’S ACADEMIC – See 7 p.m. listing.
10:30 DINING WITH THE CHEF

FRIDAY, December 15

7:30 VARIETY STUDIO: ACTORS ON ACTORS, SERIES 18 – A series features candid conversations between contemporary star actors. Episode 3. Jennifer Garner and Sheryl Lee Ralph; Theo James and Brett Goldstein; Jennifer Garner and Sheryl Lee Ralph; Jennifer Garner and Sheryl Lee Ralph.

8:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN
— In this documentary series, a WETA co-production, David Rubenstein explores America’s history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Episode 1 of 8. Fenway Park. Baseball is a marvel for all ages, going down the rabbit hole to a circus-infused playground for an exhilarating adventure inspired by Lewis Carroll’s beloved stories. (2 hrs.)
a favorite American pastime and obsession, and no ballpark is more iconic than Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox. Repeats Sun 12/17, 11pm

9:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – Episode 2 of 8: The Hollywood Sign. Learn how a real estate advertisement erected in 1923 became an international symbol of fame, fortune and the American Dream. Repeats Sun 12/17, 12m

10:00 PRESERVING PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – The White House Historical Association hosted a special program as part of its biennial Presidential Sites Summit at the Library of Congress. At the event, author/interviewer David M. Rubenstein moderated an anecdote-filled conversation with the leaders of the Smithsonian Institution, Library of Congress, National Park Service, and National Archives and Records Administration – spotlighting the organizations’ long history of preserving and sharing presidential history.

11:00 SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNACLE CHoir – R

12:30AM CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE – R

1AM GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW – Part 1 of 3

Tuesday

18 Monday

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

8:00 25 YEARS WITH LIDIA: A CULINARY JUBILEE – Iconic chef Lidia Bastianich celebrates 25 years on public television in this special. Join Lidia’s family and celebrity friends for an intimate look at the memorable moments of her life on and off the screen.

9:00 MARY BERRY’S HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS – Culinary arts icon Mary Berry explores the beauty and traditions of Scotland in Christmas in the Highlands which features the hospitality and hospitality of the homeland of Scotland to enjoy a winter break soaking up her heritage and enjoying traditional festive delights, as well as cooking up some of her own dishes.

10:00 WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON – See the December 11, 9 p.m. listing. R

Wednesday

8:00 NATURE: SANTA’S WILD HOME – Get an intimate look into life in Lapland, fabled land of Santa Claus and actual home of tenacious wildlife such as reindeer, wolves, bears and more. Repeats Thur 12/21, 4pm; Sat 12/23, 1pm; Wed 12/27, 4pm

9:00 NOVA: DECODING THE GREAT PYRAMID – Stunning archaeological evidence provides clues about the Egyptians who built the Great Pyramid of Giza – and how they did it. Join researchers as they delve into the logbook of a work crew and discover how the massive project transformed Egypt.
10:00 GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW – Part 2 of 3. See how spring brings new life and a break from the brutal winter temperatures. But the dangers aren’t over. Wildlife families face a torrent of water cascading down the mountains as the great thaw gets underway. Beavers are in particular danger. Repeats Sat 12/23, 1am

**Thursday**

8:00 RIVER – Part 6 of 6. River and Ira pursue Stevie’s leads. She had been examining how undocumented immigrants were able to easily obtain official immigration status and how they were then exploited by businesses. They find a connection between these companies, and River uncovers secrets in Stevie’s private life.

9:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE’S POIROT: HERCULE POIROT’S CHRISTMAS – In this drama 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 museum in South Africa and believes that his life may be in danger. As an unexpected guest, Poirot is on hand when a killer strikes. (2 hrs.)

**Friday**

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC – Jeffrey Goldberg moderates the roundtable discussion of the news with award-winning journalists. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/23, 6am, 6:30pm

8:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 3 – Episode 2 of 10. Walter Isaacson. Bestselling author Walter Isaacson discusses the life and work of Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna who, with her collaborators, created a DNA-editing tool with the power to revolutionize human health.

9:00 MARY BERRY’S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS – Join the beloved British home cook and special friends as they prepare her ultimate Christmas feast with all the trimmings. From the traditional turkey to her classic Christmas pudding, it’s a recipe for a festive holiday. Repeats Sun 12/24, 1pm; Mon 12/25, 11am

10:00 CHRISTMAS AT BELMONT – A special filmed at Belmont University features students performing holiday favorites and other classic songs in the Fisher Center for the Performing Arts in Nashville. Repeats Sun 12/24, 1pm; Mon 12/25, 11am

**Saturday**

6AM-6PM See the Saturday, December 16 listings.

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors.

6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC – R

7:00 TO DINE FOR WITH KATE SULLIVAN, SERIES 5


**Sunday**

**Monday, December 25 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro**

In Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2023, it is 1966 and Apollo 8 is poised to orbit the moon. Sister Monica Joan believes her end is near; Nancy commits to staying on; Trisie and Matthew receive a surprise visitor; and Nurse Crane tries to get home through a heavy storm.

8:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – In this documentary series, a WETA co-production, David Rubenstein explores America’s history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Episode 3 of 8. The Gadsden Flag. Discover how the “Don’t Tread on Me” flag, such a potent symbol of independence, has been co-opted by a wide variety of Americans over its long history. Repeats Sun 12/24, 11pm

9:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – Episode 4 of 8. The Cowboy. The cowboy is the quintessential American — fiercely independent, brave and laconic. Examine the myths and realities of this archetype, which remains as potent as ever in the 21st century. Repeats Sun 12/24, 12m

10:00 DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS – Featuring archival footage, musical performances and interviews, this film shares the lives and stories of Jewish immigrants who penned some of America’s best-loved music — Christmas songs. Repeats Sun 12/24, 2pm; Mon 12/25, 9am

11:00 NATURE: SANTA’S WILD HOME – R

12AM MUSHER – Follow the lives of four sled dog racers (mushers) and their dogs over the course of a year to see what it means to be a musher.

1AM GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW – Part 2 of 3. R

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

---

In holiday comedy-drama A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong, a banned drama troupe hijacks the jewel of the BBC holiday schedule, a “live” production of “A Christmas Carol.” Sir Derek Jacobi guest stars.
Monday

6:00 AM CROW BY QUENTIN BLAKE – R
6:30 AM THE LIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS: LUMINOUS LONDON – Enjoy unhurried tours of Britain’s most delightful seasonal displays. Bas in the sights, sounds and wonder of Britain at Christmastime.
7:30 AM SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNACLE CHOIR – R
9:00 AM DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS – R
10:00 AM WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON – R
11:00 AM CHRISTMAS AT BELMONT – R
12:00 PM CHRISTMAS AT WESTMINSTER: AN EVENING OF READINGS AND CAROLS – R
1:00 PM SARAH BRIGHTMAN: A CHRISTMAS SYMPHONY – R
2:00 PM ELLA WISHES YOU A SWINGING CHRISTMAS, WITH VANESSA WILLIAMS – R
3:00 PM MARY BERRY’S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS – R
4:00 PM MARY BERRY’S HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS – R
5:00 PM AMANPURI AND COMPANY
6:00 PM BBC: THE CONTEXT + BBC NEWS AMERICA
7:00 PM PBS NEWSHOUR – Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newsHour.
8:00 PM CALL THE MIDWIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2023 – It’s Christ- mas, 1968, and all eyes are heavenwards as astronauts embark on their latest space exploration. At Nonnatus House, Sister Monica Joan believes this will be her last Christmas; Nancy recommits to staying on and Sister Julienne offers her and Collette a room. Trixie and Matthew prepare their first Christmas as husband and wife. And Nurse Crane tries to return for the holiday from a refresher course but faces treacherously heavy snowfall. Repeats tonight.
9:30 PM CALL THE MIDWIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2023 – (encore)

Tuesday

8:00 AM MARY BERRY’S HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS – See the December 18, 9 p.m. listing, R
9:00 AM THE NUTCRACKER AND THE MOUSE KING – Join Alan Cumming for this delightful re-imaging of Tchaikovsky’s holiday favorite, The Nutcracker, featuring the Royal Scottish National Orchestra under the direction of John Maunder.
10:30 AM CROW BY QUENTIN BLAKE – See the December 12, 9:30 p.m. listing, R

Wednesday

8:00 AM NATURE: PENGUINS: MEET THE FAMILY – Learn about one of Earth’s most iconic birds in this film spotlighting all 18 species of penguins – from New Zealand and Cape Town to the Galapagos Islands and Antarctica.
9:00 AM NOVA: ALASKAN DINOSAURS – Wielding chainsaws to extract fossils frozen into the permafrost and flying drones to map thousands of footprints, intrepid paleontologists discover that dinosaurs thrived in the unlikeliest of places – the cold and dark of the Arctic Circle. Repeats Sun 12/31, noon

Saturday

6:00 AM-6PM See the Saturday, December 16 listings.
6:00 PM PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors.
6:30 PM WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC – R
7:00  IT'S ACADEMIC – The local student quiz show this week features Jackson-Reed, Kipp's DC College Prep and Wakefield high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at YouTube.com/wetaps.

7:30  PBS ARTS TALK – Artists and cultural icons break down their craft and careers in this series through thought-provoking conversations. Episode 1. Emmy-winner actor Henry Winkler talks with Grammy-winning musician Seal about the artist's musical inspiration, his personal upbringing, and the way he approaches songwriting.

8:00  ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – In this documentary series, WETA co-production, David Rubenstein explores America’s history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Episode 5 of 8. The Statue of Liberty. Learn about the evolving meaning of this symbol for a “nation of immigrants,” and how it embodies our values and our conflicts, from abolition and women’s suffrage to the evolving meaning of this symbol for a “nation of immigrants,” and how it embodies our values and our conflicts, from abolition and women’s suffrage to the

9:00  ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – Episode 6 of 8. The American Bald Eagle. Explore the story of how the American Bald Eagle soared to its vaunted perch in American iconography. Learn how it became a symbol of patriotism but also of environmental activism and Native American traditions. Repeats Sun 12/31, midnight.

10:00  AMERICAN MASTERS: GROUCHO & CAVETT – 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 more. Repeats Sun 12/31, 3pm.

11:30  AMERICAN MASTERS: THE DOC SEVERINSEN STORY: IT’S NEVER TOO LATE – Learn about the career of master trumpeter Doc Severinsen, from his three decades as bandleader of The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson to his relentless schedule of touring and performing into his nineties. Repeats Sun 12/31, 4:30pm.

1AM  GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW – Part 3 of 3. R

31 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  DOW EUROMAX – LIFESTYLE EUROPE

11:00  FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER – Repeats Saturdays, 6:30am

11:30  TO DINE FOR WITH KATE SULLIVAN

12N  NOVA: ALASKAN DINOSAURS – R

1:00  NATURE: PENGUINS: MEET THE FAMILY – R

2:00  GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW – Part 3 of 3. R

3:00  AMERICAN MASTERS: GROUCHO & CAVETT – R

4:30  AMERICAN MASTERS: THE DOC SEVERINSEN STORY

6:00  PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am.


7:00  NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: THE ROOTS RESIDENCY – Hip Hop legends The Roots perform during their residency at the Kennedy Center. Beyond the stage, the band endeavors to inspire others and explore creative potential.

8:00  NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: A NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATION – Ring in the New Year with a star-studded musical celebration on stage at the Kennedy Center. Repeats tonight.

9:00  NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: A NEW YEAR’S EVE CELEBRATION – R

10:00  LIONEL RICHIE: THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GERSHWIN PRIZE FOR POPULAR SONG – In this reprised WETA co-production, the Library of Congress bestows its Gershwin Prize for Popular Song on iconic singer-songwriter Lionel Richie during a concert featuring contemporary artists performing his top hits. The program was recorded at DAR Constitution Hall in March 2022.

11:00  ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – Episodes 5 & 6 of 8. The Statue of Liberty/The American Bald Eagle. R

WEEKDAYS ON WETA PBS KIDS

• Clifford the Big Red Dog, 6am
• Elinor Wonders Why, 6:30am
• Dinosaur Train, 7am
• Pinkalicious & Peterpiffic, 7:30am, 8am
• Sesame Street, 8:30am, 9am
• Work It Out Wombats!, 9:30am
• Rosie’s Rules, 10am
• Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood, 10:30am, 11am
• Curious George, 11:30am, 12n
• Donkey Hodie, 12-30pm, 1pm
• Work It Out Wombats!, 1:30pm
• Rosie’s Rules, 2pm
• Alma’s Way, 2:30pm, 3pm
• Nature Cat, 3:30pm, 4pm
• Arthur, 4:30pm, 5pm
• Odd Squad, 5:30pm
• Wild Kratts, 6pm, 6:30pm
• Molly of Denali, 7pm, 7:30pm
• Cyberchase, 8pm
• Hero Elementary, 8:30pm
• Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum, 9pm
• Let’s Go Luna! 9:30pm

On Fridays:
• The Not-Too-Late Show with Elmo + Shorts, 6-7pm
• WETA PBS Kids Family Night, 7-10pm

Visit weta.org/schedule for complete WETA PBS Kids listings.

WEEKDAYS ON WETA PBS, 8 AM – 3 PM

• Wild Kratts, 8am
• Curious George, 8-30am
• Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood, 9am
• Rosie’s Rules, 9:30am
• Sesame Street, 10am
• Work It Out Wombats!, 10:30am
• Donkey Hodie, 11am
• Pinkalicious & Peterpiffic, 11:30am
• Elinor Wonders Why, 12n
• Nature Cat, 12-30pm
• Hero Elementary, 1pm
• Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum, 1:30pm
• Molly of Denali, 2pm
• Alma’s Way, 2-30pm

SUNDAYS ON WETA PBS, 6 AM – 9 AM

• Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood, 6am
• Arthur, 6-30am
• Molly of Denali, 7am
• Alma’s Way, 7-30am
• Albie’s Elevator, 8am
• Curious George, 8-30am
### DECEMBER P.M. PROGRAMMING ON WETA UK

#### VISIT WETA.ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A PROGRAM LINEUP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>• 12/9-12/17, 12h: My Grandparents’ War • 12/8-12/10, 1:30pm: Bleak House (Pts 1-6) • 10/12, 1-5pm: Bleak House (Pts 5-8)</td>
<td>• Call the Midwife</td>
<td>• Call the Midwife</td>
<td>• Call the Midwife</td>
<td>• Call the Midwife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>• Mary Berry Marathon (12/25, 7am-5pm)</td>
<td>Call the Midwife</td>
<td>Call the Midwife</td>
<td>Call the Midwife</td>
<td>Call the Midwife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>• A Place to Call Home</td>
<td>• A Place to Call Home</td>
<td>• A Place to Call Home</td>
<td>• A Place to Call Home</td>
<td>• A Place to Call Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm</td>
<td>• My Grandparents’ War, Series 1 • Lights Before Christmas: Estate Aglow (12/18, 90 min) • Hamish Macbeth, Series 3 • Ms. Fisher’s Modern Murder Mysteries (90 min, starts 12/19) • Hotel Portofino, Series 2 • Agatha Christie’s Mr. Poirot (starts 12/20)</td>
<td>• Summer of Rockets</td>
<td>• Midsomer Murders, Series 3 • Agatha Christie’s Mr. Poirot (starts 12/20) • 12/17, 2pm: Estate Aglow (90 min); 3:30pm: Tales from the Royal Workbook; 3:30pm: British Antiq. Roadshow; 4pm: Lucy Worsley’s Royal Palace Secrets</td>
<td>• Midsomer Murders, Series 3 • Call the Midwife • 12/21, 8-11pm: The Savoy at Christmas; 9pm: Mary Berry’s Absolute Favorites</td>
<td>• British Television at Its Best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>• Once Upon a Time in Northern Ireland • Lights Before Christmas: Luminous London (2:30pm, 12/18)</td>
<td>• Pitch &amp; Blood on Masterpiece</td>
<td>• British Antiques Roadshow (4:30pm, starts 12/19)</td>
<td>• British Antiques Roadshow (12/21-12/27)</td>
<td>• 12/18, 10pm: Mary Berry’s Absolute Favorites; 12/28, 2-3:30pm: British Antiq. Roadshow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>• Clown by Quentin Blake (4:30pm, 12/24)</td>
<td>• Boris &amp; Blood on Masterpiece</td>
<td>• British Antiques Roadshow (4:30pm, starts 12/19)</td>
<td>• British Antiques Roadshow (12/21-12/27)</td>
<td>• 12/18, 10pm: Mary Berry’s Absolute Favorites; 12/28, 2-3:30pm: British Antiq. Roadshow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
<td>• Secrets of the Six Wives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>• My Grandparents’ War, Series 1 • Lights Before Christmas: Estate Aglow (12/18, 90 min) • Hamish Macbeth, Series 3 • Ms. Fisher’s Modern Murder Mysteries (90 min, starts 12/19) • Hotel Portofino, Series 2 • Agatha Christie’s Mr. Poirot (starts 12/20)</td>
<td>• Summer of Rockets</td>
<td>• Midsomer Murders, Series 3 • Call the Midwife • 12/21, 8-11pm: The Savoy at Christmas; 9pm: Mary Berry’s Absolute Favorites</td>
<td>• Midsomer Murders, Series 3 • Call the Midwife • 12/21, 8-11pm: The Savoy at Christmas; 9pm: Mary Berry’s Absolute Favorites</td>
<td>• British Television at Its Best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>• Victoria’s War, Series 2 (90 min on 12/10); Series 3 starts 12/17</td>
<td>• Still Open All Hours</td>
<td>• Still Open All Hours</td>
<td>• Still Open All Hours</td>
<td>• Still Open All Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>• Celebrity Antiques Road Trip</td>
<td>• Celebrity Antiques Road Trip</td>
<td>• Celebrity Antiques Road Trip</td>
<td>• Celebrity Antiques Road Trip</td>
<td>• Celebrity Antiques Road Trip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30pm</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
<td>• •</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- **Summer of Rockets:** Details of the British Television at Its Best programming — featuring drama, mystery and comedy — in addition to documentary series and news reports.
- **Still Open All Hours:** Continuously shows a variety of British dramas and mysteries.
- **Victoria’s War, Series 2:** Starts on 12/17.
- **Victoria’s War, Series 3:** Starts on 12/10.
- **Agatha Christie’s Mr. Poirot:** Starts on 12/20.
- **Blitz Spirit with Lucy Worsley:** Starts on 12/16.
- **Celebrity Antiques Road Trip:** Starts on 12/12.
- **Midsomer Murders, Series 3:** Starts on 12/16.
- **Maggie Murders on Masterpiece:** Starts on 12/16.
- **Masterworks Showcase:** Starts on 12/16.
- **British Television at Its Best:** Continuously showcases a variety of British dramas and mysteries.
- **Victoria on Masterpiece:** Starts on 12/17.
- **Marie Antoinette:** Starts on 12/16.
- **Tom Jones on Masterpiece:** Starts on 12/12.
- **Cobra, Series 2:** Starts on 12/10.
Ms. Fisher’s Modern Murder Mysteries
Mondays at 9 p.m. starting Dec. 18 on WETA UK

In this 12-episode spin-off to the popular Australian series Miss Fisher’s Murder Mysteries, Phryne Fisher’s long-lost niece Peregrine (portrayed by Geraldine Hakewill) decides to follow in her aunt’s stylish footsteps as a lady investigator for a new era. With the help of straitlaced Detective James Steed (Joel Jackson) and a group of accomplished women, Peregrine investigates murders in 1960s Melbourne. As the series opens, Phryne Fisher goes missing in 1964, and Peregrine inherits her estate. When a model is found murdered at a bridal show held by a friend of Phryne’s and fellow member of the Adventuresses’ Club of the Antipodes, Ms. Fisher takes up the mantle of private detective. The drama repeats Sundays at 7 p.m., starting December 24.

L’Opera
Tuesdays at 9 p.m. starting Dec. 26 on WETA UK

An eight-episode drama explores the complex world of ballet — both on and off the stage. The French-language, English-subtitled series, set in the modern-day Garnier Opera in Paris, follows three characters in the French dance world whose dreams clash with reality, whose ambitions collide with expectations, and whose purity faces corruption. The career of aging prima ballerina Zoé has recently faltered; in danger of being laid off, she must battle her own demons to earn another chance. Meanwhile, ambitious young Black dancer Flora has just joined the company. And new director of dance Sébastien is under pressure to revive the Ballet and maintain its reputation. L’Opera repeats Saturdays at 9 p.m., starting Dec. 30.

Bleak House
Sundays, Dec. 3 & 10, 1-5 p.m. on WETA UK

Charles Dickens’ complex tale of love, murder, and the quest for a mystery man’s identity unfolds in an adaptation by screenwriter Andrew Davies that stars Gillian Anderson, Charles Dance, Nathaniel Parker and a superb supporting cast. The eight-episode BAFTA-, Emmy- and Peabody Award-winning drama presents the epic novel of Victorian London that features a feast of characters and storylines, including an inheritance dispute that is tied up in dysfunctional courts while lawyers consume the assets of the estate. At its heart, the Dickens classic is the story of the icily beautiful Lady Dedlock (Anderson), who harbors a dark secret, and the merciless lawyer Mr. Tulkington (Dance), who seeks to uncover it.

Marie Antoinette
Fridays at 10 p.m. starting Dec. 15 on WETA UK

A lavish drama — created and written by Deborah Davis (The Favourite) — spotlights one of history’s most iconic figures, chronicling how young Dauphine Marie Antoinette became the last queen of France. Portrayed by Emilia Schüle, the princess is just a teenager when she leaves Austria to marry the Dauphin of France. When she arrives at Versailles, Marie Antoinette is expected to conform to the complex rules of the French court there. Meanwhile, her mother, the Empress of Austria, pressures her to further the Bourbon line and thus secure the alliance between the two countries. But faced with Louis’ avoidant and solitary character, the mission turns out to be complicated, and Marie Antoinette’s enemies are circling.

Also on WETA UK, enjoy Masterpiece series Maggie Murders, Wednesdays, 8 p.m. starting Dec. 6; Escape to the Chateau, Thursdays, 8 p.m. on Dec. 7, 14 & 21; Seaside Hotel, Series 7, Tuesdays, 10 p.m. starting Dec. 12; and a Mary Berry cooking program marathon, Dec. 25, 7 a.m.–5 p.m.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
2023 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals

Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 p.m. on WETA Metro

The televised awards ceremony Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals, produced by the nonpartisan, nonprofit Partnership for Public Service and this year hosted by CNN’s Kate Bolduan at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, recognizes outstanding career federal employees whose work makes our nation safer, stronger, healthier and more prosperous. The Sammies, known as the “Oscars” of federal government service, are a highly respected honor with a rigorous selection process. Named for the Partnership for Public Service’s late founder, the awards align with his vision of a dynamic and innovative federal workforce that meets the needs of the American people. The Partnership this year also presented its annual Spirit of Service Award, which honors individuals outside the federal workforce who have made significant contributions to public service. This year’s recipient is PBS NewsHour senior correspondent Judy Woodruff, who is recognized for reporting that has illuminated the contributions of public servants.

American Masters: Little Richard: The King and Queen of Rock and Roll

Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro

An American Masters film spotlights musical artist Little Richard, chronicling the meteoric rise and enduring legacy of the rock star — and exploring his far-reaching influence, his defiance of societal expectations, and his advocacy for the rights of Black artists. A fearless pioneer of rock ‘n roll who broke the color barrier in the 1950s with hits like “Tutti Frutti” and “Long Tall Sally,” Little Richard defined a genre and inspired generations. Richard Wayne Penniman, born in Macon, Georgia, transformed himself from a prodigy with deep gospel roots to a virtuosic, world-touring icon. The documentary features interviews with fellow musicians including Keith Richards, Ringo Starr, Nile Rodgers, Bobby Rush and Deacon John, and a host of other luminaries. The program repeats Saturday, December 9 at 8 p.m.

The Story of: Marilyn Monroe, Liz Taylor & Jackie O.

Thursdays, Dec. 7, 21 & 28 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro

Behind the razzle dazzle of fame and fortune, celebrities’ lives are marked by dizzying highs and devastating lows, personal triumphs and tragedies, all played out in the spotlight of global fame. Biography series The Story of... spotlights six 20th-century icons, revisiting their fame and revealing their off-camera lives through extraordinary access to their friends, family, and others who knew them best. Episodes this month profile Marilyn Monroe (Dec. 7), Elizabeth Taylor (Dec. 21) and Jackie Onassis (Dec. 28). Additional programs in the series explore the lives of John Travolta, Clint Eastwood and Patrick Swayze.
Sabbath

Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. on WETA World

In December, WETA World presents a wide slate of documentary programs on religion and spirituality. Among the offerings is Sabbath, a film by Martin Doblmeier that explores the religious, secular, psychological and sociological implications of a weekly day of rest for what he calls a “profoundly burned-out world.” The wide-ranging two-hour documentary delves into the history and practice of an ancient concept that is rooted in the biblical story of creation. Doblmeier traveled coast-to-coast exploring sabbath beliefs and practice, meeting scholars, monks, theologians, clergy, farmers, physicians and other practitioners. He shows the profound beauty of the practice across traditions, probes the principles of justice that undergird it, and examines the potential it offers for healing a stressed-out world.

Inside the Vatican

Monday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. on WETA World

Filmed over the course of the fifth year of Pope Francis’s pontificate, the two-hour film Inside the Vatican provides rare behind-the-scenes access to one of the most important places in the Christian world. Nestled in the city of Rome, the Vatican is the headquarters of the Catholic Church and an independent city-state. From the Pope himself to the head of security, the nuns who serve the homeless, the choristers of the Sistine Chapel, the papal gardener, the chief of the diplomatic corps, and many others, the film offers a look into the daily lives of those who live and work in the Vatican. Although the church calendar unfolds much as it has for centuries, it is also a time of change as the Pope introduces reforms, shakes up the clerical establishment, and contends with church scandal that erupts just as he embarks on a historic visit to Ireland.

POV: An Act of Worship

Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. on WETA World

In this 90-minute 2022 film, experience a counter-narrative and collective memory of the last 30 years of Muslim life in America: explore pivotal moments in U.S. history and the impact of anti-Muslim rhetoric and policy on young Muslims who came of age after 9/11. In the film — a co-presentation of the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) and American Documentary — Pakistani-American director Nausheen Dadabhoy weaves together observational footage of activists, community-sourced home videos, and evocative recollections from individuals affected by incidents of Islamophobia. Through the filmmaking team’s first-hand knowledge of, and intimate access to, the Muslim community, Dadabhoy is able to bring together multiple voices in the narrative, which previously had been shaped largely by outsiders.

For full schedules and program information, visit weta.org.
Front Row Washington: Wu Han, Anna Geniushene & Dmytro Choni
Monday, December 18 at 9 p.m.

This month, WETA Classical continues the celebration of Wolf Trap’s Chamber Music at The Barns concert series on local performance showcase Front Row Washington. On December 18, hear pianists Wu Han, Anna Geniushene and Dmytro Choni. Together they celebrate Sergei Rachmaninoff at 150 with his Suites Nos. 1 and 2 for Two Pianos, the first of which was dedicated to Tchaikovsky — who died just weeks before he could attend the work’s premiere in 1893. They also perform the distinctly post-romantic Piano Sonata No. 4, Op. 30 by Alexander Scriabin, and they bring a little holiday magic with a two-piano Suite arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s ballet, The Nutcracker. Join John Banther for this exciting program and other Front Row Washington offerings, Monday nights at 9 p.m. on WETA Classical.

Choral Showcase: Holiday Offerings
Sundays, December 3, 10, 24 & 31 at 9 p.m.

The month of December means Christmas music on WETA Classical’s Choral Showcase, beginning December 3 with a choral drama about the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt, L’Enfance du Christ (“The Childhood of Christ”) by Hector Berlioz. Hear new holiday albums on December 10 featuring carols from around the world, sung in German by the MDR Radio Choir, and with a Nordic flavor by the Norwegian Soloists’ Choir and Musicians. Then, on Christmas Eve, hear a narration of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol, with choral accompaniment by the Skylark Vocal Ensemble in carols arranged by Benedict Sheehan. And on New Year’s Eve, the program presents The Little Match Girl Passion by David Lang, a Bach-inspired passion based on the popular story by Hans Christian Andersen. Tune in to Choral Showcase, Sundays at 9 p.m.

NSO Showcase for the Holidays
Wednesday, December 6 at 9 p.m.

The singers in the University of Maryland chorus had their masks on in December 2021 for a performance of Bach’s Magnificat and a portion of Handel’s Messiah. Maestro Gianandrea Noseda led the concert, conducting Messiah with the National Symphony Orchestra for the first time, and the performance featured five of the Washington National Opera’s Cafritz Young Artists. On the December 6 NSO Showcase program, the concert features Part I of Messiah, but the encore will have you tempted to stand up when you hear it. It is WETA Classical’s holiday gift to you, and best of all, you can stream the program all month long at wetaclassical.org to keep you in the spirit.

WETA Classical is excited to announce the WETA Classical Newsletter! Sign up to learn about the classical music content you value via emails sent right to your inbox. The newsletter is published every two weeks and features carefully curated articles, artist interviews, podcast episodes, special sneak peeks and more. Visit wetaclassical.org/classicalnewsletter to sign up!

With the new Bradley Cooper bio-pic Maestro — co-created with Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg and spotlighting composer Leonard Bernstein and his wife Felicia Montealegre (Carey Mulligan) — streaming on Netflix as of December 20, enjoy Bernstein pieces on WETA Classical throughout December 19, in addition to a new Classical Breakdown podcast episode (visit classicalbreakdown.org) about the composer and his music.

VivaLaVoce on VivaLaVoce.org Stream audio at wetaclassical.org
Live radio broadcasts of Metropolitan Opera performances have been a treasured tradition since their inception in 1931. In fact, this series is the longest-running classical music program on American radio, reaching millions of listeners each year in the United States and more than 35 countries, a testament to the power of this artistic expression. Another spectacular broadcast season gets underway this month, and WETA Classical is delighted to bring these performances to you each Saturday afternoon on Opera Matinee.

Here below is a summary of the December offerings, and some highlights of the remainder of the 2023-2024 season that includes the greatest number of new works in the Met’s modern history, a slate of classics, and several special presentations. All are performed by world-class artists.

Broadcasts begin December 9 with the Met premiere of Daniel Catán’s Florencia en el Amazonas, a love story within the realm of magical realism. This production, the Met’s first opera in Spanish in nearly a century, will be led by the organization’s artistic director Yannick Nézet-Séguin and stars Ailyn Pérez in the principal role.

A special abridged, English-language version of Mozart’s eternal and charming The Magic Flute airs December 16 (at noon). This production has become a holiday tradition, and a favorite for audiences of all ages. Tenor Rolando Villazón, popular with Met audiences, is cast as the lovable bird-catcher, Papageno.

December 23 brings us Richard Wagner’s moving and magical Tannhäuser in a production featuring Austrian tenor Andreas Schager as a man struggling with opposing forces of earthly pleasure and sacred love.

The month closes with the December 30 presentation of Mozart’s delightful masterpiece Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro) in a special vintage performance from 1956 to celebrate the centenaries of legendary singers Cesare Siepi and Victoria de los Ángeles.

New and impressive productions fill the remainder of the season: The Met premiere of Jake Heggie’s Dead Man Walking (Jan. 20), based on the book by Sister Helen Prejean, with superstar mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato; X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X (Feb. 3) by Anthony Davis; Terence Blanchard’s Fire Shut Up in My Bones (Apr. 27); and a return of Kevin Puts’ The Hours (May 18), which premiered last year to stellar reviews.

Specials include a Valentines from the Met (Feb. 10) showcase of spectacular romantic duets from the company’s vast archives in a nod to Valentine’s Day. Also scheduled are Mozart and Beethoven in Concert at the Met (Feb. 24), spotlighting those composers’ vocal music, and the stirring Verdi Requiem (Mar. 30). The Listeners’ Choice: Great Met Broadcasts program — an archival performance selected by popular vote — returns March 2.

Venerated favorites, such as Verdi’s Nabucco (Jan. 6); Bizet’s Carmen (Jan. 27); and a trio of Puccini’s greats — the immortal La Bohème (Jan. 13), thrilling Turandot (Mar. 16), and heartbreaking Madama Butterfly (May 11) — among others, are also on the bill. The broadcast season ends with Gluck’s Orfeo ed Euridice (June 8).

These broadcasts are musical experiences not to be missed! Airtimes vary for a few operas, and the Met may occasionally make slight adjustments to the opera schedule and cast changes during the course of the broadcast season, so please check the Opera section of weta classical.org for the most up-to-date information.

WETA Classical: 90.9 FM Greater Washington/89.1 FM Hagerstown/88.9 FM Frederick
Swept Away
A New Musical Tale

Book by John Logan
Music and Lyrics by The Avett Brothers
Choreographed by David Neumann
Directed by Michael Mayer

Now Thru December 30

By Special Arrangement with Matthew Masten, Sean Hudock, and Madison Wells Live

Tickets on Sale
arenastage.org/sweptaway | 202-488-3300