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ISSUE &



Staff profile: Shana Fischer



Covering Election 2020



Mediactive



Arizona's Black activists



16 Vanessa Ruiz



Donor profile: Dale & Jennifer Emerson





Beginning in July, I was asked to become Arizona PBS' interim general manager. It is an honor that comes with great responsibility and a deep

A little about me: I have served as managing editor of USA Today, the Chicago Sun-Times, The Arizona Republic, and as editor-in-chief of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. I ran

Cox Media Group Ohio, which included the top-rated CBS affiliate in the country. In the last year I have also been at the helm of a leadership training program for the Corporation of Public Broadcasting, giving me a unique opportunity to connect with other station leaders, and a profound respect for the power and potential of public media.

feeling of gratitude.

Here's what I know about you: You are 50,000 strong and continue to support Arizona PBS through thick and thin. For that, I thank you. You allow us to do the noble work of enriching and informing all Arizonans.

It hasn't taken long for me to see that Arizona PBS is a community jewel - providing high quality programming and content for almost 60 years. Whether it's smart dramas, insightful news or instructive kids' programs, we are here, with you, to make Arizona better.

PBS consistently ranks as the most trusted media source for news, and we work hard every day to continue to earn your trust. In this issue, you'll read about our plans for election coverage and a return to a full hour of local news in September. You'll read about how Arizona's Black activists of today see their work as a continuation of past activism. You'll also find highlights of our fall programming, including our plans for children's programming this fall.

We know that many in our community are struggling right now. In these uncertain times, we are all making careful decisions about our resources – and so the significance of your ongoing support becomes even more apparent, and essential. Thank you for joining us on this journey of lifelong learning.

Julia Wallace Interim General Manager

STAFF PROFILE:

SHANA FISCHER



"Arizona Horizon" producer Shana Fischer is a storyteller at heart. "I love the variety of stories and people I get to talk to every day," she said, "Whether I'm doing it through packages, or setting up an interview for Ted, giving people the chance to tell their story is a privilege."

Shana, who calls herself a proud Wildcat in the middle of Sun Devil country. studied film directing in college. But while working

in the production department at Channel 12 in Phoenix after graduation, she tried her hand at newswriting and found that she liked it. From writing, she moved on to producing at ABC 15, which eventually led her to Arizona PBS.

"I get to shape what people see on a nightly basis, and that's a huge responsibility," she said. "For us at 'Horizon,' it is about reflecting the community, balance and fairness – taking a hyperlocal look at topics that affect people in their everyday lives."

Shana has worked on the show part time for the past six years, mainly producing long-form packages – pre-produced segments filmed outside the studio. In recent months of working from home, she has transitioned to booking all the show's guests.

Having produced news in some capacity since 1994, Shana finds that people are often surprised by how long production takes. "What you see Ted do on TV might be the culmination of several days' work; a package might be the culmination of a month's work. A show like 'Art in the 48' is the culmination of nearly a year."

Shana, who executive produced "Art in the 48" with her business partner, Melissa Thompson, said that she was very proud to have worked on one of the only art shows in the Valley. "We believe art really makes a community," she said.

Prior to "Art in the 48," Shana also served as a producer on season one of "Plate & Pour" - a great fit because food has always been one of Shana's passions. For a time, she even ran a bakery from her home. As a kid, she loved watching chefs like Julia Child and Jacques Pépin on PBS.

Now part of the PBS family herself, Shana said the "Arizona Horizon" team is a small, tight-knit group. "It's a group of people who are all about putting others first and doing our best work."

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COVERING

STATION NEWS



As we enter the homestretch of the 2020 election season, you can rely on Arizona PBS to bring you coverage of the local and national races that matter to you.

"Cronkite News" executive director Christina Leonard is enthusiastic about Arizona's bigger role in this year's election because of its focus on health, the economy and social justice – issues in which Arizona plays a key role. "There are a lot of eyeballs on what we're doing here," she said.

Though the logistics will be different because of the pandemic, the Arizona PBS news team still plans to host candidate debates leading up to the Nov. 4 general

doing in-person debates, but with social distancing in mind," said executive producer Allysa Adams. "Our studio is large enough that we can take the precautions necessary to keep candidates and staff safe." Adams said that if necessary "Arizona Horizon" also has the ability to host virtual debates, similar to this summer's virtual town halls.

Notably, plans are in the works for a debate between Sen. Martha McSally and Democratic challenger Mark Kelly. Produced in partnership with KJZZ, Arizona Public Media and The Arizona Republic, the debate will be broadcast live on Arizona PBS, KJZZ and AZPM and team, a recent addition to the Cronkite/

election. "At this point we still plan on streamed on azcentral.com. As of this printing, details on the date and format of the debate have not been finalized.

> Additionally, "Arizona Horizon" will feature discussions of the various ballot propositions - what each measure entails, and its pros and cons. To further voter education, the team will also produce a series of interstitials to air between the show's segments called "Voter IQ." These will present information about important dates, voting locations and where to find more information on candidates.

> Another group with eyes on electionrelated stories is the Indian Country Today

ARIZONA NEWS AT 5 P.M.

Beginning this September, "Cronkite News" will join forces with "Arizona Horizon" to form an hour-long local news program airing at 5 p.m. on weekdays. The hour will begin with discussions hosted by Ted Simons and José Cárdenas, followed by local stories from the "Cronkite News" team. The show will also include a new segment in which a rotating group discusses a Day on Tuesday, Sept. 8.





Arizona PBS | Fall 2020

STATION NEWS



Arizona PBS family. The daily digital news platform moved its headquarters to the Cronkite building in downtown Phoenix in 2019 and launched a newscast in spring 2020. The program airs at 11 p.m. Monday through Friday on Arizona PBS World.

Leading up to the 2018 election, Indian Country Today editor Mark Trahant organized the first nationwide live election coverage with an all Native crew covering Native candidates. More than 40 people were involved in the live production which was six hours long and reported live from 16 states. "We plan to do something similar for the 2020 election," said Patty Talahongva, executive producer of Indian Country Today. "Because of the pandemic, we are still finetuning our plan. Obviously the candidates won't be hosting huge watch parties, so we will have to adjust as well."

In another election year tradition, "Frontline" will premiere the 2020 edition of "The Choice," an in-depth look at the presidential candidates, on Sept. 22 at 8 p.m. As it has for every election since 1988, "The Choice" will investigate the life stories of the two candidates: the roots of their drive to be president, the moments that shaped them, and the life experiences that have brought them to this point.

From veteran filmmaker Michael Kirk, who has made four prior installments of "The Choice," this two-hour special will prepare Americans not just to vote in the election, but to understand what drives the president who will be sworn in on Jan. 20, 2021.

Bringing trustworthy journalism and powerful new insights to a moment when anxious voters are saturated with misinformation and partisanship, this cleareyed documentary will examine each man's approach to power, the defining moments that shaped their lives, and their visions for America's future at this pivotal juncture.

PBS also plans to deliver the PBS NewsHour Presidential and Vice Presidential Debates on Sept. 29 and Oct. 7, respectively. As of this printing, plans for these events are still taking shape due to the pandemic; stay tuned on air and online at azpbs.org/schedule for the latest schedule plans.

RELATED PROGRAMS

FRONTLINE

"The Choice 2020: Trump vs. Biden"

Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 8 p.m.

"Whose Vote Counts?" Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 9 p.m.



Presidential Debate Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 6 p.m.

Vice Presidential Debate

Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m.

Kasey Brammell and Susanna Eckstein contributed to this piece.



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MEDIACTIVE

BALM FOR 'AN AGE OF INFORMATION OVERLOAD'



In the modern media landscape, we encounter more information from more sources than ever before - every day. Knowing what information is trustworthy can be a constant struggle.

"It's a confusing time to be an information consumer," said media scholar and educator Kristy Roschke, who has a doctorate in philosophy, journalism and mass communication. "Most of us spend a lot of time online, especially right now, and there's just too much information for us to wade through. It's difficult to know what to pay attention to and how to decide."

Roschke is managing director of the Cronkite School's News Co/Lab, which works to strengthen public understanding and engagement with media through journalism, education and technology.



Kristy Roschke

In academic circles, the subject is referred to as media literacy. "Media literacy is an established field of study and practice, but wish we had a different expression for



Dan Gillmor

it," said Dan Gillmor, the Cronkite School professor who co-founded the News Co/ Lab. "Telling people they're illiterate is not nice." The team wants to lead a welcoming conversation, because misinformation is rampant.

Gillmor said it was also clear that their efforts needed to be scaled to reach as wide an audience as possible.

To that end, Gillmor, Roschke and their colleagues are launching "Mediactive:

a self-paced, online mini-course that will be free to the public. The course includes tips for spotting misinformation, finding trustworthy sources and best practices for sharing and commenting on news and information, among other topics. It's a MOOC, or massive online open course, meaning that there is no cap on the number of learners who can participate.

The Mediactive team is providing two options for taking the course: beginning Sept. 14, a cohort of instructors and participants will take three weeks to go through the course together. Learners will complete readings, watch videos and participate in a discussion board on their own schedule, and come together twice a week via Zoom for interviews with experts and Q&A sessions. Registration is open at mediactive.newscollab.org/how-to-enroll.

The course will also be available online indefinitely for the public to access at any time, at their own pace. Each of the course's three modules can take 1 - 3 hours to complete, Roschke said. "You could get the course completed in an evening, if you wanted to."

The course is built on adaptive learning technology designed by Cogbooks, a How to participate in our digital world," learning technology company. Just as apps

STATION NEWS



like Pandora or Spotify track which songs you request and which ones you skip in order to recommend songs you're likely to enjoy, adaptive learning technology used in education attempts to determine what you already know in order to help you focus on topics and ideas that may be new.

Another component of the Mediactive project is a 30-minute program that will air on Arizona PBS this fall. The program will discuss many of the same points, and will include interviews with media literacy experts, psychologists and scholars of iournalism.

Both the course and the program are made possible through funding from the Facebook Journalism Project - part of a collaboration between the Cronkite School and Facebook that goes back to 2017.

"After the 2016 election, it was clear we had not just a problem, but an emergency," said Gillmor. "We had a meeting at the Cronkite School, sponsored by the school and Facebook, on news literacy. That led to Eric Newton, who was then the school's head of innovation, and I putting together the News Co/Lab."

Facebook was one of News Co/Lab's initial funders. For the course, "they've given us

to do what we're doing, but they're very hands-off in terms of the content," said Roschke. "They've not had any editorial

Between the ongoing pandemic and the upcoming election – two ongoing stories that are generating huge amounts of conflicting information – the team felt that the need for resources like Mediactive is greater than ever.

Roschke said they expect a lot of misinformation to circulate both before and after the November election.

Gillmor noted that, whatever an individual believes, this is a pivotal election. "Participation in society is part of our democracy, and participation in media is not a major step different from participation in the larger society," he said.

Still, the team emphasized that this is not a political class. "Our goal is not to have heated political discussions," said News Co/Lab editor Celeste Sepessy. "We talk about how to be civically engaged and some about voting, but a person with any political leaning could come into this course and learn something.

"If you think about it," Sepessy added, "all this generous donation and allowed us of us have shared something that wasn't



Celeste Sepessy

real - whether it was political, or a silly meme or an image that was in the wrong context. That's what we're trying to get at. It doesn't have to be political or partisan. It's hard to be a person online right now! That's what it comes down to."

Roschke said that in addition to learning how to determine a source's credibility and accuracy, the course is also intended to help people recognize what they can do to share and create content ethically and responsibly. "They're part and parcel of the same thing," she said. "Even though there's so much we can't control, we can actually control how we react to and contribute to the media environment.

"I see this as something that anyone can find useful," Roschke said. "You don't have to be a big news junkie or a big social media user. There really is something for

PRACTICING ELECTION COVERAGE

The Mediactive course hasn't been the "We are very worried that in 2020, Arizona Republic reporter BrieAnna Frank Cronkite School's only shot at tackling local newsrooms are vulnerable to misinformation surrounding the 2020 disinformation campaigns," said Claire the balance between getting it right and election. Early this year, journalists Wardle, the U.S. director of First Draft gathered at the Cronkite School to practice News. covering an election – and minimizing the misinformation that could surround it.

misinformation surrounding the upcoming such as fake tweets. presidential election.

and a comprehensive simulation of a student reporters." newsroom covering the 2020 election.

A main point of the event was stopping the spread of misinformation on social First Draft News, a global nonprofit, media. Heather Dunn, content director stopped at the Cronkite building in for Cronkite News, said that by the end of January as part of its 10-city tour to the event, she hoped to be able to fight spreading things that aren't true or are equip local journalists with tools to fight misinformation posted on social media, malicious in nature."

"Since I'm in charge of the politics team Attendees ranging from students to for Cronkite News, I wanted to be as wellprofessional journalists participated in informed as I could be on misinformation,"

By Salma Reyes and Kenzel Williams

shared how journalists struggle with getting it first.

"In the short time since I've graduated from Cronkite, I've seen a lot of misinformation," said Frank. "The balance is between trying to tell the public what the truth is while also not inadvertently

Graduate student Katherine Sypher said the event helped her consider new tactics for fighting fake news. "The balance between being quick and accurate and informative workshops, masterclasses said Dunn, "so I could bring that to my not misleading unintentionally is really important to find," Sypher said











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Arizona PBS | Fall 2020

PRESS FORWARD

STATION NEWS



By Jamar Younger

This summer's protests supporting racial equity and opposing police brutality have served as an epiphany for many who have had to confront discrimination against people of color. But for Black activists in Arizona and across the country, it's the continuation of a struggle that has persisted for generations.

Phoenix, Tucson and other cities across the state joined the rest of the country as protesters marched through the streets chanting "Black Lives Matter" and calling Black Lives Matter has been at the Floyd, Dion Johnson, Breonna Taylor and other unarmed Black men and women who died after encounters with the police.

"I'm 27 and I have to do the same thing that my parents and grandparents had to do," said Nissa Vibe, a core member of Black Lives Matter Phoenix Metro. "The fact that we're even asking for equal treatment is ridiculous. At this point, I feel it's more than just equal treatment. It's reparations, it's compensation for the damage that has been done - because we've been asking for equal treatment for decades. We want what's owed to us."

for justice after the deaths of George | forefront of the protests in Arizona and across the country, not only as one of the leading organizations behind the marches, but also as the rallying cry against police brutality and racism.

to defund and abolish police, as well as address issues such as mass incarceration and gentrification while educating and mobilizing voters.

The leaders within these organizations have also implemented other strategies such as voter education, town halls, endorsements of candidates who support their views and discussion groups on topics such as Black trauma and white privilege.

"I think one of the ways we can be pushing to see change is having Black people making demands of folks to not only turn out in the streets as protesters, but to vote like Black lives matter," said Lola N'sangou, lead organizer for Mass Liberation Arizona. roundtable conversation on race, unrest and healing in June (View it at azpbs.org/ roundtable).

Mass Liberation Arizona has organized marches and rallies and has also engaged in other forms of activism such as partnering with lawmakers to introduce bills, endorsing candidates for county attorney in Maricopa and Pima Counties, pushing for more police accountability, creating voter guides, and hosting community training sessions.

Other organizations, such as the Black Mother's Forum, are looking to protect the safety and welfare of Black children, especially boys, from the dangers of

"The foundation of our oppression is the desire and the intent that was put into the laws, that was put into policies, into structures, is to limit the movement of Black bodies. They've been trying to limit our movements since they brought our forefathers and foremothers over here from Africa," said Janelle Wood, founder of the Black Mothers Forum.

The Black Mothers Forum, which celebrated its fourth year in August, has challenged Phoenix area school districts to implement anti-racism training for teachers. It is also calling for changes to other policies, including the fair treatment of Black students, who are more likely to be disciplined than their

of a director of equity and inclusion at the Chandler Unified School District, as well as an associate superintendent of equity, diversity and inclusion at the Arizona Department of Education.

The organization has been involved in the recent protests against police brutality, hosting a rally in early June that drew almost 400 people, and participating in other marches. Wood also sits on a Phoenix police reform committee.

The strategies of the newer movements have echoed the methods used by leaders who stood against injustice in past protests.



STATION NEWS



In previous decades, activists mobilized to push for civil rights, honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. after he was assassinated, set up boycotts after state lawmakers refused to create a paid holiday in King's name and pushed to address everything from environmental issues in low-income neighborhoods to building bridges across the Salt River to allow more accessibility for workers traveling from south Phoenix to Downtown.

"People need to be diligent. The fight is still there," said Cloves Campbell Jr., publisher of the Arizona Informant, the state's oldest Black newspaper founded by his father, Cloves Campbell Sr.

The elder Campbell, who was Arizona's first Black state senator, led a march of about 6,000 people down Washington Street in Phoenix after King was assassinated in 1968. In the early 1970s, he was at the forefront of a movement to create a state holiday honoring King.

Although his early efforts were unsuccessful, support for the holiday gained national momentum after President Ronald Reagan signed the holiday into law in 1983, with the first observance three years later.

The Arizona House of Representatives proposed a bill in 1986, but it was narrowly defeated. Gov. Bruce Babbitt then issued an executive order declaring a paid state holiday to King, but the attorney general declared the proclamation illegal and Gov. Evan Mecham rescinded it after he took office in 1987.

This kicked off a struggle that stretched almost six years, punctuated by a series of boycotts, marches and legislative battles.

"We followed the strategy of the civil rights movement," said Rev. Dr. Warren H. Stewart Sr., a Phoenix activist and pastor of First Institutional Baptist Church who led the movement in the 1980s and early '90s to adopt a holiday to honor King. "If there is an injustice, you make it known. You try to get people to see the injustice. If the people don't catch on and see it, then you begin to lobby powers that be. If that doesn't move them to change the injustice, the next step is public protest. If that doesn't work, then you move to the next step, which was to boycott. So, if you're not listening to reason, we're going

The boycotts gained national attention as big-name performers such as Stevie Wonder refused to perform in Arizona, while U2 issued a statement denouncing Mecham's actions. Tourism also suffered as the state lost a number of conventions because of resistance to the holiday.

to hit your pocketbook."

In 1988, a rally at the Arizona State Capitol in support of the holiday attracted an estimated 15,000 people, according to the Arizona Republic.

Arizona eventually lost the 1993 Super Bowl, which was scheduled to be played in the Phoenix area, after voters rejected two ballot initiatives supporting the holiday.

That served as a turning point as business leaders showed more of a willingness to not only work with Stewart and other Black activists, but also to let them lead initiatives to garner support for the holiday, he said.

Arizona voters approved Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1992. The Super Bowl returned in 1996.

Campbell, who also took part in the boycott when he and a group of Black newspaper publishers from the West Coast canceled their convention, said today's movements are more likely to effect change quicker than previous movements.

"As things have evolved, everything has happened a lot quicker than it in the past. Something that may have taken 10 years may now take 12-18 months," he said.

Wood noted that today's activists have grown up during a different era, with a Black president, and are more intolerant of any ideology that seeks to discriminate against people of color.

"They're shutting it down. And with the police brutality and the way the police have controlled our movements, this group is willing to get in there and take the beatdown because they're like 'We're not playing the game. We're tired. We want you defunded. We want you removed'," she said.



For N'sangou, who has lived in Phoenix since she was 8 years old, change will occur as more people become outraged by the repeated injustices.

"I think people are angry right now. I think people are fed up. I think they are seeing the world differently," she said. "I do think the speed with which we see change is in direct proportion to the number of people demanding that change."

IMPROVING OUR CULTURE OF INCLUSION

reflection at Arizona PBS and among are measured by whom we include. our colleagues at the Cronkite School.

the best of intentions, we recognize members of our communities.

One of the projects we've undertaken in the years to come, Arizona PBS is to draft a new editorial policy, will be more worthy of your support integrity code and culture statement than ever. for Arizona PBS. Staff members from

The national conversations this across the organization are coming summer about racism, privilege and together to ensure that, as Arizona inclusion have prompted a lot of self- State University's charter states, we

From time to time, our viewers have Although we've always operated with pointed out ways in which we have fallen short – and we are honored that we have room to improve so that you are as invested in improving that we are better able to serve all Arizona PBS as we are. As we work to make our organization more inclusive and more purposeful, we hope that





Both Cloves Campbell Jr. (left) and Warren Stewart Sr. (right) have appeared on "Arizona Horizon" and "Horizonte" many times over the years, as have Lola N'Sangou (above) and leaders of Black Lives Matter and the Black Mothers Forum. Find their discussions of civil rights issues, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and related topics in our online archives at azpbs.org/horizon-archives.

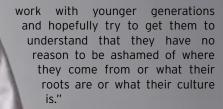
Photos p. 10-12 courtesy of Mass Liberation Arizona.

Over the course of almost two decades in broadcast journalism, in which she reported from all across the globe. Ruiz had started to consider that she should be mentoring young journalists. Her turning point was facing backlash from viewers when she pronounced Spanish words in Spanish on air as the new main anchor at 12 News, she said.

The correct pronunciation on air of words like "Mesa" and "Nogales" was met with criticism, and Ruiz, who was born in Miami, Florida, and is of Colombian descent, "felt discriminated against in my own country" for the first time in her career.

"It planted a seed inside of me where I said, 'I want to do something where I can

By Griffin Fabits



And that's when Ruiz heard from Christopher Callahan, then dean of the Cronkite School. He persuaded her to join the faculty.

"I said 'OK, I'll give this a shot. Maybe this is an opportunity I've been manifesting,'" she said. "Here we are, almost three years later. It's been an incredible ride."

In those three years, she has become integral to the Cronkite School as director of Cronkite News' Borderlands team and the school's director for diversity initiatives.

She also serves as a liaison and advocate between other ASU units and the community at large when it comes to issues related to diversity, inclusion and equity.

Ruiz plays an equally pivotal part of Arizona PBS broadcasts. She hosted about half of this summer's "Arizona Horizon Town Hall" series and she continues to host "Catalyst." She has also served as fill-in anchor for PBS NewsHour's western bureau, housed at the Cronkite School.

Ruiz's impact at the Cronkite School and Arizona PBS - coupled with an extensive career covering events such as the Olympics, elections and the Pope's visit to the United States - has brought her local recognition.

She was recently named to Phoenix Business Journal's annual 40-under-40 list, which "honors the Valley's brightest up-and-coming leaders who are already making a difference in the community," according to the Journal's website.

The list started with more than 400 nominations. Ruiz, 40, fumbled to find the right words to describe her selection.

"It was very unexpected, to be honest," she said. "I was not ever thinking I'd be nominated for something like that. I was very surprised, very humbled."

"And also, it gives me additional juice to keep doing what I'm doing."

Her career began as an assignment desk editor for Telemundo Network. Mere weeks after signing her first full-time contract, the September 11 attacks took place. As uncertain as the times were, for a newly-hired journalist like Ruiz, they came with invaluable experience.

"I will never forget that time. I will never forget working in a newsroom during the aftermath of 9/11. I was so young. That will always forever remain with me as one of the key moments in my journalistic career. It was early on, but it certainly left a mark."

STATION NEWS

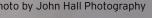
As she moved from station to station, city to city, over the years, Ruiz established herself as a trusted and distinguished anchor. In 2016 and 2017, her team at 12 News won the Rocky Mountain Emmy for Best Evening Newscast.

Still, all the stories she tells don't compare to the responsibility of working with students. At the Cronkite School, Ruiz said she's as busy as she's ever been in her career, tasked with training the next generation of storytellers.

Teaching was never in her plans, but that, she's learned, is the beauty of the profession: it leads to unforeseen opportunities.

"We have some of the best students in the world, an incredible faculty, an incredible building with so many opportunities. It's been an incredible experience."

Photo by John Hall Photography



Make a GRAND Difference. Signal Society members - generous donors who support Arizona PBS with annual leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more - are the foundation of our programs and services. Join Signal Society and make your impact on Arizona. **BENEFITS INCLUDE:** Priority invitations to station premieres and exciting events Private studio tours Opportunities to meet Arizona PBS leadership Recognition on our Donor Wall The good feeling of supporting a great community resource And many more! **TO LEARN MORE** about joining Signal Society, contact Lucile Oglesby

at **602-496-5870** or by email

at lucile.oglesby@asu.edu

PROFILE: DALE AND JENNIFER EMERSON

STATION NEWS

Photo by Paula Maturana



When Dale and Jennifer Emerson saw Pavlo perform at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts in February, they were blown away by his energy. They loved the guitarist's gesture of giving away his instrument to a random audience member at the end of the show

"It was such a sentimental gesture, the way he gave the guitar away," Jennifer said. "He played it all through the show, so the recipient got something really special."

The Emersons said they wouldn't have been there if they hadn't seen a Pavlo concert on Arizona PBS.

"After that, we looked into going to Pavlo's show in Greece," said Dale, "but then this pandemic came along."

Travel is a passion for Dale and Jennifer, who have explored a long list of places around the world. "When we travel, we both return having learned as much about ourselves as the countries we visited," said Jennifer.

Until they can resume their world travels, the Emersons are traveling vicariously through shows like "Rick Steves' Europe" and other favorite PBS programs.

"'Art in the 48' brings out so many unexpected places, especially now – it kind of lets you get out in the community again," Jennifer said. "And I love Mark Tarbell on 'Plate & Pour' – he's just sparkly and witty and fun."

"Ted Simons and 'Arizona Horizon' are a real jewel for Arizona PBS," said Dale, "and 'Frontline' has to be one of the best programs on any channel." Jennifer agreed, noting that PBS' ability to dive into analysis of complex issues that other networks don't have time for is important to them.

Jennifer is a fourth-generation Arizonan – her great-grandmother homesteaded in Bumblebee, Ariz. – so she remembers watching KAET from a young age. "My mom enrolled at ASU in 1968 to pursue a teaching degree," she said. "My brother and I were in grade school at that time. She was highly committed to education, and it was not unusual for her to plop us in front of our black and white TV to watch a PBS show she thought we should see. These viewings were not optional!"

When Jennifer attended ASU herself in the 1970s, many of her classes were held in Stauffer Hall, which also housed KAET's studios. "It was impressive for the times, especially since some activities could be viewed from the windows," she said.

For the Emersons, choosing to support Arizona PBS was almost second nature. As they were setting up their trust, their attorney asked what charitable donations they might like to make. Without needing to talk about it, they knew.

"Dale and I just looked at each other and we said, yeah, Arizona PBS," Jennifer said. "It was funny, we didn't even have to talk about it."

Dale agreed. "I think if you have that spirit and watch PBS and grow with it, it becomes a part of you. It really does."



HIGHLIGHTS

MA ON AIR S





LAST TANGO IN HALIFAX SEASON 4 Sundays at 7 p.m.,

beginning Sept. 20

Anne Reid, Derek Jacobi, Nicola Walker and Sarah Lancashire return for a final season. Alan and Celia have now been married for seven years. The childhood sweethearts – who reunited and married in their 70s – have moved into a lovely new home. But Alan and Celia are discovering that wedded bliss isn't always blissful. Clashing politics, Alan's new job and a wild local lad create tension. Meanwhile, Caroline gets emotionally embroiled at work and Alan's brother Ted jets in for a visit (and he hasn't come alone).



VAN DER VALK ON MASTERPIECE Sundays at 8 p.m.,

Sundays at 8 p.m., beginning Sept. 13

Amsterdam – city of bikes, boats and bodies. At least, that's the way steely-eyed cop Piet van der Valk sees his murder-infested beat. Marc Warren ("Beecham House") stars as the title character in an all-new series based on Nicolas Freeling's legendary crime thrillers.

The wildly popular original series of "Van der Valk" starred Barry Foster and ran on British television from 1972 to 1992. Now Marc Warren steps into the role of the brilliant but cynical commissaris (inspector), solving baffling crimes in 21st-century Amsterdam, which is more prosperous,

cosmopolitan and crime-prone than ever. Co-starring are Maimie McCoy ("Wallander") as Van der Valk's right-hand woman, Lucienne Hassell; Luke Allen-Gale as the scruffy sergeant, Brad de Vries; and Elliot Barnes-Worrell as the squad's brainy new guy, Job Cloovers.

The recurring cast also features Emma Fielding ("Les Misérables") as Van der Valk's incorruptible but indulgent boss, Julia Dahlman: and Darrell D'Silva as the team's hard-living, virtuoso pathologist, Hendrik Davie. Naturally, the characters have their personal issues. Most of the time Piet lives solo on an old sloop anchored in the harbor, where he wrestles with the painful memory of a lost love. Lucienne, too, has been thwarted in romance. De Vries has no ambitions beyond feeding his appetites, while Cloovers is overeager to excel at his new assignment. Chief Dahlman is recovering from a near-death experience on a previous case, and Hendrick has happily settled into Amsterdam's guilt-free pleasures.

Together they face a trio of challenging cases that give a new slant to Amsterdam's renowned sophistication, for it appears that the city's stylishness and toleration go hand in hand with murder.



FLESH AND BLOOD ON MASTERPIECE

Sundays at 8 p.m., beginning Oct. 4

Lust, greed, wrath, envy and pride are just some of the deadly sins that plague a seemingly happy family in a mystery-thriller starring Imelda Staunton ("Harry Potter," "Vera Drake") and Francesca Annis ("Home Fires," "Cranford"), who play close neighbors cast into a generational psychodrama.

Staunton, who is set to star as Queen Elizabeth II in the next season of "The Crown," gives a slyly comedic performance as Mary, the family's long-time next-door neighbor, whose life is devoted to gardening and trying to be helpful to Vivien (Annis).

Opening with emergency vehicles on the scene of a life-threatening mishap, the mystery for viewers is: Who has done what to whom?

As D.I. Doug Lineham elicits the details in flashbacks, it all started innocently enough. Widowed a year and a half earlier, glamorous former salon owner Vivien invites her three children to their seaside childhood home for an important announcement. She has a new man in her life: Mark, a retired surgeon.

Wrapped up in their own complicated relationships, the children have mixed reactions. Career woman Helen is wary of Mark, perhaps because she sees romance as transactional, which is how she treats her stay-at-home husband.

Jake is downright hostile to Mark, possibly out of guilt over the breakup of his marriage. Also, he's worried about his inheritance, which may be his only hope for financial security.

Only Natalie, the youngest, is genuinely excited for her mom, likely because a fulfilling partnership is Natalie's fondest wish. At the moment, she is in the fifth year of an aimless affair with her boss.

Then there is Mary's opinion. Having no close family of her own, she has been a second mother to Helen, Jake and Natalie. A born sleuth, she conveys her serious doubts about Mark in the most elliptical way imaginable.

As for Mark, he dotes on Vivien and he really wants to marry her. The question on everyone's mind: Is he hiding something?



Sundays at 7 p.m., beginning Oct. 18

Created and written by Mark Brotherhood and starring Dawn French, this new comedy drama delves into what happens when idle gossip escalates out of control. Set in a picturesque fishing village, the series centers on Maggie Cole, the self-appointed oracle of this close-knit community. Maggie makes it her business to know a little bit about everyone's lives. She certainly doesn't pay attention to the cautionary adage that "those in glass houses shouldn't throw stones."

COBRA

Sundays at 9 p.m., beginning Oct. 4

This political drama is set in the heart of British government during a crisis that threatens to engulf the entire nation. In times of national emergency, a team of Britain's leading experts, crisis contingency planners and the most senior politicians assemble under the name "COBRA" (Cabinet Office Briefing Room A) with the aim to coordinate the government response. Robert Carlyle stars as Prime Minister Robert Sutherland.



ROADKILL ON MASTERPIECE

Sundays at 8 p.m., beginning Nov. 1

Ambition knows no bounds, nor does corruption in a political thriller starring Hugh Laurie as a scheming UK government minister. Scripted by two-time Academy Award nominee David Hare, "Roadkill" airs in four action-packed episodes and costars Helen McCrory, Saskia Reeves, Pip Torrens and Patricia Hodge. Crime may not pay, but politics sure does.





GREAT PERFORMANCES AT THE MET

Sundays at 9 a.m., beginning Sept. 6

PBS' collaboration with the Metropolitan Opera continues in a new season of fully staged operas beginning with "Porgy and Bess" (Sept. 6), "Madama Butterfly" (Sept. 13), "Manon" (Sept. 20) and "Akhnaten" (Sept. 27).



GREAT PERFORMANCES "ROMEO AND JULIET"

Friday, Sept. 11 at 8 p.m.

Experience Shakespeare's classic performed by dancers from The Royal Ballet to a score by Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev and filmed on atmospheric sets and locations throughout Budapest.



GREAT PERFORMANCES "NOW HEAR THIS" SEASON 2

Fridays at 8 p.m. beginning Sept. 18

Embark on a voyage of musical discovery for aficionados and neophytes alike. Presented by virtuoso violinist Scott Yoo, chief conductor and artistic director of the Mexico City Philharmonic, each episode reveals how some of the greatest classical music ever written came to be.



ART IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Fridays at 9 p.m. beginning Sept. 18

Travel the world to be inspired by the creative processes of today's most compelling artists. Enjoy unprecedented access to the leading creative minds of our time, drawing upon artists' relationships with the places in which they work. The Oct. 2 episode focuses on "Borderlands."



HISPANIC HERITAGE AWARDS Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.

The highest honor to be given to Hispanics by Hispanics in the United States, the Hispanic Heritage Awards is a celebration of excellence by Hispanic and Latinx people in the arts, business, philanthropy and more.





AMERICAN MASTERS "LENNON NYC"

Friday, Oct. 9 at 8 p.m.

Discover the story of one of the most famous and influential artists of the 20th century and how he found redemption not in the public adoration he craved as a youth, but in the quiet and simple pleasures of fatherhood. It is also a New York immigrant's tale. Lennon came to New York City in 1971 seeking what every other immigrant has sought: freedom - the freedom to be himself and not "Beatle John," the freedom to live a normal life.



GREAT PERFORMANCES "GRAMMY SALUTE TO MUSIC **LEGENDS**"

Friday, Oct. 16 at 8 p.m.

Since 2016, "Great Performances" has joined forces with the Recording Academy to produce an annual all-star concert showcasing the Grammy Lifetime Achievement, Trustee and Music Educator awards. While the latest installment has been delayed due to the pandemic with honoree John Prine tragically passing away in April – the production comes to us now as a tribute program featuring archival clips with newly recorded acceptance remarks from the honorees and the performers they have influenced.



WHERE NOW IS"

Friday, Oct. 23 at 8 p.m.

Meet Michael Tilson Thomas, the music director of the San Francisco Symphony, founder and artistic director of the New World Symphony, and conductor laureate of the London Symphony Orchestra.

BEYOND THE CANVAS

Wednesdays at 11:30 p.m.. beginning Sept. 9 Friday, Oct. 23 at 9:30

Explore some of the best arts and culture reporting from PBS NewsHour's CANVAS arts series.





SWINGIN' SESAME STREET CELEBRATION: 50 YEARS AND COUNTING

Friday, Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.

"Sesame Street" comes to Jazz at Lincoln Center for a swinging celebration of the show's 50th anniversary. See Big Bird, Elmo and more of your favorite feathered and furry friends sing classic "Sesame Street" songs alongside the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis.



HIGHLIGHTS



PBS KIDS FALL SCHEDULE STARTS SEPT. 8

After Labor Day weekend, PBS KIDS will return to Arizona PBS' main channel, 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every weekday.

At Home Learning, the curriculum-aligned programming for Pre-K-12 that has been airing on our main channel since March is coming to a close as schools reopen. However, content for upper elementary, middle and high school students will still air

on Arizona PBS World from noon to 5 p.m. Schedules and other resources remain available at azpbs.org/AtHomeLearning.

As always, you can watch your favorite PBS KIDS shows anytime with the PBS KIDS Video app, online at azpbs.org/kids, or on Arizona PBS KIDS. Find details about how to access all our channels at azpbs.org/schedule.



'ELINOR WONDERS WHY' INSPIRES KIDS TO FOLLOW THEIR CURIOSITY

Premieres Sept. 7 at 10 a.m. Weekdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 8.

"Elinor Wonders Why," the newest series | she encounters something she doesn't from PBS KIDS, has a title that likely fits any 3-year-old you've ever met. The series encourages curiosity and encourages children to find answers using science inquiry skills.

The main character Elinor, the most observant and curious bunny rabbit in Animal Town, introduces kids ages 3-5 to science, nature and community through adventures with her friends.

"Kids love to ask questions about how the world works," said Linda Simensky, vice president of children's programming for PBS. "That's what makes "Elinor Wonders Why" such a perfect show for preschoolers. Kids will recognize themselves in Elinor's boundless curiosity as she pursues the questions she wonders about - making observations and reveling in nature's amazing answers."

In each episode, Elinor models the foundational practices of science inquiry and engineering design. When understand, like why birds have feathers or how tiny ants build massive anthills, she just can't let it go until she figures it out. And in discovering the answers, Elinor often learns something about nature's ingenious inventions, how they can connect to ideas in our designed world and what it takes to live in a community.

"We want to encourage children's curious nature and share with them the fun and joy of discovery. We hope to show children that science is not just a list of facts, but a way of answering questions, and of learning about the world," said the show's co-creators, Jorge Cham and Daniel Whiteson.

Cham and Whiteson have previously collaborated on several projects aimed at exploring science-related guestions with humor, including a book ("We Have No Idea: A Guide to the Unknown Universe") and a podcast ("Daniel & Jorge Explain the Universe"). Cham, who holds a Ph.D. in robotics, is the cartoonist behind the

popular online comic "Piled Higher and Deeper" (a.k.a. PHD Comics). Whiteson is a professor of physics and astronomy at the University of California, Irvine, and is an active researcher, using the Large Hadron Collider at CERN to search for exotic new particles.

Along with the television series, "Elinor Wonders Why" will offer digital content for kids, parents and teachers, also debuting in September 2020. "Elinor Wonders Why" games will be available on pbskids.org and on the free PBS KIDS Games app, along with clips and full episodes streaming across PBS KIDS' video platforms, including the free PBS KIDS Video app.

An "Elinor Wonders Why" app will also launch after the series' debut. Parent resources, including tips and handson activities will be available on the PBS KIDS for Parents site, and PBS LearningMedia will offer classroomready materials for teachers, including video excerpts, games, teaching tips and printable activities.



HACKING YOUR MIND

Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m.. Sept. 9-30

Join science and technology journalist Jacob Ward to discover why it's easy for politicians, marketers and social media companies to "hack" your mind, and find out how to hack your own mind to improve your life and the lives of your family and friends.



NOVA "HUMAN NATURE"

Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m.

A breakthrough called CRISPR has given us unprecedented control over the basic building blocks of life. It opens the door to curing diseases, reshaping the biosphere and designing our own children. Explore CRISPR's far-reaching implications through the eyes of the scientists who discovered it, the families who are affected by it and the bioengineers who are testing its limits. How will this new power change our relationship with nature? What will it mean for human evolution? To begin to answer these questions we must look back billions of years and peer into an uncertain future.

NOVA "SECRET MIND OF SLIME"

Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 8 p.m.

Who says you need brains to be smart? Extremely primitive life forms called slime molds can navigate mazes, choose



ISLANDS OF WONDER

Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Sept. 16-30

Embark on an island-hopping voyage of exploration. Journey across ancient Madagascar, the strangest and oldest island on Earth – a place that has given rise to more unique wildlife than any other island. Travel from Borneo's rich coral reefs, through lush jungles, to its mountainous heart, and discover the struggles to survive that have created a greater variety of life than almost any other island. And see how the Hawaiian archipelago has offered sanctuary for lifeforms that have reached its remote, tropical shores, from humpback whales to waterfall-climbing fish.

networks - no brain required. New research on these organisms, which are neither plant nor animal, could help reveal the fundamental rules underlying all decision making.

NOVA "HOW WRITING CHANGED THE WORLD"

Wednesday, Sept. 23 & 30 at 8 p.m.

Where would we be without the alphabet? Writing has played a vital role in the expansion and domination of cultures throughout history. But researchers are only now uncovering the origin story to our own alphabet, which may have gotten its beginnings in a turquoise mine four thousand years ago. Explore how the development of writing – the original information technology - played a vital role in shaping world history. While the invention of paper allowed Chinese and then Islamic civilization to become the most advanced, the simple fact that the between foods and create efficient Latin alphabet could be printed more balance to an entire ecosystem.

easily handed Europe a crucial advantage at the beginning of the Renaissance. The printed book marked the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, which changed the fate of humanity and led to the Digital Age.

NOVA "NATURE'S FEAR FACTOR"

Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 8 p.m.

For animals in Mozambigue's Gorongosa National Park, the normal balance of competition and predation was upended when a war wiped out the top predators. The remaining animals didn't simply grow in numbers – they began behaving in unusual ways, veering outside their typical territories and feeding patterns. Could it be that it's not just predators' kills that keep other populations in check. but the fear they inspire? Join a team of scientists as they reintroduce wild dogs to Gorongosa to find out if restoring the park's "landscape of fear" can restore



NATURE "THE STORY OF CATS"

Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. & Oct. 14 at 7 p.m.

Encore presentation. Discover how the first cats arose in the forests of Asia, how they spread across the continent and later came to conquer Africa. Explore how cats evolved with an in-depth look at lions, servals, caracals, cheetahs, tigers, fishing and sand cats. Then track the story of cats into the Americas, from battles with the rival Canids, to the rise of domestic cats. Meet the mighty jaguar, the urban mountain lion, the curious ocelot, the Canada lynx, the nimble margay, the Siamese cat and the

THE AGE OF NATURE

Wednesdays at 9 p.m., beginning Oct. 14

Explore how new understandings of the role that nature plays in our societies are leading to more symbiotic relationships between humanity and the natural world. See how innovative actions are being taken to repair man-made damage and restore reefs, rivers, animal populations and more.

NATURE "PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD"

Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.

The giant panda may be one of the most recognizable endangered species on our planet, but the daily lives of wild pandas have remained a mystery, until now. Filmed over three years, two Chinese cinematographers trekked through the steep forested trails of the Qinling Mountains to catch a glimpse of pandas in the wild. With the help of scientists and rangers on this journey, they captured startling new wild panda behavior on screen. Unlike the playful image of captive pandas, wild pandas are solitary and territorial. The film crew also follows the training of a young panda born in captivity learning to be a panda in the wild.

NOVA "TOUCHING THE ASTEROID"

Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 8 p.m.

It is a mission that might prove impossible. In the fall of 2020, a NASA spacecraft called OSIRIS-REx attempts to reach out and grab a piece of an asteroid named Bennu and bring it back to Earth. The OSIRIS-REx team has just three chances to extend its spacecraft's specialized arm, touch down for five seconds, and collect material from the surface of Bennu. Can they pull it off? NOVA takes you inside the mission as the team plans its approach: They must map the asteroid's surface, choose possible collection sites, and rehearse the risky maneuver. If the collection is successful, scientists could gain great insight into Earth's own origins – and even learn to defend against roque asteroids that may one day threaten our planet.



NATURE "AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRE RESCUE"

Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.

Rising from the ashes of Australia's devastating bushfires, animal survivors begin their challenging journey back to a wild existence. Iconic species like koalas, kangaroos, wombats and endangered species of parrots face a series of hurdles to recover from their trauma. Follow their stories of rescue, rehabilitation and eventual release alongside the remarkable tales of human compassion and dedication from their rescuers and caretakers.

NOVA "CAN WE COOL THE PLANET?"

Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 8 p.m.

The world's average temperature has increased 1°C in just the past 100 years. Extreme weather and rising seas are already causing global unrest, and many scientists believe that if we cannot curb planetary warming, it could pose an existential threat to human civilization as we know it. As time is running out for conventional solutions to global warming, a growing collective of scientists and engineers are developing technologies to hack Earth's operating system - from manipulating our atmosphere to reflect sunlight, to sucking carbon dioxide right out of the air, to enlisting plants to do the job for us. This is the controversial landscape of geoengineering, the effort to build controls for Earth's thermostat. Join scientists and skeptics alike to examine technologies that could help us combat a looming threat.

NATIONAL ESTATE PLANNING AWARENESS WEEK **OCTOBER 19-25, 2020**

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HIGHLIGHTS





THE VOTE: AMERICAN **EXPERIENCE**

Tuesdays, Sept. 8-22 at 7 p.m. & Sept. 29 at 8 p.m.

Encore presentation. Meet the unsung heroes of the movement and relive the fiery, dramatic and unrelenting campaign that led to passage of the 19th Amendment, granting American women the vote and ushering in the largest expansion of voting rights in U.S. history.

LUCY WORSLEY'S ROYAL PALACE SECRETS

Sunday, Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Join historian Lucy Worsley as she takes viewers on an exclusive tour of London's most extraordinary palaces.

FINDING YOUR ROOTS

Tuesdays at 7 p.m., beginning Oct. 13 The popular series returns with Professor Gates exploring the mysteries, surprises and revelations hidden in the family trees of guests including Diane von Furstenberg, Narciso Rodriguez, RuPaul, Ann Curry, Téa Leoni and Joe Madison.

DRIVING WHILE BLACK

Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 8 p.m.

Navigate the history of African Americans on the road from the 1930s to the late 1960s – a crucial and transformative period in American racial, cultural and social history.





AMERICAN MASTERS "WALTER WINCHELL: THE POWER OF GOSSIP"

Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 8 p.m.

Explore the life and times of Walter Winchell, syndicated newspaper gossip columnist and radio news commentator.

MONSTRUM: THE HISTORY OF ZOMBIES

Friday, Oct. 30 at 9 p.m.

Based on the PBS Digital Studios' series "Monstrum." take a look at humans' unique drive to create and shape monster mythology through oral storytelling, literature and film, with a deep dive into the history of those mythologies.

UPDATE

'The Civic Discourse Project' Works to Build Bridges

Last spring, we published a Q&A with Paul and Economic Thought and Leadership about an upcoming series airing on Arizona PBS, "The Civil Discourse Project." Due to pandemic-related delays, the production had to be put on hold.

"The Civic Discourse Project" will air Tuesdays at 11 p.m., beginning Sept. 15. Below is an excerpt of our Q&A with Dr. Carrese – read the whole conversation at azpbs.org/civic-discourse.

Why is it so important to address these topics right now?

Carrese: The polarization and dysfunction in our politics, in their most benign form, makes our politics not function very well, especially at the national level. There are things we don't do: We can't find consensus

or compromise. What's scarier is that Carrese, director of the School of Civic there are episodes of violence, and there are clear indications that some Americans don't participate in politics because they find it ugly. They don't participate in being self-governing citizens. So there are all kinds of important problems as a result of this dysfunction.

> Arizona State University has a very strong mission under President Crow of being a great research university, but also being attentive to its civic duty to educate more broadly. For three years now, we have picked themes and speakers to address the deterioration of our civic culture and our decline into angry, contemptuous disagreement, in part to diagnose it, and then to suggest remedies for how we can find our way back to a more reasonable kind of civic discourse.



Paul Carrese. Photo courtesy of the School of Economic Thought and Leadership.





POV "LOVE CHILD"

Monday, Sept. 14 at 9 p.m.

Because adultery is punishable by death in Iran, a young couple makes the fateful decision to flee the country with their son. "Love Child" is an intimate love story about an illicit family on a journey to seek asylum in Turkey and start a new life.



POV "IN MY BLOOD IT RUNS"

Monday, Sept. 21 at 9 p.m.

Ten-year-old Aboriginal Dujuan is a child-healer, a good hunter and speaks three languages. Yet Dujuan is "failing" in school and facing increasing scrutiny from welfare and the police. As he travels perilously close to incarceration, his family fights to give him a strong Arrernte education alongside his Western education. We walk with him as he grapples with these pressures and shares his truths.

POV "OUR TIME MACHINE/ NEGATIVE SPACE"

Monday, Sept. 28 at 9 p.m.

When artist Maleonn realizes that his father suffers from Alzheimer's disease, he creates "Papa's Time Machine," a magical, autobiographical stage performance featuring life-size mechanical puppets. Through the production of this play, the two men confront their mortality before time runs out and memories are lost forever. This documentary is paired with Oscarnominated short "Negative Space." This stop motion animation short is adapted from a poem by Ron Koertge, which centers on the rituals of packing one's possessions, passed from father to son.



POV "THE INFILTRATORS"

Monday, Oct. 5 at 9 p.m.

Examine the true story of two young immigrants who get purposefully arrested by Border Patrol and put in a shadowy for-profit detention center. Marco and Viri, members of a group of radical Dreamers, are on a mission to stop deportations. And the best place to stop deportations, they believe, is in detention.

POV "SOFTIE"

Monday, Oct. 12 at 9 p.m.

After years of fighting injustice in Kenya, daring and audacious political activist Boniface "Softie" Mwangi decides to run for political office. But running a clean campaign against corrupt opponents, with idealism as his only weapon, proves challenging.



INDEPENDENT LENS "FEELS GOOD MAN"

Monday, Oct. 19 at 9 p.m.

When Matt Furie first created Pepe the Frog, a character in his indie comic Boy's Club, Matt was an easygoing San Francisco artist and Pepe was a chill frog dude. Through a series of unforeseen events and bizarre connections driven by the internet, Pepe came to be a symbol of hate for the far right. How exactly that happened is a wild journey into the heart of online life today and the memeification of our shared collective culture, where the meanings of images change moment to moment and cannot be controlled even by their creators.

BUILDING THE AMERICAN DREAM

Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 9 p.m.

Across Texas an unstoppable construction boom drives urban sprawl and luxury high-rises. Its dirty secret: abuse of immigrant labor. This documentary captures a turning point as a movement forms to fight widespread construction industry injustices. Grieving their son, a Mexican family campaigns for a life-anddeath safety ordinance. A Salvadorian electrician couple owed thousands in back pay fights for their children's future. A bereaved son battles to protect others from his family's preventable tragedy. A story of courage, resilience and community, the film reveals shocking truths about the hardworking immigrants who build the American dream, from which they are excluded.



FAMILY OF US: A PBS AMERICAN PORTRAIT STORY

Monday, Sept. 21 at 8:30 p.m.

Encore presentation. People across the country share what it means to be part of an American family today.

GENERATION NATION: A PBS AMERICAN PORTRAIT STORY

Friday, Oct. 16 at 9:30 p.m.

Explore how people in different age groups, from adolescents to seniors, see themselves and their place in America. This special reveals the common experiences that bind people together within and across age groups and the generational differences that can put us at odds with one another.

LATINO VOTE: THE TIPPING POINT

Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 8 p.m.

For the first time, Latinos in 2020 will be the largest racial or ethnic minority group in the electorate. But in past presidential elections, growing numbers of eligible voters haven't always translated into voters who cast ballots on election day. With Latino communities across the country disproportionately impacted by the effects of COVID-19, how are organizers and campaigns working to get out the Latino vote – and what does it mean for November and beyond?

INDEPENDENT LENS "REPRESENT"

Monday, Oct. 26 at 9 p.m.

Leading up to the 2018 midterm elections in the heart of the Midwest, three women take on their local political networks in a fight to reshape politics on their own terms.

NOT DONE: WOMEN REMAKING AMERICA

Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

The original "Makers" series examined how women have made progress in a variety of fields. This stand-alone special picks up where the series left off in 2014. From Sheryl Sandberg's feminist manifesto, to the 2018 emergence of the #MeToo movement, what does the future hold for women, particularly in terms of opposition to sexual harassment, equality in the workplace and violence against women?



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