

APTV
Birmingham, AL
PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report
October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Arts

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 70
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/6/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:06:22

When most people think of the artist Robert Indiana, they think of the iconic “LOVE” sculpture with a tilted “O.” While his art endures, a new book also paints a portrait of him as a troubled, isolated artist. Maine Public’s Jennifer Rooks has a look for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Series Title: The Oratorio: A Documentary with Martin Scorsese
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/5/2021 8:30:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Performance
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Learn the long-forgotten story of the 1826 performance that brought Italian opera to New York City, and meet the colorful personalities involved, including a freed slave, opera's first diva, and Mozart's librettist. Filmmaker Martin Scorsese hosts.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Decoding da Vinci
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/15/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 00:56:44

How was Leonardo da Vinci able to think so far "outside the box" that he envisaged developments in engineering, astronomy, and anatomy that were only realized centuries later? The list of da Vinci's "firsts" is astonishing: he asserted that "the sun does not move" more than a generation before Copernicus; he reasoned that fatty deposits in narrowed arteries were caused by an unhealthy diet; he drew the first designs for a parachute, armored car, machine gun, diving suit, helicopter, and a flying machine that anticipates the modern hang glider, not to mention history's first humanoid robot. His inventions and insights have come down to us through his notebooks, each page packed with a profusion of ingenious ideas and breathtaking drawings but revealing little about his personal life or character. As a result, the man behind the Mona Lisa and a host of futuristic inventions remains a shadowy figure. Now, NOVA joins Walter Isaacson, author of the acclaimed recent biography, on a journey to Italy to explore the impact of da Vinci's art on his science and his science on his art.

Culture

Series Title: 34th Hispanic Heritage Awards
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/8/2021 8:30:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Other
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Celebrate the recipients of the 34th annual Hispanic Heritage Awards. The evening includes performances and appearances by some of the country's most celebrated Hispanic artists and visionaries.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 91
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/4/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:05:23

The U.S. has passed another tragic pandemic milestone – 750,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. Dr. Sanjay Gupta's new book, "World War C: Lessons from the Covid-19 Pandemic and How to Prepare for the Next One," focuses in part on what America could have done differently to save lives. Gupta joins Judy Woodruff with more.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Decoding the Great Pyramid
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/22/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Stunning new archaeological evidence provides clues about the Egyptians who built the Great Pyramid of Giza -- and how they did it. Join researchers as they delve into the logbook of a work crew and discover how the massive project transformed Egypt.

Environment/Nature/Natural Disasters

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Arctic Drift
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/13/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format:
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Join scientists as they embark on the most ambitious Arctic research expedition of all time.

Series Title: Nature
Episode Title: The Elephant and the Termite
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/3/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Witness the dramas of Africa's great wildlife meeting place -- the waterhole. From mighty elephants to tiny termites, an entire community of creatures call the waterhole their home.

Series Title: Nature
Episode Title: Santa's Wild Home
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/15/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Get an intimate look into life in Lapland, fabled land of Santa Claus and actual home of tenacious wildlife such as reindeer, wolverines, Brown bears and more.

Family/Marriage

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: To the Manor Born
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/5/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. discovers the privileged lineages that claim actor Glenn Close and director John Waters as descendants, introducing ancestors who are as bold and independent as they are.

Series Title: Finding Your Roots
Episode Title: Laughing on the Inside
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/2/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. provides comedians Lewis Black and Roy Wood, Jr. with accounts of hardship in their family trees which may have led them to each find humor in adversity.

Series Title: FRONTLINE
Episode Title: Poor Kids
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/7/2021 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

These are hard times in the Quad Cities, a great American crossroads along the border of Iowa and Illinois, where the Mississippi River intersects Interstate 80. Home to John Deere manufacturing and the nation's breadbasket, it's also an area deeply scarred by the recession. FRONTLINE follows three young girls growing up amidst their families' struggles against financial ruin. This an intimate portrait of the economic crisis as it's rarely seen, through the eyes of children. With one in five American children living below the poverty line, "Poor Kids" is an unflinching and revealing exploration of what poverty means to children – and to the country's future.

Health/Healthcare

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 86
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/28/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:09:17

New COVID-19 cases in the U.S. are down nearly 60% and deaths have fallen by nearly a third. Americans are getting boosters, and young children may be able to start getting vaccinated as soon as next week. But the U.S. still lost nearly 1,400 people a day the past week. Judy Woodruff discusses the pandemic with Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 88
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/1/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:04:27

In our news wrap Monday, 6% of New York City's workforce went on unpaid leave for failing to get vaccinated. Rebels from Ethiopia's Tigray province appeared to be advancing toward the capital, Addis Ababa, and claimed they seized two key cities along a major highway over the weekend. American Airlines has cancelled nearly 2,300 since Friday, blaming bad weather and a shortage of workers.

Series Title: FRONTLINE
Episode Title: Opioids, Inc.
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/28/2021 10:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

The story of a drug company that pushed opioids by bribing doctors and committing insurance fraud. With the Financial Times, an investigation of how Insys Therapeutics profited from a fentanyl-based painkiller 50 times stronger than heroin.

Minorities/Civil Rights

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 87
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/29/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:05

Acclaimed film director Ava Duvernay, whose projects include "The 13th," "When They See Us," and "Selma", is behind a new Netflix series called "Colin in Black and White." It is the coming of age story of Colin Kaepernick, years before he became a quarterback in the NFL, and a leader in the fight for racial justice. Amna Nawaz spoke with DuVernay about it for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Series Title: Independent Lens
Episode Title: Home From School: The Children of Carlisle
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/23/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

Northern Arapaho tribal members travel from Wyoming to Pennsylvania to retrieve remains of three children who died at Carlisle Indian Industrial School in the 1880s.

Series Title: POV
Episode Title: Unapologetic
Length: 90 minutes
Airdate: 12/28/2021 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:30:00

Meet Janaé and Bella, two fierce abolitionists whose upbringing and experiences shape their activism and views on Black liberation. Told through their lens, Unapologetic offers an inside look into the movement and ongoing work that transformed Chicago, from the police murder of Rekia Boyd to the election of mayor Lori Lightfoot.

Science/Technology

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 84
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 10/26/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:09:03

A Senate committee is widening its investigation into the impact social media platforms have on children, teens and young adults, with more apps facing congressional scrutiny. William Brangham reports with Jean Twenge, a psychology professor and author of "iGen: Why Today's Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy – and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood."

Series Title: Secrets of the Dead
Episode Title: The First Circle of Stonehenge
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 11/3/2021 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:46

A decade-long archaeological quest reveals that the oldest stones of Stonehenge originally belonged to a much earlier sacred site -- a stone circle built on a rugged, remote hillside in west Wales.

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Rise of the Mammals
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 12/8/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

The discovery of a rare trove of fossils reveals in vivid detail how our own group of creatures - mammals - emerged after the asteroid impact that wiped out the great dinosaurs 66 million years ago.

**Alabama Public Television
Quarterly Programs/Issues Report
October - December, 2021**

Capitol Journal

10/1/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, crime, education, health

We had a wrap-up of the just-completed special legislative session on prisons. Lt. Gov. Will Ainsworth joined us to discuss the plan to build several new prisons. Rep. Chris England of Tuscaloosa, the chair of the Alabama Democratic Party, talked with us about his contention that new prisons won't solve our problems behind bars. House Judiciary Committee chair Jim Hill of Moody joined us to discuss the pair of prison reform measures he sponsored in the special session. And Alabama Hospital Association President Dr. Don Williamson was with us to talk about continued concerns over our COVID death rate, as well as our decreasing case counts and hospitalizations.

10/8/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, crime, economics, race, health

Attorney General Steve Marshall joined us to discuss his concerns with the prison reform measure recently passed by the legislature. Rep. Connie Rowe of Jasper talked with us about new prison construction and about leaving the legislature for a job with the Lieutenant Governor. Sen. Del Marsh of Anniston was with us to discuss gambling prospects next year. He said he won't personally sponsor another gaming bill. Sen. Rodger Smitherman of Birmingham joined us to talk about a redistricting lawsuit in which he is a plaintiff. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about declining virus cases and hospitalizations, but a still worrisome death rate.

10/15/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, race, education, health, crime, economics

Sen. Kirk Hatcher of Montgomery joined us to discuss both the upcoming special legislative session on reapportionment and the state school board voting to codify its opposition to teaching Critical Race Theory. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about the prospect of Alabama getting more COVID booster shots. Alabama Sentencing Commission Executive Director Bennet Wright joined us to discuss the prison reform measure recently approved by lawmakers. Alabama League of Municipalities Executive Director Greg Cochran talked with us about how the new prison construction plan will affect some cities and towns. And Rep. Tommy Hanes of Bryant joined us to discuss his pre-filed bill dealing with possible lawsuits over the president's vaccine mandate.

10/22/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, race, health, economics.

House Majority Leader Nathaniel Ledbetter of Rainsville joined us to discuss the following week's start of a special legislative session on reapportionment and the possibility that an anti-vaccine mandate bill could be added to the call. Senator Clyde Chambliss of Prattville was with us to talk about how the recently passed prison plan will affect his district, which is home to three prisons. State Agriculture Commissioner Rick Pate joined us to discuss medical cannabis and ongoing licensing for industrial hemp growers. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about the rollout of new booster shots and about how Alabama's COVID death rate may have finally peaked.

10/29/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, race, economic, health

We discussed the start of a new special legislative session on redistricting with Reapportionment Committee co-chair, Rep. Chris Pringle of Mobile. We also talked about the issue with Senate Minority Leader Bobby Singleton of Greensboro, a Reapportionment Committee member and a plaintiff in a redistricting lawsuit. Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle joined us to discuss how reapportionment will affect his area, which has seen tremendous growth. Alabama Republican Party Chairman John Wahl of Athens talked with us about the GOP's push for legislation

against vaccine mandates. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to discuss the mandate pushback, new COVID booster shots and looming shots for young kids.

11/5/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, health, race, youth, economics

We wrapped up that week's special legislative session with Sen. Chris Elliott of Fairhope, who discussed passage of his bill that would allow those who work in Alabama to claim medical or religious exemptions from getting COVID vaccinations. House Minority Leader Anthony Daniels of Huntsville joined us to discuss passage of a plan that will redraw district lines for state congressional, legislative and school board seats. Daniels predicted further litigation over the issue. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about the state pushback on the federal vaccine mandate, and about the rollout of new COVID shots for young children. And Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson joined us to talk about legislative priorities for NEXT year, and about local issues like a new downtown airport project.

11/12/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, health, race

Attorney General Steve Marshall joined us to discuss the state's litigation over both the federal vaccine mandate and reapportionment. Rep. Louise Alexander of Birmingham talked with us about her concerns with the redistricting maps and with legislation concerning vaccination exemptions. Sen. Will Barfoot of Pike Road discussed his co-sponsoring the bill that would allow for certain worker immunization exemptions. And Jefferson County Health Officer Dr. Mark Wilson joined us to talk about the state's still stable COVID numbers, despite some hotspots around the country.

11/19/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, crime, economics, health, race

Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon talked with us about legal filings which contend that former Speaker Mike Hubbard may have sought legislative help in his bid to get out of prison early. Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington joined us to discuss the effort to quickly put in place an appeals process under the state's new vaccine exemption law. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about the prospect of COVID booster shots for all adults. Rep. Shane Stringer of Citronelle joined us to discuss bringing back his constitutional carry bill next year. And Rep. Merika Coleman of Pleasant Grove talked with us about leading the effort to remove racist language from the state constitution.

12/3/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, health, crime, economics, race

Rep. Terri Collins of Decatur joined us to discuss the Supreme Court taking up a Mississippi abortion ban and its similarities to such a ban she championed in Alabama in 2019. Senate General Fund budget chair Greg Albritton of Atmore was with us to talk about the start of discussions over how Alabama will spend the remaining federal stimulus funds. Montgomery Mayor Steven Reed joined us to talk about the city facing a hefty fine for violating the Memorial Preservation Act. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to discuss the new Omicron variant of the coronavirus.

12/10/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, education, crime, race, economics, health

New University of South Alabama President Jo Bonner joined us to discuss leaving his job as Governor Kay Ivey's Chief of Staff to accept the new position. Former Governor Robert Bentley talked with us about prison reform and the gubernatorial campaign. Rep. Mike Ball of Madison was with us to discuss a bill he plans to pre-file that would tweak the Memorial Preservation Act. Rep. Penni McClammy of Montgomery joined us to talk about taking over the seat of her late father, Thad McClammy. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris discussed his concerns that Alabama will eventually see another COVID spike.

12/17/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Government, crime, health

Gov. Kay Ivey joined us to discuss legislative priorities, prisons, and the upcoming election year. Attorney General Steve Marshall was with us to talk about former House Speaker Mike Hubbard's efforts to get out of prison early. State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss the Omicron variant of the coronavirus being detected in Alabama. Rep. Mike Jones of Andalusia talked with us about implementation of the new vaccine exemption law, which he sponsored in the House. And Rep. Andrew Sorrell of Muscle Shoals was with us to discuss the constitutional carry bill he will sponsor next year.

Spotlight on Education

10/21/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Education, race, youth, economics

State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey joined us to discuss Critical Race Theory, pandemic learning loss, and student test scores. Alabama Education Association President Dr. Susan Williams Brown talked with us about the challenges that state teachers have faced during the pandemic, as well as the return to in-person instruction. Alabama Commission on Higher Education Executive Director Dr. Jim Purcell joined us to discuss an initiative to retain college graduates to both live and work in the state. And Angela Fisher Hall with the Alabama Regional Library for the Blind discussed services for sight impaired students and adults.

Spotlight on Agriculture

11/26/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Education, economics, race

The episode explores the Auburn University Rural Studio design-build program, which has taught architectural students to find creative solutions to the needs of Alabama's Black Belt communities.

Monograph

12/30/21, 8pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Culture, education

The program visits the Gadsden Museum of Art. Features included Montgomery-based visual artist Chintia Kirana, multi-instrument jazz musician Amari Ansari, and Birmingham's A.P. Suaze, a DJ and music producer.

Alabama Upstarts

10/2/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economic, education

Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

10/9/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economic, education

Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

10/16/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economic, education

Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

10/23/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economic, education

Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

11/7/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economic, education

Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

11/14/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economics, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

11/21/21, 1pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Economics, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

Alabama Gospel Roots

10/2/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included 'Fortner Brothers 4 Christ,' 'Nikki D and the Browns,' and Ginger Nelms; Music promoter Owens; An 'Alabama Music Salute' to music executive Ben Spear of the Spears Family; Gospel radio personality Shelley Stewart.

10/9/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included The Hindmans, Isom Dawson, 'Genesis;' Pastor Lavon Nailer; Community service honoree Ron Seawright; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Olivia Edwards; An 'Alabama Music Salute' to 'Mighty Clouds of Joy' founder Joe Ligon.

10/16/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Andria Patterson, Maxine Ford and 'Promise,' Rejeena Leeth and 'New Grace;' 'Golden Vessel' honoree Clee Greene; An 'Alabama Music Salute' to 'The Blind Boys of Alabama.'

10/23/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included 'The Soul Redeemers,' Randy Beasom and Tyler Leadford, and Mary Finch; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Joann Lewis.

10/30/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included 'Joyful Noise,' Brittany Cole, David Hammond and 'The Chosen Disciples;' Gospel radio personality James Johnson; Community service honoree Rev. Herman Bell; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Rick O'Brien.

11/6/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included 'Ladies of Lee,' Tim Frierson, 'The McDuffies;' Pastors Bobby and Bonnie Simmons; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Ella Frances Cook.

11/13/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Yolanda Mitchell, The Wright Family, Carl and Joann Headley, 'Awakened,' DeeDee Frazier; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Alma Bradford.

12/11/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Allen Pruitt Jr. and the 'Called II Worship Ensemble,' Sister Ruth Pickett, Madelyn Cawley and Hannah Johnson; An 'Alabama Music Salute' to Charlie Davis Tillman; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Laura 'Mom' Jackson.

12/18/21, 8pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Pastor D.L. Heard and Company, Pastor Skylar Patterson and 'Predestined,' 'Faithful Crossings,' The Harville Family; An 'Alabama Music Salute' to Inez Andrews; Pastor Emory Edwards; 'Golden Vessel' honoree Sarah Fornis.

12/25/21, 9:30pm, 1 hour. Issues discussed: Culture

Gospel singers, groups, ministers, and community leaders were featured.

Lagarde: Making Natural History

11/24/21, 9pm, 30 minutes. Issues discussed: Education, environment, economics

The episode features the intertwining stories of businessman, hunter and philanthropist John B. Lagarde and the Anniston Museum of Natural History - to which he contributed so much. Original 1960's films shot on Lagarde's expeditions across the globe and dramatizations of key events in his life are interspersed with scenes from today's museum and interviews with museum staff and family members.