




WETA



ASIAN
AMERICAN
& PACIFIC
ISLANDER
HERITAGE MONTH

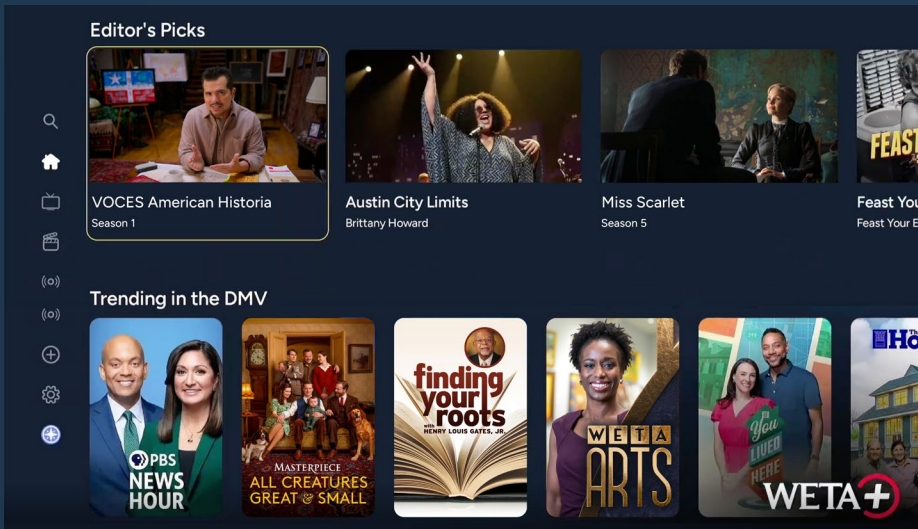
2026 PROGRAM GUIDE





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Great Programming for Everyone: WETA+

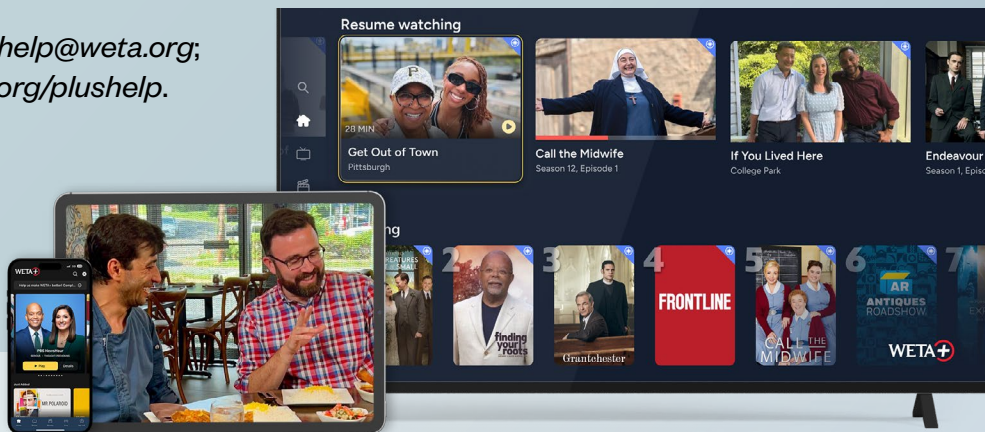
WETA+ is a free, easy-to-use streaming service curated for the D.C.-area community by WETA programming staff. On WETA+, you can find and enjoy an extraordinary library of acclaimed PBS and WETA shows on demand. Watch your favorites and explore new WETA+ exclusive collections on your schedule. Discover new programming and stream all WETA television channels live. WETA+ is available to download and use free on most TVs, smartphones, and tablets. Download the app today and start exploring to find the content you love!

Notable in May

On WETA+, catch up on recent programs you missed. Explore collections like *Celebrating Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage*. Binge your favorite programs, including the WETA co-production *Asian Americans*, *American Muslims: A History Revealed*, *Lucky Chow Season 8*, *Independent Lens: Light of the Setting Sun*, and *Secrets of the Dead: China's Bronze Kingdom*.


How to Get Started with WETA+

- Download the free WETA+ app on your TV or mobile device to get started.
- For help with WETA+, email plushelp@weta.org; call 703-998-2724; or visit weta.org/plushelp.



AVAILABLE NOW





WETA is celebrating the achievements, contributions, history, and culture of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with special programs on WETA PBS, WETA Metro, and WETA World.

Find more programs at weta.org/asian-pacific.

Stream shows from the AAPI Heritage Month Collection on WETA+.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

ASIAN AMERICANS

WETA PBS | 5:00 PM

Part 1 of 5. Breaking Ground. This WETA co-production explores the impact of Asian Americans, the fastest-growing population in the United States, on the country's past, present, and future. The episode examines how new immigrants from China, Japan, and beyond, despite anti-Asian laws, build railroads, dazzle in Hollywood, and fight for equality.

Repeats Thur 5/7, 8pm on WETA Metro

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

PHOTOGRAPHIC JUSTICE: THE CORKY LEE STORY

WETA World | 9:00 PM

Chinese American photographer Corky Lee documents the celebrations, struggles, and daily lives of Asian American and Pacific Islanders, assembling an astonishing archive of nearly one million images.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

POV: TOKYO UBER BLUES

WETA World | 3:00 PM

Shot with a mix of smartphones and GoPros, filmmaker Taku Aoyagi documents his daily bike rides as an Uber Eats worker. While pedaling on Tokyo's deserted streets and delivering boba tea to cloistered condos, he begins to wonder what Ken Loach said about the Uberization of society. What does gig work offer an unemployed person with student debt?

YOUR SERVE OR MINE?

WETA World | 4:00 PM

In 1971, a small group of U.S. table tennis players made history by traveling to a then-isolated China. They were the first Americans to legally visit in more than 20 years and opened lines of communication that remain vital today. They succeeded where diplomats had failed. The people-to-people links they established continue through a new generation of American and Chinese college students.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

LIFE REIMAGINED: THE GEORGE MASA STORY

WETA Metro | 10:00 PM

Unravel the mysterious life of George Masa, a Japanese immigrant whose extraordinary photographs helped define the Great Smoky Mountains' identity. Filmed across Japan, the Pacific Northwest, and the Blue Ridge, this story explores passion, loss, and the healing power of art and place.

Repeats Wed 5/20, 7 pm on WETA World

AMERICAN MUSLIMS: A HISTORY REVEALED

WETA PBS | 11:00 PM

A six-part series exploring the early history of Muslims in America. *Part 1. Is This One of America's First Mosques?* Muslim homesteaders built one of the first mosques in the country for worship. *Part 2. From Slavery to Freedom: The Untold Story of America's First Muslims.* Who was Mamadou Yarrow, and how did he appear in this painting during his journey to freedom? *Part 3. Fighting for Freedom: The Little-Known Story of Muslims and the Civil War.* Malika Bilal shares the story of an immigrant with a 200-page pension file detailing his experiences.

SUNDAY, MAY 10

ASIAN AMERICANS

WETA PBS | 5:00 PM

Part 2 of 5. A Question of Loyalty. An American-born generation straddles their country of birth and their parents' homelands.

MONDAY, MAY 11

WE SAID NO! NO! A STORY OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

WETA World | 8:00 PM

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States declared war on Japan. In March of 1942, the U.S. government forcibly removed 120,000 Japanese Americans from their homes and sent them to "internment" camps. After one year, every man and woman over 18 had to fill out what has come to be known as the "Loyalty Questionnaire."



THURSDAY, MAY 14

AMERICA REFRAMED: GEOGRAPHIES OF KINSHIP

WETA World | 8:00 PM

The film weaves the complex personal histories of four adult adoptees born in South Korea with the rise of the country's global adoption program. Raised in foreign families, each adoptee sets out to reconnect with their roots, mapping the geographies of kinship that bind them to a homeland they never knew.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

POV: AGAINST THE TIDE

WETA World | 7:00 PM

Mumbai fishermen Rakesh and Ganesh carry the weight of the great Koli Knowledge system — a centuries-old bond with the sea, where every tide and moonrise shapes their lives. While Rakesh clings to the comfort of tradition, Ganesh is pulled by the lures of technology. Their friendship, once unbreakable, is tested by the sorrow of a vanishing way of life and the relentless advance of climate change, threatening both their future and the sea they love.

POV: WHO'S AFRAID OF NATHAN LAW?

WETA World | 8:30 PM

At 21, he was a leader of Hong Kong's Umbrella Revolution. By 23, he became Hong Kong's youngest elected lawmaker. At 26, Nathan Law was Most Wanted under the National Security Law. The film follows the city's most famous dissident as he confronts the cost of unchecked authoritarianism—and what freedom means in its shadow.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

LUCKY CHOW SEASON 8

WETA PBS | 10:30 AM

Follow LuckyRice culinary festival founder Danielle Chang as she travels across America exploring the Asian food landscape, featuring many of the country's most renowned chefs and culinary personalities.

INDIAN AS APPLIE PIE

WETA PBS | 5:00 PM (Saturdays, starting May 16)

Cookbook author Anupy Singla takes you on a journey of Indian ingredients and cooking. She visits fresh markets across the United States and cooks popular recipes in her Chicago kitchen. Each episode shows how to integrate unfamiliar ingredients.

INDEPENDENT LENS: HOME COURT

WETA Metro | 9:30 PM

A coming-of-age portrait of Ashley Chea, a Cambodian American basketball phenom in Southern California, whose life intensifies as college recruitment ramps up. Battling injury and navigating racial and class divides between her home life and elite private school world, Ashley struggles to define herself—and carve out a legacy on her own terms.

AMERICAN MUSLIMS: A HISTORY REVEALED

WETA PBS | 10:00 PM

Part 4. How South Asian Muslims and Mexican Americans United in the 1920s. Asma Khalid travels to the American Southwest to tell the story of early South Asian migration. *Part 5. How Muslims Influenced Thomas Jefferson and America's Founders.* Host Aymann Ismail explores how Muslims shaped the imagination of America's founding generation. *Part 6. How Islam Influenced Black Americans in 1920s Chicago.* Learn how Muslim groups helped working-class Black Americans resist racial limits.

SUNDAY, MAY 17

ASIAN AMERICANS

WETA PBS | 5:00 PM

Part 3 of 5. Good Americans. Asian Americans fight for equality and expand the definition of Asian American.

MONDAY, MAY 18

FINDING HER BEAT

WETA World | 2:00 PM

For thousands of years, women have been locked out of Taiko drumming. Not anymore. In the dead of a Minnesota winter, Asian drumming divas smash gender roles and redefine power on their own terms. *Finding Her Beat* dives into the rhythms and struggles that lead to an electrifying historic performance that changes everything.



MONDAY, MAY 18

ATOMIC PEOPLE

WETA World | 8:00 PM

Combining their personal accounts with archive footage, *Atomic People* features a number of voices from some of the only people left on Earth to have survived a nuclear bomb.

INDEPENDENT LENS:

LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN

WETA PBS | 10:00 PM

A Chinese family's multigenerational trauma unfolds across time, place, and identity. Filmmaker Vicky Du traces her family's mental illness back to the Chinese Communist Revolution of 1949. Spanning Taipei, Taiwan, and New Jersey, the film explores identity, gender roles, and whether healing can break the cycle for future generations.

Repeats Sat 5/23, 10pm on WETA Metro

THURSDAY, MAY 21

PACIFIC HEARTBEAT: ISLAND COWGIRLS

WETA World | 7:00 PM

Two stories explore the uncertain futures of two Hawaiian paniolos: One prepares to graduate from high school and must decide whether to stay home or leave. Meanwhile, the other plans for the future of her ranch while facing the uncertainty of the state-held lease of the land expiring soon.

PRICE OF PARADISE

WETA World | 8:00 PM

At 55, Lindamae Lawelawe Carillo Maldonado found the family she never knew. Born on Moloka'i's Kalaupapa peninsula, once a place of exile for those with Hansen's Disease, she learned she had been taken from her mother at birth. Her journey unearths a buried history of loss and reclaimed identity.

POV: LIQUOR STORE DREAMS

WETA Metro | 9:00 PM

Two Korean American children of liquor store owners navigate their own dreams against their immigrant parents' expectations, while confronting LA's fraught racial history—from the killing of Latasha Harlins to the 1992 uprisings—and their ongoing fight for social and economic justice.

SATURDAY, MAY 23

FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK

WETA World | 8:00 PM

The award-winning film chronicles the life and revival of the legendary all-woman rock band, Fanny. Founded by two Filipina American sisters, the group is the first all-female band to release an album with a major record label. Fighting barriers of race, gender, and sexuality, Fanny made a groundbreaking impact on modern music.

SUNDAY, MAY 24

ASIAN AMERICANS

WETA PBS | 4:00 PM

Part 4 of 5. Generation Rising. During a time of war, a young generation fights for equality and claims a new identity. *Part 5 of 5. Breaking Through.* Revisit the turn of the millennium, when Asian Americans are empowered by growing numbers and rising influence but face a reckoning of what it means to be an American in an increasingly polarized society.

MONDAY, MAY 25

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW: CELEBRATING ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE

WETA PBS | 8:00 PM

Roadshow spotlights items with Asian and Pacific Islands origins, including a Hawaiian kou bowl; a Gandhi presentation spinning wheel; and an 1888 Joseph Nawahi painting.

Repeats tonight at 9 p.m. on WETA Metro

DORA FUGH LEE: A LIFE IN ART

WETA Metro | 8:00 PM

Fine artist Dora Fugh Lee was born to a noble family in China and grew up during tumultuous times. These included Emperor Pu Yi's abdication, two Japanese invasions, World War II, and the Chinese civil war. Her life and art are explored to show why her work is so compelling. **Repeats tonight at 9pm on WETA PBS**



MONDAY, MAY 25

INDEPENDENT LENS: THIRD ACT

WETA PBS | 10:00 PM

Tadashi Nakamura turns the camera on his father as they confront art, activism, and aging. From WWII incarceration to cultural awakening and a Parkinson's diagnosis, the film offers a tender portrait of legacy, inherited trauma, and the final chapter of a shared creative life. **Repeats Wed 5/27, 7:00pm on WETA World; Sat 5/30, 8pm on WETA Metro**

TUESDAY, MAY 26

FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

WETA PBS | 8:00 PM

In this series produced in association with WETA, join Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gate, Jr., as he delves into the genealogy of famous Americans. *Season 11 encore: Dreamers One and All.* Gates explores the ancestry of actor Sharon Stone and model Chrissy Teigen, traveling across Europe and Thailand.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

SECRETS OF THE DEAD: CHINA'S BRONZE KINGDOM

WETA PBS | 10:00 PM

In China's remote Sichuan province, a chance jade discovery leads archaeologists to a lost Bronze Age civilization. *Secrets of the Dead* explores how thousands of extraordinary artifacts reveal a powerful vanished kingdom—and investigates whether this site was the capital of the mysterious Shu people and why their world disappeared.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

FRONTLINE: SOUTH KOREA'S ADOPTION RECKONING

WETA World | 7:00 PM

In partnership with Associated Press, Frontline examines allegations of fraud and abuse in South Korea's historic foreign adoption boom. The documentary investigates cases of falsified records and identities among the adoptions of 200,000 children to the U.S. and other countries over the decades.

POV: MAYA LIN: A STRONG CLEAR VISION

WETA Metro | 8:00 PM

Revisit the Oscar-winning story of Maya Lin, the young architect behind the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, whose design faced widespread controversy and public attacks. At the intersection of art, politics, and creativity, she remained steadfast in her personal vision.

POV: BETWEEN GOODBYES

WETA World | 8:30 PM

When a queer Korean adoptee reunites with her birth mother in Seoul, buried cultural misunderstandings and unspoken regrets surface. With tenderness, humor, and determination, mother and daughter navigate the heart-wrenching legacy of international adoption.

INDEPENDENT LENS: WHO IS MICHAEL JANG

WETA Metro | 9:30 PM

After decades of obscurity, artist Michael Jang uses graffiti tactics to share his previously unknown body of fine art photography with unsuspecting audiences.

SATURDAY, MAY 30

AMERICAN MASTERS: NAM JUNE PAIK: MOON IS THE OLDEST TV

WETA Metro | 9:30 PM

See the world through the eyes of Nam June Paik, the father of video art and coiner of the term "electronic superhighway." Born in Japan-occupied Korea, Paik went on to become a pillar of the American avant-garde and transformed modern image-making with his sculptures, films, and performances. **Repeats Sat 5/16, 8pm on WETA World**

PHOTO CREDITS:

Page 3. ASIAN AMERICANS, Courtesy ASIAN AMERICANS; PHOTOGRAPHIC JUSTICE: THE CORKY LEE STORY, Courtesy Corky Lee; POV: TOKYO UBER BLUES, Courtesy POV/TOKYO UBER BLUES; LIFE REIMAGINED: THE GEORGE MASA STORY, Courtesy APT. **Page 4.** POV: WHO'S AFRAID OF NATHAN LAW?, John Palmer/Courtesy POV; ASIAN AMERICANS, Courtesy ASIAN AMERICANS; INDEPENDENT LENS: LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN, Courtesy Jih-E Peng; FINDING HER BEAT, Courtesy APT. **Page 5.** PHOTOGRAPHIC JUSTICE: THE CORKY LEE STORY, Courtesy Corky Lee; INDIAN AS APPLE, Courtesy INDIAN AS APPLE; INDEPENDENT LENS: THIRD ACT, Courtesy Stephen Heller; FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK, Courtesy Adobe Production International. **Page 6.** INDEPENDENT LENS: LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN, Courtesy Vicky Du; PHOTOGRAPHIC JUSTICE: THE CORKY LEE STORY, Courtesy Corky Lee; INDEPENDENT LENS: THIRD ACT, Courtesy Noah Collier; FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK, Courtesy Bobbi Jo Hart.

