Hidden among the momentous events of World War II were the human stories of courage, loyalty, fear, hope, loss, and love. The seven-part series, *World on Fire*, presented by Masterpiece, paints intimate portraits of ordinary people living in extraordinary times. Set in Britain, France, Germany, and Poland in 1939–1940, *World on Fire* is a gripping drama that reveals the life and death challenges these families, friends, and lovers face as they weave in and out of each other's lives.

The series features a stellar cast who deliver brilliant performances. Helen Hunt stars as Nancy Campbell, an American broadcaster and journalist, who spends the first months of the war in Berlin as part of the overseas press corps. In her quest for the news, she seeks information from her neighbors as well as army officers, writing many exclusive stories and risking her life to get them out of Berlin.

Lesley Manville takes on the role of Robina Chase, mother to Harry, played by Jonah Hauer-King, who is a talented translator working in Warsaw for the British embassy. Harry is in the middle of an explosive love triangle and must choose between his girlfriend Lois Bennett (Julia Brown), and a waitress, Kasia Tomaszeski (Zofia Wichlacz), who he meets in Warsaw. According to Robina, they are both highly unsuitable.

Sean Bean plays World War I veteran-turned-pacifist Douglas Bennett, who must watch both his son and daughter go off to war. Brian J. Smith and Parker Sawyers are American doctor Webster O'Connor and jazz musician Albert Fallou who fall deeply in love and with the help of friends smuggle prisoners of war out of the country. As episode 1 begins, the Germans are heading to Warsaw and the first bombs begin to descend on the city. Harry is determined to help Kasia flee Warsaw and travel to Manchester, England — but how will he explain her to Lois and his mother? Meanwhile, Nancy is at the Polish-German border witnessing the world ignite.

There is chaos everywhere — the war is being fought on the battlefields and in living rooms. Everyday pleasures are gone; fear of being killed is almost constant. *World on Fire* is about the human cost of war as much as it is about history. Harry develops from an idealistic young man to a battle-worn soldier. Kasia joins the Polish Resistance, becoming increasingly violent as her campaign against German soldiers intensifies. Their lives and the lives of fellow friends and soldiers will never again be the same.

*World on Fire* makes this global tragedy achingly personal and totally compelling. Premieres Sundays beginning April 5 at 8 p.m.
Many of the world’s most breathtaking landmarks have been inspired by faith. To believers they are the focus of deep spiritual significance and extraordinary acts of devotion. The three-part series *Earth’s Sacred Wonders* takes you to some of these spectacular places where today more devotees are gathering than ever.

The world’s largest religious site, with more than 70 temples, is Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Once engulfed by the jungle, it is now restored and maintained by Buddhists, who believe the temples are home to ancestral spirits. The group’s 65-year-old leader risks his life, climbing 200 feet to remove weeds that threaten the towers’ stability. “If the temples collapse and the spirits leave, life would be meaningless,” he says.

In Japan, landscape is sacred. Nachi Falls, the nation’s tallest waterfall, is the site of a ceremony that Shinto followers believe is vital to ensuring the well-being of Japan. Participants use 110-pound lit torches to purify the route and help ancestral spirits complete their journey to the waterfall. It is a test of strength and faith.

The series will give you a deeper understanding of the sacred places and the people who worship there.

*Airs Wednesdays at 9 p.m. beginning March 25.*
Jase is a miracle child. Within days of his birth, he was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), the number one genetic cause of death in infants. Jase received his first dose of an experimental drug that targets the genes involved with SMA when he was just 18 days old. As he developed, he started sitting up and walking. Jase is a medical pioneer who represents the promise of a genomic revolution decades in the making.

Ken Burns presents The Gene: An Intimate History exploring how our understanding of genetics has evolved over time and the ways it will impact our future. Inspired by the book, The Gene: An Intimate History, the film is a collaboration between its author, Siddhartha Mukherjee, MD, and Burns. Drawing elements from research, social history, ethics, and personal stories, the three-part documentary will give you a deeper understanding of the role genes play in heredity, disease, and behavior. The production takes you on a journey from the birth of genetics and the scientists who discovered the structure of DNA to today's cutting-edge research and how it is being applied to science and medicine. The program is an extraordinary opportunity to learn more about the breakthroughs in our knowledge of the "human code" and what that can mean for life itself.

Airs Tuesdays at 8 p.m. April 7 and 14.

EAST LAKE MEADOWS
A PUBLIC HOUSING STORY

The name sounds like a pleasant place in the countryside; however, the public housing community East Lake Meadows was anything but idyllic.

Its story unfolds in the documentary East Lake Meadows: A Public Housing Story, directed and produced by Sarah Burns and David McMahon, with Ken Burns as executive producer. Located on the edge of Atlanta, the housing development opened in October 1970, and over the next 25 years many thousands of low-income Atlantans, mostly African-American, called it home. It was beset with problems from the beginning — poor construction, overcrowding, and lack of support facilities. Drugs and violence were rampant, and when a crack wave swept through the neighborhood, East Lake Meadows became nearly uninhabitable.

Atlanta bulldozed the housing project in the mid-1990s to make way for new mixed-income housing, as government and philanthropic funds poured into the area in an effort to create a thriving community.

Through the stories of former residents, the film gives voice to some of the most marginalized people in our society. It also raises critical questions about how we, as a nation, have created concentrated poverty and limited housing opportunities for African Americans, and what can be done to address it.

Airs Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m.

SOMEWHERE SOUTH

The new culinary delights across the American South are the focus of a six-part series, Somewhere South, co-created and hosted by Vivian Howard, celebrity chef, author, and restaurateur. Her previous show, A Chef's Life, was an award-winning success.

"Shooting Somewhere South has made me look at what we call Southern food with a new set of spectacles," Vivian explains. "I'm excited that, as Southerners, we can tell complex stories through food and culture, and not shy away from our past or present."

You'll accompany Vivian to North Carolina where she samples the collard sandwich, a staple of Lumbee Indian cuisine. She also travels to West Virginia to taste the pepperoni roll, a regional convenience food made popular by coal miners. In Charleston, South Carolina, where rice is king, Vivian enjoys grits and rice middlins with respected Gullah chefs whose cuisine is the backbone of the city's bustling food scene.

If you don't have a clue how to make any of these dishes, all the more reason to tune in — with a note pad or laptop in hand.

Airs Fridays at 8 p.m. beginning March 27.
Viewers Comments

About Ken Burns’ Country Music Series:
“This program is bringing up so many memories growing up in a country music loving family. My step-dad was a honky-tonk guitar player who married my 25-year-old mother, a widow with five children. I was only 5 when they married, but I remember that he tried to keep playing. There was a drum set in the corner of our tiny living room. After a while, he gave up his career to get a more secure income to raise us. However, he continued to play for family and taught me and my brothers to play guitar. I became a teacher/songwriter, still playing and writing at 70 years old.” — KLRN Viewer

You can watch the entire series with KLRN Passport. Visit video.kln.org.

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**KLRN Kids Spring Festival**

**FREE Family Events!**

**EDUCATIONAL activities**

Special appearances by Buddy from Dinosaur Train!

March 7
Peasall Park
10AM - 1PM

March 10
Woodlawn Lake Park
9AM - Noon

March 11
Brackenridge Park
9AM - Noon

For more information, call 210.270.9000 or visit kln.org/events.

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The beloved medics and midwives return as Season 9 of Call the Midwife premieres with eight new episodes.

The year is 1965 and Winston Churchill has just passed away. The East End enters a bold and innovative era. Society is changing fast — becoming more prosperous and more complex. The midwives work hard to respond to the challenges as the population shifts, rules change, and old diseases come back to haunt them. Alongside the joy and optimism of birth, they must cope with cases including diphtheria, drug abuse, cancer, and tuberculosis.

They are also dealing with their own personal issues fueled by love, loss, and doubt, until suddenly the very fabric of their lives is jeopardized when Nonnatus itself comes under threat of demolition.

What will happen if they have to leave Nonnatus House? Airs Sundays at 7 p.m. beginning March 29.

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**Mission Statement**

KLRN’s mission is to open a world of lifelong learning through trustworthy and enriching programs on-air, online, and in our community.