

QUARTERLY PROGRAM TOPIC REPORT
WETA TV26 PROGRAMMING

1st Quarter 2020
January, February, March

As the program schedule for WETA TV26 is planned, consideration is given to a variety of special interests in the Washington metropolitan area. During January, February, March, the following issues were covered in a variety of programming.

American History / Biography
Arts
Business / Industry
Crime / Legal Issues / Law Enforcement
Economy
Environment / Nature / Natural Disasters
Health / Health Care
National Politics
Science / Technology
War / Veterans / National Security

The programming listed below represents ongoing series that continually touch upon the previously mentioned topics.

Amanpour and Company (Weeknights)
BBC World News America (Weeknights)
Firing Line with Margaret Hoover (Weekend)
Frontline (Weekly)
Nightly Business Report (Weeknights)
Open Mind (Weekend)
PBS NewsHour (Weeknights)
PBS NewsHour Weekend (Weekends)
To the Contrary (Weekly)
Washington Week (Weekly))

Top Categories
Quarterly Program Topic Report
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American History / Biography

MCCARTHY: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (120) minutes

Aired January 6, 2020 at 10:00pm

Explore the rise and fall of the notorious senator who led a Cold War crusade against Communists. His zealous campaign to root out those he viewed as enemies of the state would test the limits of American decency and democracy.

MILES DAVIS: AMERICAN MASTERS (120) minutes

Aired February 25, 2020 at 9:00pm

Discover the man behind the legend. With full access to the Miles Davis Estate, the film features never-before-seen footage, including studio outtakes from his recording sessions, rare photos and new interviews.

INN AT LITTLE WASHINGTON: A DELICIOUS DOCUMENTARY (60) minutes

Aired March 23, 2020 at 9:00pm

Meet Patrick O'Connell, a self-taught chef whose restaurant, The Inn at Little Washington, is considered one of the greatest dining experiences in America. Follow Chef O'Connell's pursuit of the ultimate culinary accolade: a third Michelin star.

Arts

DAVE CHAPELLE: THE MARK TWAIN PRIZE (90) minutes

Aired January 7, 2020 at 9:00pm

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts presents the 22nd annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor to Dave Chappelle.

NOVA: DECODING DAVINCI (60) minutes

Aired February 26, 2020 at 10:00pm

Discover the man behind the legend. With full access to the Miles Davis Estate, the film features never-before-seen footage, including studio outtakes from his recording sessions, rare photos and new interviews.

RISE UP: SONGS OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT (90) minutes

Aired March 4, 2020 at 8:00pm

Celebrate 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.

Business / Industry

POISON SQUAD: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (120) minutes

Aired January 28, 2020 at 9:00pm

Discover the forgotten heroes who fought for food safety at the turn of the 20th century. Unusual experiments and tireless advocacy led by a government chemist changed the way Americans thought about food, health and consumer safety forever.

FRONTLINE: AMAZON EMPIRE: THE RISE AND REIGN OF JEFF BEZOS (120) minutes

Aired February 18, 2020 at 9:00pm

Examining Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos' ascent to power and the global impact of the empire he built. The film also investigates the darker side of the company's rapid growth, and the challenge of trying to rein in the power of the richest man in the world.

SUZE ORMAN'S ULTIMATE RETIREMENT GUIDE (120) minutes

Aired March 6, 2020 at 8:30pm

Join the acclaimed personal finance expert for essential advice on planning for and thriving in retirement. With empathy, straight talk and humor, Suze provides information about key steps for anyone trying to achieve their "ultimate retirement."

Crime / Legal Issues / Law Enforcement

INDEPENDENT LENS: THE FIRST RAINBOW COALITION (60) minutes

Aired January 27, 2020 at 10:00pm

In 1969, the Chicago Black Panther Party began to form alliances across lines of race and ethnicity with other community-based movements in the city, including the Latino group the Young Lords Organization and the southern whites of the Young Patriots organization. Banding together in one of the most segregated cities in postwar America to collectively confront issues such as police brutality and substandard housing, they called themselves the Rainbow Coalition. By 1973, the coalition had collapsed under the weight of relentless harassment by local and federal law enforcement. Although short-lived, it had an outsize impact: Breaking down barriers between communities, it created a permanent shift in Chicago politics and an organizing model for future activists and politicians across the nation. The First Rainbow Coalition tells the movement's little-known story through rare archival footage and interviews with former coalition members.

PBS NEWSHOUR SPECIAL COVERAGE: THE SENATE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL (180) minutes

Aired February 3, 2020 at 8:00pm

Coverage of the Senate Impeachment trial with commentary provided by PBS NewsHour.

FRONTLINE: NRA UNDER FIRE (60) minutes

Aired March 24, 2020 at 10:00pm

Once an unrivaled political power, the NRA is facing challenges from all sides. How the NRA aligned with President Trump and his base, but is under attack ahead of the 2020 election.

Economy

FRONTLINE: AMERICA'S GREAT DIVIDE: OBAMA TO TRUMP, PT. 1 (120) minutes

Aired January 13, 2020 at 9:00pm

An investigation into America's increasingly bitter, divided and toxic politics. Episode One traces how Barack Obama's promise of unity collapsed as increasing racial, cultural and political divisions laid the groundwork for the rise of Donald Trump.

PBS NEWSHOUR SPECIAL COVERAGE: STATE OF THE UNION (120) minutes

Aired February 4, 2020 at 9:00pm

Live coverage and commentary on the President of the United State's address to the nation.

INFLUENZA 1918: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (60) minutes

Aired March 19, 2020 at 9:00pm

Examine the social ramifications of the 1918 flu epidemic that killed 675,000--more than those killed in all the major wars of the 20th century--and how it affected those who lived through it.

Environment / Nature / Natural Disasters

OZONE HOLE: HOW WE SAVED THE PLANET (60) minutes

Aired January 8, 2020 at 10:00pm

Discover the forgotten story of the hole in the ozone layer and how the world came together to fix it. Hear from the scientists and politicians who persuaded Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher to take action and solve the planetary problem.

NOVA: POLAR EXTREMES (120) minutes

Aired February 6, 2020 at 8:00pm

Following a trail of fossils found in all the wrong places -- beech trees in Antarctica, redwoods and hippo-like mammals in the Arctic -- uncover the bizarre history of the poles, from miles-thick ice sheets to warm polar forests teeming with life.

THE PLASTICS PROBLEM: PBS NEWSHOUR PRESENTS (60) minutes

Aired March 31, 2020 at 8:00pm

By 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the oceans. PBS NewsHour takes a closer look at this now ubiquitous material, how it's impacting the world and ways we can break our plastic addiction.

Health / Health Care

AGING BACKWARDS 3 W/MIRANDA ESMONDE WHITE (60) minutes

Aired January 1, 2020 at 8:00pm

When Alabama closed a regional hospital, the warden of Metro Jail says that the population of people with mental illness doubled at their facility. Trey Oliver says they often see the same people repeatedly, people who should have a different kind of around-the-clock care. Oliver gives his brief but spectacular take on why incarceration cannot solve mental illness and life at his jail.

AMANPOUR AND COMPANY (60) minutes

Aired February 3, 2020 at 11:30pm

Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman argues that it won't matter much which Democrat wins the 2020 presidential nomination. Journalist Kim Ghattas joins Christiane to discuss her new book "Black Wave." Washington Post reporter Paige Winfield Cunningham sits down with Hari to explain the role of healthcare in the 2020 election.

CONFRONTING CORONAVIRUS: A PBS NEWSHOUR SPECIAL (60 minutes)

Aired March 19, 2020 at 8:00pm

This special focuses on health precautions for individuals and the public-at-large as well as the pandemic's economic impact in both the United States and globally. Anchored by NewsHour's managing editor Judy Woodruff, it includes interviews with officials; reporting from NewsHour's bench of special correspondents throughout the world; and a virtual town hall with curated questions from people across America, to be moderated by NewsHour correspondents Amna Nawaz and William Brangham.

National Politics / Government

THE DEMOCRACY REBELLION (60) minutes

Aired January 6, 2020 at 9:00pm

Join Ann Curry as two women search for friends and colleagues who forged a path for equal rights. One of the first female commercial pilots wants to thank her mentor, and an advocate hopes to find the woman who inspired her to join a movement.

IOWA CAUCUSES: PBS NEWSHOUR VOTE 2020 (30) minutes

Aired February 3, 2020 at 11:00pm

Coverage of the 2020 Iowa Presidential Caucuses.

EAST LAKE MEADOWS: A PUBLIC HOUSING STORY (120) minutes

Aired March 24, 2020 at 8:00pm

Learn the history of East Lake Meadows, a former public housing community in Atlanta. Stories from residents reveal hardship and resilience, and raise critical questions about race, poverty and who is deserving of public assistance.

Science / Technology

NOVA: INNER WORLDS (60) minutes

Aired January 8, 2020 at 9:00pm

The rocky planets - Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars - were born of similar material around the same time, yet only one supports life. Were Earth's neighbors always so extreme? Is there somewhere else in the solar system where life might flourish?

NOVA: MYSTERIES OF SLEEP (60) minutes

Aired February 20, 2020 at 9:00pm

Like virtually every other animal, humans need sleep to survive. But why? Scientists peer into the brain to see what happens while we snooze and understand the powerful role that sleep - or lack of it - plays in memory, trauma and emotion regulation.

NOVA: TRANSPLANTING HOPE (60) minutes

Aired March 25, 2020 at 9:00 pm

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."

War / Veterans / National Security

FRONTLINE: TARGETING EL PASO (60) minutes

Aired January 7, 2020 at 10:30pm

How El Paso became Trump's immigration testing ground and then the target of a white supremacist. With interviews of current and former officials, border patrol agents, advocates and migrants, the inside story from the epicenter of the border crisis.

AMANPOUR AND COMPANY (60) minutes

Aired February 10, 2020 at 11:30pm

Jan Egeland joins Christiane Amanpour to give an update on the situation in Syria as Bashar al-Assad's regime tries to crush the last rebel-held territory in Idlib. Film critics A. O. Scott and Karen Han join Christiane to discuss "Parasite's" historic win at the Oscars. Latif Nasser and Carol Rosenberg join Hari Sreenivasan to tell the story of Abdul Latif Nasir, detainee 244 at Guantanamo Bay.

PBS NEWSHOUR (60) minutes

Aired March 19, 2020 at 7:00pm

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."