

50
YEARSIDAHO
PUBLIC
TELEVISION
idahoptv.org

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



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GENERAL MANAGER

2D Barcode



Past GM
Reports

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Quotes

"I like history, tourism, biography, and events in Idaho." —Nancy

"Love the children's programming and the nature and science shows. Also, the four different channels we receive. These are our favorite shows that we enjoy as a family ... Downtown Abbey, Call the Midwife, This Old House, Ask this Old House, Nova, Peg and Cat, Curious George, Sesame Street, Dinosaur Train, Super Y, Are You Being Served, Keeping Up Appearances, and more. PBS is the only station we allow our children to watch unsupervised." —Allie



DecemberFest is December 3 – 6!



Enjoy a weekend filled with music, top notch entertainment, and outdoor adventure.

Go behind-the-scenes with child prodigy Ethan Bortnick. Don't miss The Midtown Men as the original stars from the musical Jersey Boys bring to life classics from the '60s. And, catch the premiere of the new Outdoor Idaho special "Idaho Headwaters."

Other programs include Happy Holidays: The Best of Andy Williams' Christmas Shows, Renee Fleming - Christmas in New York, Nature "Snow Monkeys," Libera: Angels Sing Christmas in Ireland, The Carpenters: Close to You, Lawrence Welk's TV Treasures, Alice's Restaurant 50th Anniversary Concert With Arlo Guthrie, Billy Joel: A Matter of Trust - The Bridge to Russia - The Concert, and The Three Tenors Christmas.

There will be opportunities to pledge for tickets to see the following performers when they visit Idaho: Ethan Bortnick, Celtic Woman, and The Midtown Men.

Also join us during the evenings when IdahoPTV will be live on-air.

Don't Forget, "Downton Abbey" Season 6 Preview Events Are December 14 - 18

Pledge for tickets (\$50 for two tickets) to a special early viewing of the first episode of the new and final season!

Boise, December 14, 2015, at the Egyptian Theatre

6:00 p.m. Reception, 7:00 p.m. Screening

Coeur d'Alene, December 16, 2015, at the Best Western Plus Coeur D'Alene Inn

6:00 p.m. Reception, 7:00 p.m. Screening

Pocatello, December 17, 2015, at the Juniper Hills Country Club

6:30 p.m. Reception, 7:30 p.m. Screening

Idaho Falls, December 18, 2015, at the Colonial Theater

6:30 p.m. Reception, 7:30 p.m. Screening

Dress in your favorite "Downton Abbey" costume, take your own 'selfie' in front of the Highclere Castle backdrop, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages, and gather together with friends to watch the first hour of Season 6.



November 'Iconic Idaho' Winners

Congratulations to our November winners – Jerry Dodds, Patty Pickett, Scott DeHart, Dan King, Charlene Aycock, and Mark Goforth. And thanks to this month's judges – Matthew Durrant, Kaylyn Franks, Chris McNaught, Suzie Keller, Dave Lawrence, and Philip Kuntz.

We had some wonderful Honorable Mentions, too.

To see all winning and honorable mention photos, go to <https://www.facebook.com/outdoor.idaho/>.





50th Anniversary Reflections

When public television was created back in 1967, Congress singled out children as one of the underserved segments of the American population. Few people understood at the time what a fantastic Christmas present that was.

Up to that time and well into the 1970s, children were expected to plant themselves in front of the home TV every Saturday morning and watch cartoons. The shows were full of adult humor (the creators unable to get into children's heads), but children saw mostly humanized ducks, mice, or a wacky rabbit whack each other up the side of the loser's head.

Most children's shows today – Idaho Public Television airs 12 hours a day for kids – use some humor carefully tied to age levels. Humor expands any child's attention span and learning something from the experience makes the original joke much funnier. But today's programs also deal with very serious matters, just as children have to deal with them. It made news when an early episode of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* talked about divorce.

It isn't easy. Idaho Public Television is aware of how easily children can be influenced, given their limited experience with coping in a world run by adults. But all shows are rigorously tested for age levels and what's appropriate for that age. Children who watch are better adjusted generally and do better all the way through school.

– Royce Williams

See more IdahoPTV 50th anniversary stories, videos and a timeline at www.idahoptv.org.

Our IdahoPTV Productions



- Airs Fridays at 8 p.m. MT/PT
- Repeats Sundays at 10:30/9:30 a.m. MT/PT

Idaho Reports started its new season October 2 and has been covering topics such as Clean Water Act, climate change, INL's past and future, public defense reform, budget priorities, and four-day school weeks. The scope of our coverage includes our congressional delegation. On January 8, the program will expand to a one-hour format and start providing coverage of the Idaho Legislature. The current season is scheduled to run through May 2016.



— Airs Fridays at 7:30 p.m. MT/PT

On December 4, host Marcia Franklin talks with *PBS NewsHour* anchor Jeffrey Brown about his book of poems, *The News*. Recorded at this year's Sun Valley Writers' Conference, Brown shares his reflections on the news business and tells why he's drawn to poetry.



PBS President Paula Kerger talks with Franklin on December 11 about her tenure as the longest-serving president in PBS history. She discusses future plans for PBS as well as the challenges of running the broadcasting service. Kerger recently visited Idaho to help kick off the 50th anniversary of Idaho Public Television.

On December 18, "Pushing On" features the inspiring story of Idahoans Justin Skeesuck and Patrick Gray. Wheelchair-bound by a neurological disorder, Skeesuck dreams of traveling Spain's Camino de Santiago. Gray, a friend since childhood, made the dream a reality by pushing Skeesuck in his chair along the 500-mile route.



"Television"

— Airs Tuesday, December 15, at 2/1 p.m. MT/PT



Americans average more than 33 hours a week in front of a television or other streaming devices. That's almost as much time as we spend sleeping, working, or going to school. But exactly how does that picture get to your screen? What is the difference between streaming and broadcasting? On this month's *Science Trek*, host Joan Cartan-Hansen and her guests will answer students' questions about the science behind television. This month's guests are Rich Van Genderen, IdahoPTV's director of technology; and Craig Koster, IdahoPTV's chief engineer.

Students can watch *Science Trek* over the air or on the show's website. They can email questions to ScienceTrek@idahoptv.org or submit video questions recorded on their smartphones or webcams. Students who send in a question are eligible to win prizes for their classroom.

The *Science Trek* website offers facts, links, reading lists, a glossary, podcasts of programs, video shorts, full episodes and special Web-exclusive programming: idahoptv.org/sciencetrek.