

WGCU
Fort Myers, FL
PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report
October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Arts

Series Title: Becoming Frida Kahlo
Episode Title: A Star Is Born
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/3/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:00

Dangerous politics and turbulent love shock Frida's world, while love and trauma shape her final years. Diego and she divorce, then remarry. As her body fails her, her painting thrives.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 109
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/30/2023 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:05:43

Last year, artist Simone Leigh represented the U.S. at what is widely considered the world's most important exhibition of contemporary art, the Venice Biennale. She was the first Black woman to have that honor. Now, there's a chance to see her work in a retrospective touring the country. Jeffrey Brown meets the artist for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 112
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/5/2023 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:01

The Roots are one of hip-hop's most important and influential groups and lead lyricist and emcee Tariq Trotter, better known by his stage name Black Thought, has established himself among the leading rappers. The Grammy-winner tells his own story in, "The Upcycled Self: A Memoir on the Art of Becoming Who We Are." Jeffrey Brown spoke with Trotter for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Culture

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: The Sunken Basilica
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/11/2023 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:55:15

2014, Turkey. A normal survey flight over Lake Iznik unexpectedly reveals the sunken remains a 4th century basilica. The discovery prompts scientists to probe the elusive history and geology behind the demise of the church that was built in ancient Nicaea -- now known as Iznik. When was the basilica destroyed? How did the basilica get swallowed up by Lake Iznik? And what happened to its community? Spanning the globe, this investigation follows a world-renowned team in this underwater excavation. Thanks to exclusive access to the site, including critical aerial and underwater cinematography, and spectacular CGI, we time travel through the centuries, back to the Roman and Byzantine time, and at the foundation of Christianity itself.

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Hidden in the Amazon
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/15/2023 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Recent discoveries and technological advances shed new light on our understanding of pre-Columbian societies in the Amazon. Scientists speculate the rainforest was home to between 8 and 10 million people living in large, well-established communities.

Series Title: Lucy Worsley's 12 Days of Tudor Christmas
Episode Title:
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/11/2023 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:00:00

Join Lucy Worsley on a 12-day extravaganza as she discovers that much of what we enjoy in contemporary Christmas — from carols to turkey, gift-giving to mistletoe and mulled wine — has surprising Tudor origins, rooted in devotion and charity.

Environment/Nature/Natural Disasters

Series Title: America Outdoors with Baratunde Thurston
Episode Title: Utah: Choose Your Path
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/4/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

From paragliding over the Great Salt Lake to canyon climbing to discovering the science behind nature's healing powers, Baratunde journeys west to find out what modern day pilgrims are seeking in Utah's outdoor spaces.

Series Title: Spy in the Ocean, A Nature Miniseries
Episode Title: Deep Feelings
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/1/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Spy creatures explore animal emotions and the deep feelings we share. With surfing dolphins, kissing manatees and sensitive cuttlefish, witness the emotional rollercoaster of life in the sea.

Series Title: Nature
Episode Title: Penguins: Meet the Family
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/27/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

A unique celebration of one of Earth's most iconic and beloved birds, featuring all 18 species of penguins for the first time, from New Zealand, Cape Town, the Galapagos Islands and Antarctica. Witness the perils penguins face for survival, from rock climbing to extreme temperatures to predators. Meet the penguins that seem out of place, making their living in dense forests, desert islands and even city streets. Watch how these creatures parent and form lifelong bonds. Discover how scientists identified 37 new colonies of Emperor penguins in Antarctica without even traveling to the continent. Experience penguins' heart-warming family dynamics, like chicks bonding with their fathers, alongside astonishing adaptations and behaviors unique to these aquatic birds.

Family/Marriage

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Family: Lost and Found
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/3/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates uses DNA detective work to solve family mysteries for actor Joe Manganiello and football star Tony Gonzalez—uncovering close relatives whose names they've never heard and compelling each man to rethink his own identity.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Mexican Roots
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/14/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and guests Mario Lopez and Melissa Villaseñor look at the Mexican American experience as seen through the lens of two families.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Country Roots
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/19/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. uncovers the remarkably diverse backgrounds of country music icons Clint Black and Rosanne Cash.

Health/Healthcare

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 77
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/17/2023 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:03:47

Melinda French Gates envisions a world where women and their newborns remain healthy before, during and after childbirth. The Gates Foundation reported staggering numbers surrounding maternal mortality and offers several interventions that have the potential to save the lives of 2 million mothers and babies by 2030. She gives her Brief But Spectacular take on making birth safer.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: The Battle to Beat Malaria
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/15/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Are scientists on the verge of a breakthrough in the fight against malaria, one of humanity's oldest and most devastating plagues? Follow researchers as they develop and test a promising new vaccine on a quest to save millions of lives.

Series Title: POV
Episode Title: How to Have an American Baby
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 12/13/2023 03:00:00 AM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:56:46

Voyage into the shadow economy catering to Chinese tourists traveling to the U.S. to give birth for citizenship. Through a series of intimate vignettes, this story depicts the fortunes and tragedies that befall the ordinary

Minorities/Civil Rights

Series Title: Native America
Episode Title: New Worlds
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/24/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Native innovators lead a revolution in music, building, and space exploration. From the surface of Mars to the New York City hip hop scene to the Pine Ridge Reservation, Native traditions are transforming life on Earth and other worlds.

Series Title: Native America
Episode Title: Women Rule
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/7/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Native women are leading, innovating, and inspiring in the arts, politics, and protecting the planet. NATIVE AMERICA explores the diverse ways they carry forward deep traditions to better their communities, their lands, and the world.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 129
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/28/2023 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:03:15

Andrés González is a conductor, musician, and advocate for youth music education. He was trained from a young age through El Sistema, a renowned music program in Venezuela, before moving to the United States. He is a mentor at Play on Philly, providing access to music education to low-income and minority students. González shares his Brief But Spectacular take on how music empowers communities.

Science/Technology

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/4/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Early Earth was a hellscape of molten lava and barren rock, bombarded by meteors, with no atmosphere at all. How did our familiar blue sky - the thin, life-giving band of gasses protecting our planet - come to be?

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: Death in Britannia
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/1/2023 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

The discovery of a skeleton, dating to the Roman occupation of Britain, provokes further study after scientists see an iron nail driven through its heel bone. Could the remains belong to someone the Romans crucified? Despite hundreds, if not thousands, of people being crucified in the Roman Empire, only one other crucified skeleton has ever been found in the world. Who was this person? What was his life in Roman Britain like? And what could they have done to receive so harsh a punishment?

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: The Next Pompeii
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/13/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Discover Campi Flegrei, a lesser-known volcano in the shadow of Vesuvius. If it erupts, millions of lives could be at risk. Meet the scientists exploring its geography and developing a warning system to prevent Naples from becoming the next Pompeii.