

**NJTV**  
**ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT**  
**April 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020**

## **ARTS & CULTURE**

### **Auschwitz Remembered: An NYC-Arts Special**

*Airdate/Time:* April 25, 2020, 7pm

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* In its Auschwitz Remembered special, NYC-ARTS, the weekly arts and culture series, took viewers inside the Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away. exhibition which was at The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in downtown Manhattan through January 3, 2020. A child's shoe. The door to a gas chamber. A Jewish prayer shawl. These were just a few of the over 1,000 artifacts on display as part of the exhibition. Paula Zahn hosts the one-hour special, which features interviews with Bruce Ratner, Chairman of the Board of The Museum of Jewish Heritage; Ronald S. Lauder, Founder and Chairman of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee and President of the World Jewish Congress; and Holocaust survivors. The program is part of Exploring Hate: The Roots and Rise of Anti-Semitism and Extremism, a new multiplatform initiative from WNET.

### **Discover The Firebird**

*Airdate/Time:* April 29, 2020, 8pm; May 1, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* In DISCOVER THE FIREBIRD, the Discovery Orchestra helps both classical music novices and seasoned concertgoers to hear and appreciate new details in Igor Stravinsky's 1919 "Firebird Suite." Written, hosted and conducted by George Marriner Maull, the program uses an entertaining, interactive deconstruction process to break down Stravinsky's unusual compositions and orchestration techniques.

### **State of the Arts #3806**

*Airdate/Time:* May 30, 2020, 7:30pm; June 1, 2020, 5:30am; June 3, 2020, 8:30pm; June 4, 2020, 11:30pm; June 5, 2020, 2:30am

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* This episode featured the following: American Repertory Ballet stages the romantic masterwork Giselle, a ballet beloved by dancers for its emphasis on both technique and story. Taiwanese artist Kang Muxiang, known for his biomorphic works made from retired elevator steel cables, at Grounds for Sculpture. In Princeton. The Dryden Ensemble uses period instruments to perform Bach's St John Passion, first played for Good Friday services in 1724. And, a tribute to the late, great jazz guitarist, Bucky Pizzarelli.

### **Rise Up: Songs of the Women's Movement**

*Airdate/Time:* June 4, 2020, 8pm; June 6, 2020, 9:30pm; June 7, 2020, 6:30pm

*Length:* 90-minutes

*Description:* Celebrates the centennial of women's right to vote through popular music, including performances by Aretha Franklin, Lesley Gore, Helen Reddy, Loretta Lynn, Gloria Gaynor, Dolly Parton, Joan Jett, Cyndi Lauper, Melissa Etheridge, Tina Turner and more.

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

### **NJTV News**

*Airdate/Time:* June 1, 2020, 6pm; 7:30pm, 11pm; June 2, 2020, 6:30am

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* This episode covered the following: New Jersey is moving into Stage Two of the coronavirus recovery plan after roughly two months of a statewide shutdown that helped contain the spread of the illness. Residents across the state joined in a massive nationwide uprising this weekend. There were numerous demonstrations — many were peaceful, others turned violent — protesting the death of George Floyd, a black man who died in the custody of a white Minneapolis police officer who knelt on his neck for close to eight minutes. The officer has been charged with murder, and Floyd's death has sparked outrage and frustration over police brutality in black communities with persistent calls for justice.

### **METROFOCUS**

*Airdate/Time:* June 3, 2020, 5:30pm

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* This episode covered the following: Why has the George Floyd incident inspired such a widespread response? Will this crisis end by bringing us closer together or tearing us further apart? And as we witness a massive lack of social distancing during these protests, will we see a corresponding recurrence of covid-19 as we prepare to reopen? Former New Jersey Secretary of State and Baptist pastor Deforest Soaries Jr. shares his perspective on the nationwide protests playing out against the backdrop of the pandemic. A vaccine could be ready by Fall pending FDA approval. Will it be safe and effective? Will it be made readily available to everyone? And who'll decide who gets priority access? And will there be treatments for everyone else? While there are currently no approved therapies, there is plenty of controversy and misinformation surrounding drug therapies and treatment. A former FDA official named one of the 300 "most powerful people in American healthcare" by Modern Healthcare Magazine weighs in on our safety as the city readies to reopen for business.

### **METROFOCUS Special Virtual Town Hall**

*Airdate/Time:* June 5, 2020, 7pm

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* An open and honest conversation about the events that have been unfolding following the death of George Floyd. His death at the hands of police triggered a wave of protest and unrest across the nation, focused on police brutality and the broader issue of systemic racism in this country. There have been hundreds of demonstrations and protests. Most of them peaceful. But there have also been violent clashes with police, as well as widespread destruction and looting. And, for the first time in 75 years, New York City finds itself under a nightly curfew. All of this has played out against the backdrop of a horrific pandemic that has disproportionately ravaged black and Latino communities. In this special virtual town hall, an outspoken and esteemed group of community leaders joins us for an in-depth look at the volatile situation unfolding on city streets.

## **Race Matters: America in Crisis: A PBS Newshour Special**

*Airdate/Time:* June 6, 2020, 6pm; June 7, 2020, 7pm

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* Examine the frustration pouring out onto American streets, outrage about police brutality, and America's deep systemic racial disparities in the economy, education, criminal justice system, and health care, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Trouble Waters: A Turtle Tale**

*Airdate/Time:* April 6, 2020, 8pm; April 8, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* Narrated by actor Peter Coyote, TROUBLED WATERS: A TURTLE'S TALE features interviewers with marine biologists, ocean conservation experts and volunteers who rehabilitate injured, sick sea turtles and return them to the wild. The documentary examines the effects of global warming, water pollution, red tide and other human-made problems endangering sea turtles, including boat strikes, entanglement in fishing gear, and the dramatic escalation of a tumor-causing virus.

### **Saving The Great Swamp: Battle to Defeat**

*Airdate/Time:* April 22, 2020, 8pm; April 24, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-minutes each

*Description:* Narrated by actress Blythe Danner, SAVING THE GREAT SWAMP: BATTLE TO DEFEAT THE JETPORT is a one-hour documentary chronicling a historic struggle to preserve a rural area of New Jersey between 1959 and 1968. The fight began when the powerful Port Authority of New York announced plans to construct a huge 10,000 acre "jetport" 26 miles west of New York City, in an area known as the "great swamp." In the name of progress, entire towns would be obliterated, the aquifer and wildlife destroyed for miles around, and a way-of-life for thousands of people threatened. The events that followed became one of the most defining environmental confrontations of its time - a grassroots movement that started in a local high school and grew to historic proportions. It was a battle that took almost a decade, a President and an Act of Congress to stop, and ultimately led to the creation of a national treasure - the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The documentary features in-depth interviews with residents, historians, authors and officials connected to the events, as well as a rich visual tapestry of historic film footage, archival photographs, graphic animation and striking cinematography of the Great Swamp today which help bring the story to life.

### **Wild Weather**

*Airdate/Time:* May 4, 2020, 9pm; May 6, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 60-minutes each

*Description:* Watch an innovative documentary that illustrates how weather works by performing brave, ambitious (even unlikely) experiments that show how nature transforms simple ingredients like wind, water and temperature into something spectacular and powerful.

### **Nova #4410 "Poisoned Water"**

*Airdate/Time:* May 11, 2020, 9pm; May 13, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 60-minutes each

*Description:* The water contamination crisis in Flint, MI, has revealed a disturbing truth about the vulnerabilities of our aging drinking water infrastructure. Discover the chemistry, biology and engineering that led to this disaster.

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## **HEALTH**

### **Nova #4509 "Transporting Hope"**

*Date/Time:* April 6, 2020, 9pm; April 8, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* Follow the patients who desperately need transplants to save their lives, see the profound decisions families face in donating the organs of loved ones who die, and learn about the critical shortage of organs and new research into "organs by design."

### **Nova #4705 "Cuba's Cancer Hope"**

*Date/Time:* April 13, 2020, 9pm; April 15, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* When the U.S. trade embargo left Cuba isolated from medical resources, Cuban scientists developed their own biotech industry - and promising lung cancer vaccines. This program asks - can they now team up with U.S. partners to make the treatments available to all?

### **Nova #4706 "The Truth About Fat"**

*Date/Time:* April 20, 2020, 9pm; April 22, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* Scientists are coming to understand fat as a system akin to an organ -- one whose size may have more to do with biological processes than personal choices. Explore the mysteries of fat and its role in hormone production, hunger and even pregnancy.

## **Inheritance**

*Airdate/Time:* April 27, 2020, 9pm; April 29, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 120-minutes

*Description:* Meet three women who are genetically predisposed to breast cancer. Follow Alejandra, Lilith and Bonnie as they undergo life-altering medical procedures in the hope of reducing their risk -- and saving their lives.

## **METROFOCUS**

*Airdate/Time:* June 3, 2020, 5:30pm

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* This episode covered the following: Why has the George Floyd incident inspired such a widespread response? Will this crisis end by bringing us closer together or tearing us further apart? And as we witness a massive lack of social distancing during these protests, will we see a corresponding recurrence of covid-19 as we prepare to reopen? Former New Jersey Secretary of State and Baptist pastor Deforest Soaries Jr. shares his perspective on the nationwide protests playing out against the backdrop of the pandemic. A vaccine could be ready by Fall pending FDA approval. Will it be safe and effective? Will it be made readily available to everyone? And who'll decide who gets priority access? And will there be treatments for everyone else? While there are currently no approved therapies, there is plenty of controversy and misinformation surrounding drug therapies and treatment. A former FDA official named one of the 300 "most powerful people in American healthcare" by Modern Healthcare Magazine weighs in on our safety as the city readies to reopen for business.

## **Nova #4710 "Decoding COVID-9"**

*Date/Time:* June 15, 2020, 9pm; June 17, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* The coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 has upended life as we know it in a matter of mere months. But at the same time, an unprecedented global effort to understand and contain the virus-and find a treatment for the disease it causes-is underway. Join the doctors on the front lines of the fight against COVID-19 as they strategize to stop the spread, and meet the researchers racing to find treatments and vaccines. Along the way, discover how this devastating disease emerged, what it does to the human body, and why it exploded into a pandemic.

## **NJTV News**

*Airdate/Time:* June 26, 2020, 6pm; 7:30pm, 11pm; June 27, 2020, 6:30am

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* This episode covered the following: The Murphy administration has released its fall COVID-19 school guidelines. It is all about social distancing, which means rearranging classrooms, limiting class sizes, class schedule changes, relying on remote learning and districts preparing for a second wave. A public health crisis could require an immediate switch to all-remote learning at any time. And, of course, guidelines included encouragement for all students and others to cover their faces. Health officials Friday reported 524 new confirmed cases across New Jersey. Total infections now for the Garden State are 170,584. They reported an additional 44 deaths, with a total of 13,060. This total does not include the newly-reported COVID-19 probable deaths. That number is 1,854.

## **HERITAGE**

### **After Auschwitz**

*Airdate/Time:* April 2, 2020, 8pm; April 4, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-min.

*Description:* Six Jewish women who survived the Holocaust - Eva Beckmann, Erika Jacoby, Rena Drexler, Lili Majzner, Renee Firestone and Linda Sherman - tell their extraordinary life stories. When Auschwitz was liberated in January 1945, it was the beginning of a lifelong struggle for these survivors. AFTER AUSCHWITZ recounts how the six women have built their lives since the war - getting married, immigrating to America, building careers, and raising children and grandchildren - while looking for a way to understand their trauma and loss.

### **Congressman John Lewis and Andrew Aydin: The Story of March**

*Airdate/Time:* April 3, 2020, 10:30pm

*Length:* 30-min.

*Description:* U.S. Congressman and civil rights activist John Lewis and Andrew Aydin discuss their graphic novel trilogy, "March," at an October 2019 appearance at the Flynn Center in Burlington, VT. The trilogy is an autobiographical account about the Civil Rights Movement, told through the perspective of U.S. Congressman John Lewis. The series is written by Rep. Lewis and Andrew Aydin, and illustrated and lettered by Nate Powell. The graphic novel, March: Book One, was selected as the Vermont Humanities Council's Vermont Reads choice for 2019.

### **Good Nazi**

*Airdate/Time:* April 16, 2020, 8pm; April 18, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-min.

*Description:* Major Karl Plagge was an officer in the Nazi German army who rejected the evil ideology and single-handedly protected more than 1,000 Jews in a Lithuanian labor camp, of which about 200 were ultimately saved from death. THE GOOD NAZI brings to light the tale of a German officer who listened to his conscience instead of his superiors.

### **Auschwitz Remembered: An NYC-Arts Special**

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### **Inside the Vatican**

*Airdate/Time:* May 28, 2020, 9pm; May 30, 2020, 3am

*Length:* 120-min.

*Description:* Goes inside the daily lives of those who live and work in the Vatican. From the Pope to the gardener to the head of security, the film gives rare behind-the-scenes access to the inner workings of the city-state.

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## **LAW & POLITICS**

### **METROFOCUS**

*Airdate/Time:* May 6, 2020, 5:30pm

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* In this episode, Nassau County Executive Laura Curran joins MetroFocus to discuss where her county is currently in terms of meeting Governor Cuomo's criteria for reopening New York's regional economies. While conceding that Long Island lags behind the rest of the state in hitting those benchmarks, Curran says she believes Nassau County is actually closer than some of the current data suggests. Curran also addresses the challenges in meeting some of the guidelines, particularly when it comes to expanding testing and hiring thousands of new employees to conduct contact tracing. The County Executive also talks about the economic impact on the local community and describes steps her administration is taking along with business leaders to reopen safely. She also talks about the resources the county is making available to tackle the issues of domestic violence and mental health. And finally, she lays out how officials are enforcing social distancing guidelines in Nassau County's beaches, parks, and marinas.

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*Description:* Examine the frustration pouring out onto American streets, outrage about police brutality, and America's deep systemic racial disparities in the economy, education, criminal justice system, and health care, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **METROFOCUS**

*Airdate/Time:* June 22, 2020, 5:30pm

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* This episode covered the following: As New York enters phase two, a preview of the primary elections that could turn out to be the most unpredictable in modern history. With the outcomes of many competitive races left up in the air on Election Night because of hundreds of thousands of voters casting ballots by mail, examines discussed how it will all play out at the polls? Joseph Pinion, Founder and Chairman of the Conservative Color Coalition, Dr. Christina Greer, Associate Professor of Political Science at Fordham University and Ben Max, Executive

Editor at the Gotham Gazette join us to preview the most watched races and the impact of the current climate- from political feuds to protests- will have at the polls.

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## **WOMEN**

### **Secrets of the Dead #1502 “Cleopatra’s Lost Tomb”**

*Airdate/Time:* April 30, 2020, 8pm; May 2, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* Learn about the legendary queen Cleopatra, who ruled the Egyptian empire. Looks at whether an amateur archaeologist's theory reveal where the queen's lost tomb is hidden.

### **Queens at War**

*Airdate/Time:* May 7, 2020, 8pm; May 9, 2020, 2am; May 10, 2020, 11pm

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* Learn how the longest reigning monarch in British history was shaped by World War II. Princess Elizabeth's experiences during the war mirrored those of the public and helped shape her into the Queen she is today.

### **Drive By History #401 - SUFFRAGE: THE WOMEN WHO WON THE VOTE**

*Airdate/Time:* May 13, 2020, 8pm; May 15, 2020, 2am; May 17, 2020, 9:30am; May 18, 2020, 10:30pm; May 20, 2020, 4:30am & 11:30pm; June 12, 2020, 10:30pm

*Length:* 30-minutes

*Description:* Rare photographs, private access to the NJ home of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and a modern day LI suffragist are all part of this investigation, as Host Ken Magos explores our region's many connections to the women who won the right to vote.

### **Quakers: The Quiet Revolutionaries**

*Airdate/Time:* May 14, 2020, 8pm; May 16, 2020, 2am

*Length:* 60-minutes

*Description:* QUAKERS: THE QUIET REVOLUTIONARIES explores Quakerism from its beginnings in the 1600s, to its present-day practice and ideology. With their commitment to civic engagement and equality, Quakers have influenced the course of political and social change in America. The documentary profiles Quakers from Susan B. Anthony to Bayard Rustin who have influenced important social movements throughout U.S. history - such as the abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, civil rights, environmental justice and world peace.

### **Rise Up: Songs of the Women's Movement**

*Airdate/Time:* June 4, 2020, 8pm; June 6, 2020, 9:30pm; June 7, 2020, 6:30pm

*Length:* 90-minutes

*Description:* Celebrates the centennial of women's right to vote through popular music, including performances by Aretha Franklin, Lesley Gore, Helen Reddy, Loretta Lynn, Gloria Gaynor, Dolly Parton, Joan Jett, Cyndi Lauper, Melissa Etheridge, Tina Turner and more.

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