

**WPPT & WLVT
Philadelphia, PA & Bethlehem, PA
PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report
July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023**

**AMERICAN HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY
CULTURE
ENVIRONMENT/NATURE/NATURAL DISASTERS
FAMILY/MARRIAGE
SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY
TRANSPORTATION
WAR/VET/NATIONAL SECURITY**

AMERICAN HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY

Series Title: Benjamin Franklin
Episode Title: Join or Die
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 7/2/2023 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:56:46

Leaving behind his Boston childhood, Benjamin Franklin reinvents himself in Philadelphia where he builds a printing empire and a new life with his wife, Deborah. Turning to science, Franklin's lightning rod and experiments in electricity earn him worldwide fame. After entering politics, he spends years in London trying to keep Britain and America together as his own family starts to come apart.

Series Title: Fly Boys: Western Pennsylvania's Tuskegee Airmen
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/8/2023 4:00:00 PM
Service: APTX
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:00:00

FLY BOYS: WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA'S TUSKEGEE AIRMEN tells the story of struggle and the ultimate triumph of the brave African-American soldiers who served their country during World War II. The film chronicles the "Tuskegee Airmen" program, a controversial military initiative designed to measure African-Americans' competence for flying the engines of war. This fascinating documentary features the stories of the more than 40 aviators from western Pennsylvania, including the pilots, navigators and bombardiers who flew fighter and bomber planes during the war, as well as the maintenance and support staff, instructors and personnel who kept the planes in the air.

Series Title: American Experience
Episode Title: The Harvest: Integrating Mississippi's Schools
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 9/24/2023 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:46:26

Explore what happened when the small Mississippi town of Leland integrated its public schools in 1970. Told through the remembrances of students, teachers and parents, the film shows how the town – and America – were transformed.

CULTURE

Series Title: Country Music
Episode Title: The Rub
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 7/16/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:56:46

After centuries of percolating in America's immigrant and racial mix, particularly in the American South, what was first called "hillbilly music" begins reaching more people through the new technologies of phonographs and radio. The Carter Family, with their ballads and old hymns, and Jimmie Rodgers, with his combination of blues and yodeling, become its first big stars. Rodgers's career ends when he dies young from tuberculosis.

Series Title: In Their Own Words
Episode Title: Princess Diana
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/31/2023 3:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Meet those closest to Princess Diana and follow her story as she grew from a shy, aristocratic schoolgirl into a dynamic force for change. This is a journey from the inside of her life, and the story of a woman who defied expectations and evolved into one of the most impactful icons of our time.

Series Title: Harbor from the Holocaust
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 9/10/2023 11:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Harbor from the Holocaust is the story of nearly 20,000 Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II, to the Chinese port city of Shanghai. Explore the

extraordinary relationship of these Jews and their adopted city of Shanghai, even through the bitter years of Japanese occupation 1937-1945 and the Chinese civil war that followed.

ENVIRONMENT/NATURE/NATURAL DISASTERS

Series Title: The Queen's Garden
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 7/13/2023 3:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Explore the history and natural history of the remarkable Buckingham Palace Garden.

Series Title: Madagascar: Islands of Wonder
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/30/2023 2:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

The oldest island on Earth, Madagascar has been isolated longer than any other place in the world. Life here has had time to evolve in unusual ways, resulting in more unique wildlife than possibly any other island on the planet.

Series Title: America Outdoors with Baratunde Thurston
Episode Title: Tidewater: Homecoming
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 9/8/2023 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

On the Carolina coast, there's more than sand and surf. Baratunde discovers how our outdoor environments were shaped by a surprising force: history.

FAMILY/MARRIAGE

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Secret Lives
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 7/9/2023 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. helps comedians Carol Burnett and Niecy Nash decode scandals hidden within their roots, exposing secrets that their ancestors concealed and celebrating the virtue of accepting one's relatives—whoever they may be.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Rising From the Ashes
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/6/2023 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. traces the roots of actors Brian Cox and Viola Davis, uncovering records from workhouses in Scotland and slave plantations in South Carolina that reveal individuals who battled to build a better life for their families.

Series Title: Facing Suicide
Length: 90 minutes
Airdate: 9/3/2023 11:30:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:26:46

FACING SUICIDE combines the poignant personal stories of people impacted by suicide with profiles of scientists at the forefront of research to reveal new insights into one of America's most pressing mental health crises. Shining a light on this difficult topic can destigmatize suicide while revealing that there is help as well as hope for those at risk and their loved ones.

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY

Series Title: Ready Jet Go!
Episode Title: Space Camp
Length: 90 minutes
Airdate: 7/26/2023 12:30:00 PM
Service: PBS Kids
Format: Other
Segment Length: 01:26:46

Jet and his friends take their skills to Space Camp and go on an intergalactic adventure.

Series Title: Phoenix Mars Mission: Onto the Ice
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/1/2023 5:00:00 PM
Service: APTEX
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 1:00:00

PHOENIX MARS MISSION: ONTO THE ICE takes a behind-the-scenes look at the first successful landing on the Mars polar region and the ongoing search for signs of life on Earth's neighboring planets. The film documents the 422-million-mile journey through space exclusively through the eyes of principal investigator Peter H. Smith and the Phoenix Lander Team. PHOENIX MARS MISSION follows the international team of talented and dedicated scientists, engineers and researchers as they work to land on Mars — from practice landings with simulated catastrophic errors through the heart-pounding, seven-minute descent onto the Red Planet.

Series Title: Power Trip: The Story of Energy
Episode Title: Space
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 9/6/2023 3:00:00 PM
Service: PBS PLUS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Modern energy takes us on a journey to the final frontier. This episode traces the history of space travel, with a focus on the energy innovations making it possible. Lifting off into space depends on modern energy, and surviving in space also requires energy. Energy is required at every step in space exploration, and new forms of energy must be developed to reach other star systems.

TRANSPORTATION

Series Title: 10 Streets That Changed America
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 7/9/2023 11:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Streets are the main arteries of our societies: the Infrastructure around which communities are created, economic and social systems are organized, and new possibilities are unlocked. The modes of transportation streets are made to accommodate, the way they are designed, and the places they lead us to make lasting statements about our values and our hopes for the future. We invite you to learn the history of Ten Streets that Changed America, the people who designed and built them, and the ways that the ideas they embody continue to shape our communities and our lives.

Series Title: Space Chase USA
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/1/2023 4:00:00 PM
Service: APTEX
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 1:00:00

SPACE CHASE USA explores the extraordinary events that transformed the small town of Cocoa Beach, Florida into a bustling center for the American space program. Featuring a trove of archival material and interviews with long-time residents, former Apollo astronauts, and Cape Canaveral-based engineers and employees, the program charts the history of the space program in Florida during the 1950s and 1960s.

Series Title: American Experience
Episode Title: The Busing Battleground
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 9/24/2023 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:56:46

In 1974, after a decades-long battle by Black parents in Boston working for equal education, a local judge mandated the desegregation of the public schools. Cross-town busing led to an eruption of explosive racial violence that tore the city apart, setting a tragic course for Boston's children that still reverberates today. Told through rare archival footage and first-person interviews with community leaders and students who took part in the busing plan,

THE BUSING BATTLEGROUND is a definitive reexamination of a tumultuous piece of Boston's racial history.

WAR/VET/NATIONAL SECURITY

Series Title: Royal Wives at War
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 7/13/2023 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

The British royal family torn apart, a nation and empire thrown into crisis and the world plunged into war. To mark 80 years since Britain's Abdication Crisis in 2016, this drama-documentary for the BBC and PBS reveals a fierce rivalry between two women, Elizabeth the Queen Mother and American socialite Wallis Simpson, and the political, cultural and constitutional repercussions their bitter feud.

Series Title: Memphis Belle: Her Final Mission
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 8/8/2023 5:00:00 PM
Service: APTX
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 1:00:00

MEMPHIS BELLE: HER FINAL MISSION is an hour-long documentary that tells the story of two teams: the crew who flew her into combat and the restoration team that took 13 years to return her to her former glory. Two teams, separated by more than six decades, are bound together by their love of this remarkable and historic plane called the Memphis Belle.

Series Title: 9/11: Inside the Pentagon
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 9/13/2023 12:00:00 AM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

In the past 15 years, we have seen the Towers fall in a series of powerful documentaries and TV shows. Movies have expertly rendered the courage of first responders and the passenger takeover on United Flight 93. But, in the smoke of 9/11, one story still remains largely overlooked: the attack on the Pentagon.