

**NJ PBS
ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT
January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024**

ARTS & CULTURE

State of the Arts #4204

Airdate/Time: 1/24/24, 8:30pm; 1/25/24, 11:30pm; 1/26/23, 2:30am; 1/27/24, 7:30pm; 1/29/24, 5:30am

Length: 30-minutes

Description: This episode of State of the Arts brings together four remarkable Black women. Artist Janet Taylor Pickett played with Henri Matisse's joyful use of color and pattern, as well as his African inspiration in her 2017 exhibition, "The Matisse Series" at the Montclair Art Museum. Rider University professor Sheena Howard is an expert in the field of Black comics, and the author of the Encyclopedia of Black Comics. Laiona Michelle wrote and starred in Little Girl Blue: The Nina Simone Musical, which premiered in 2019 at the George Street Playhouse. And, a visit in 2021 to the New Brunswick studio of Grace Lynne Haynes, whose work has appeared on covers of the New Yorker.

Symphony Celebration: The Blind Boys of Alabama with Dr. Henry Panion, III

Airdate/Time: 2/13/24, 10pm; 2/15/24, 4am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: A SYMPHONY CELEBRATION: THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA WITH DR. HENRY PANION, III focuses on messages of humanity, peace and love. The program features the five-time Grammy-winning Blind Boys of Alabama with conductor Dr. Henry Panion, III, and a full symphony orchestra. Hailed as "Gospel Titans" by Rolling Stone magazine, this beloved group - which has collaborated with everyone from Mavis Staples to Stevie Wonder to Prince on the world's most prestigious stages rose to fame in the segregated South with their thrilling vocal harmonies and roof-raising live shows. The concert features a combined choir from Alabama's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), including Alabama State, Alabama A&M, Miles College, Tuskegee University and Talladega College. Choirs from Birmingham Southern College and the University of Alabama at Birmingham also join the show. Dr. Panion has arranged and orchestrated many of the Blind Boys' classic hits for this unique presentation. The program also includes compelling, story-driven vignettes about the artists and their songs.

Gospel Live! Presented by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Airdate/Time: 2/20/24, 9:45pm; 2/22/24, 3:45am & 4:30pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: GOSPEL Live! Presented by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. is a concert celebration honoring the legacy of Gospel music in America. As a companion to GOSPEL, hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., secular and gospel artists sing their favorite gospel classics.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The Cost of Inheritance: An America Reframed Special

Airdate/Time: 1/18/24, 10pm; 1/20/24, 4am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Explore the issue of reparations for African-Americans. Building on key issues of diversity and democracy; slavery and its aftermath; and socio-economic indicators, this documentary puts real people and their family histories into the reparations debate. Personal stories, expert interviews and rich archival materials underscored by evocative music weaves a narrative around the issue of reparations today so many years after the historical understanding of the end of slavery in America. Noted speakers address the cumulative impact that Reconstruction, Black Laws, Jim Crow, modern day violence, discrimination added to divergent wealth trajectories and opportunities firmly rooted in the system of enslavement. Individuals seeking to bridge our human divide share their reparations quests and we begin to understand the myriad of initiatives already happening across the country on local, state & national levels to make reparations a reality.

Niagara Movement: The Early Battle for Civil Rights

Airdate/Time: 2/8/24, 10pm; 2/10/24, 4am; 2/14/24 at 4:30pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT: THE EARLY BATTLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS is a one-hour documentary focused on the formation and impact of the first civil rights movement of the 20th century. The program traces the social and economic conditions of African Americans at the turn of the 20th century, examines the different strategies for racial advancement led by Black leaders of the time, explores the creation of the Niagara Movement, and places the movement's legacy into a contemporary context.

Pullman and the Railroad Rebellion: American Stories

Airdate/Time: 2/29/24, 10pm; 3/2/23, 4am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: In 1864, the powerful industrialist and engineer George Pullman brought luxury to overnight train travel with his revolutionary sleeping cars. Passengers aboard these rail cars were served by former slaves who became known as Pullman Porters and Maids. Pullman soon established a company town for employees on Chicago's South Side, giving him complete autonomy over every aspect of their lives. PULLMAN AND THE RAILROAD REBELLION: AMERICAN STORIES recounts the bloody rebellion that followed as Pullman's workers fought for their independence.

ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Pathway to Success #501

Airdate/Time: 1/6/24, 9am; 1/9/24, 11:30pm

Length: 30-minutes

Description: Gary Mann, CEO/Founder of Jafel Analytics, discusses technology, data engineering and AI as well as his humble beginnings growing up in Newark and his commitment to be a role model to kids of color.

NJ Business Beat with Raven Santana #116

Airdate/Time: 1/20/24, 5pm; 1/21/24, 9:30am

Length: 30-minutes

Description: Newark is experiencing economic growth and expansion in large part due to its small business community. Raven Santana sits down with Mayor Ras Baraka to discuss his economic vision for the city, his solutions for the affordable housing crisis and whether he'll make a run for governor. Plus, Raven talks to Newark business owners and leaders about the city's diverse business landscape.

Que Pasa NJ! #501

Airdate/Time: 3/9/24, 9am; 3/12/24, 11:30pm

Length: 30-minutes

Description: Carlos chats with Roly Acosta (Jag Companies CEO) and Virginia Camanno (National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals); Luis DeLaHoz and Marco Gonzalez (NJ Hispanic Chamber of Commerce) discuss the NJ Disparity Study.

ENVIRONMENT

Rivers of Life #201

Airdate/Time: 1/8/24, 8pm; 1/10/24, 2am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: From surfers riding mysterious waves in deep gorges, to elephants battling rapids above Victoria falls, the largest curtain of water on earth. This is the story of the wildlife and people of the Zambezi, Africa's extraordinary shape-shifting river.

NOVA #4804 "Reef Rescue"

Airdate/Time: 2/5/24, 9pm; 2/7/24, 3am & 4:30pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: If oceans continue to warm at the current pace, coral reefs could be wiped out by the end of the century. But scientists from around the globe are rushing to help corals adapt to a changing climate through assisted evolution.

NOVA #5101 "When Whales Could Walk"

Airdate/Time: 2/19/24, 9pm; 2/21/24, 3am & 4:30pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: A spectacular fossil graveyard reveals a 43-million-year-old whale that had four legs and could walk. Follow scientists as they search for new clues to how mammals moved from land into the sea to become the largest animals on Earth.

HERITAGE

Finding Your Roots #1001

Airdate/Time: 1/11/24, 8pm; 1/13/24, 2am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Henry Louis Gates, Jr. explores the remarkable roots of singers Alanis Morissette and Ciara, using DNA analysis and genealogical detective work to travel back centuries, revealing his guest's hidden connections to history and to music.

Gospel #101

Airdate/Time: 2/29/24, 9pm; 3/2/24, 3am; 3/4/24, 4:30pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: GOSPEL's hour 1 takes viewers north to Chicago, where southern migrants Thomas A. Dorsey, Mahalia Jackson and Sister Rosetta Tharpe fused blues and jazz with testimonies of God's goodness to create a genre enduring for generations. Deeply connected to earth, sky, water, and all living things. This belief is rooted in millennia of living on this land and continues to resonate in the lives of Native Americans to this day.

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Playing Frisbee in North Korea

Airdate/Time: 1/11/24, 10pm, 1/13/24, 4am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Called "The Hermit Kingdom," North Korea is an enigma wrapped in a quagmire of misinformation, international distrust, and fear. In the middle of this are the people of North Korea,

isolated from the world by their own government. PLAYING FRISBEE IN NORTH KOREA is a documentary from inside North Korea, produced and directed by filmmaker and professor Savanna Washington, who visited the country under a tourist visa. Crossing the bridge into North Korea from China, the country seems trapped in time. Each family is under constant surveillance and any breach or disparaging word against Kim Jong Un or the Kim family dynasty could result in detention inside a brutal forced labor camp. It's in this environment that Savanna manages to capture images of daily life in North Korea by shooting undercover in prohibited areas, despite official minders who keep the tour group separate from everyday North Koreans. Through interviews with North Korean refugees, long-time aid workers, scholars, and experts, the film provides both a historical overview of the country and an authentic, on-the-ground perspective of the lives, struggles, and humanity of the people of North Korea. PLAYING FRISBEE IN NORTH KOREA also underscores how everyday human moments - such as a simple game between visitors and locals - can contribute to greater understanding and inspire change.

LAW & POLITICS

NJ Spotlight News Special Coverage 2024 State of the State

Airdate/Time: 1/9/24, 3:30pm

Length: 90-minutes

Description: Live coverage and analysis of Governor Phil Murphy's annual State of the State Address, including the Republican rebuttal.

Chat Box with David Cruz #418

Airdate/Time: 2/17/24, 6:30pm; 2/18/23, 10:30am

Length: 30-minutes

Description: David Cruz talks with N.J. Legislative Black Caucus Chair Asw. Shavonda Sumter (D-35th) Rev. Charles Boyer (Salvation & Social Justice) & James Gee (Stono Public Affairs) on political progress & priorities for Black voters in upcoming elections. Later, fmr. U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley, discusses his documentary "Rolling Along," chronicling his political & personal life & the current state of politics.

NJ Spotlight News Special Coverage 2025 Budget Address

Airdate/Time: 2/27/24, 2pm

Length: 90-minutes

Description: Live coverage of Governor Phil Murphy's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Address in Trenton, including GOP response.

Reporters Roundtable with David Cruz #3623

Airdate/Time: 3/23/24, 6pm; 3/24/24, 10am

Length: 30-minutes

Description: David Cruz talks with Julia Sass Rubin (Bloustein School, Rutgers) about Rep. Andy Kim's party line lawsuit, being an expert witness in the case & history impact of the line. Reporters Colleen O'Dea (NJ Spotlight News), P. Kenneth Burns (WHYY) & Sean Sullivan (NJ.com) discuss Sen. Menendez not running for reelection as a Democrat, tweaking the OPRA bill & our "Only in Jersey" moments of the week.

WOMEN'S ISSUES

Bonnie Bosell Presents: Savings Moms

Airdate/Time: 3/7/24, 10pm; 3/9/24, 4pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Reporter Bonnie Boswell's latest conversation with leading experts examines why groups of women disproportionately experience higher mortality rates related to pregnancy and childbirth in the country. Boswell addresses disparities and contributing factors that result in poor health outcomes for mothers and babies as well as ways local public health professionals are combatting the national crisis.

Jane Addams – Together We Rise: American Stories

Airdate/Time: 3/14/24, 10pm; 3/16/24, 4pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Jane Addams, born into wealth and privilege, became intrigued by social reform after visiting a settlement house in London's impoverished East End. An inheritance made it possible for her to bring that concept to Chicago with the creation of Hull House in 1889. JANE ADDAMS - TOGETHER WE RISE: AMERICAN STORIES is a documentary that profiles this Nobel Peace Prize-winning activist and the cadre of persistent women who joined her to enrich the lives of thousands of immigrant women and children, inspiring others around the world to follow their lead.

Where I Became:

Airdate/Time: 3/28/24, 9:30pm; 3/30/24, 3:30am

Length: 90-minutes

Description: WHERE I BECAME traces the story of 14 women who left apartheid in South Africa to attend Smith College in the U.S. The film, narrated in their own voices and filmed between South Africa and the U.S., follows their stories from childhood to discovering themselves through the power of higher education.