

Insider News

LEONARDO DA VINCI

A NEW FILM BY KEN BURNS EXPLORES ONE OF
HUMANKIND'S MOST CURIOUS AND INNOVATIVE MINDS

Fifteenth-century genius of soaring imagination and profound intellect, Leonardo da Vinci of the High Renaissance created some of the most revered works of art of all time. This new Ken Burns two-part four-hour film tells the story of da Vinci — whose masterpieces of staggering beauty and detailed sketches of futuristic contraptions of warfare and flight as well subjects including botany, astronomy, and paleontology continue to be marveled at today.

From his birth out of wedlock to a notary and peasant woman, and apprenticeship to the artist Andrea del Verrocchio, to his days as a military architect, cartographer, sculptor, and muralist for hire — the film offers an intimate portrait of a singular visionary whose *Mona Lisa*, *The Last Supper*, *Vitruvian Man*, *Head of a Woman*, and *Self Portrait* are considered to be among the most famous paintings and drawings in the world. Yet these artistic endeavors may seem an afterthought compared to his pursuits in science, architecture, and engineering.

Set against a rich and dynamic backdrop of Renaissance Italy, *Leonardo da Vinci* will bring this unique figure and his towering achievements to life through his voluminous personal notebooks, primary and secondary accounts of his life and times, and on-camera interviews with modern scholars, artists, engineers, inventors, and admirers.

Part 1,
“The Disciple
of Experience”
focuses on his early
career in the *bottega*, or

workshop, of Verrocchio, and the 18 years he spent under the patronage of Ludovico Sforza, the ruler of the Duchy of Milan. During this period, da Vinci created some of his most renowned works including *The Last Supper*.

Part 2, “Painter-God,” follows Leonardo’s scientific endeavors and his travels around Italy as well as his project upon returning to Florence, for military strongman Cesare Borgia, devising new ways to map cities. During this period, he began a portrait of the wife of the merchant Francesco del Giocondo, which would become his famed *Mona Lisa*.

Directed by Burns, along with his daughter Sarah Burns and colleague David McMahon, *Leonardo da Vinci* is the first non-American subject for the acclaimed documentarian. This film marks a significant change in the team’s filmmaking style — using split screens with images, video, and sound from different periods to further put da Vinci’s illustrious explorations into context.

**Airs Monday, November 18, and Tuesday,
November 19, at 7 p.m.**





SALUTE TO SERVICE



A Veterans Day Celebration

Salute to Service, hosted by country and R&B star Mickey Guyton, is a heartfelt Veterans Day celebration honoring the many men and women who have sacrificed so much to serve in our armed forces. Musical guests include country legend and U.S. Army veteran Craig Morgan, jazz bassist Christian McBride, and trombonist-vocalist Aubrey Logan performing with the United States Army Field Band.

You'll also get to know some of those who have served our nation, including General Patrick Brady, one of our nation's most decorated living veterans, and Colonel Danielle Ngo, who at 3 years old escaped Saigon just before its fall, came to this country as a refugee, and is now a U.S. Army Colonel. This Veterans Day program unites the nation in gratitude and reaffirms that service members represent the American ideal of unity, regardless of their backgrounds and beliefs.

Airs Friday, November 8, at 8 p.m.

klnr 

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Questions?

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Dear Friends,

Is it just me or has 2024 gone by in a flash? Soon a new year will be here with fresh hopes and dreams. With that in mind, I want to thank you for your continued support. As I sit down with family and friends for Thanksgiving, I will be thinking of you and how you make KLRN such a vibrant source of illumination and inspiration.

If you're looking for enlightenment and edification, you should definitely include the latest Ken Burns documentary, *Leonardo da Vinci*, on your must-watch list. You can also meet the people, companies and communities doing what they can to protect our environment in KLRN's newest series, *Terra Verde*. And don't miss *Salute to Service*:

A Veterans Day Celebration, PBS's annual tribute to the men and women who have served our nation with honor and distinction.

You can always find something fascinating on KLRN, especially during the holidays. And that's because of you. Thank you for being a cherished member of our KLRN family.

With my best wishes for a warm and happy holiday season,

Arthur R. Emerson
President and CEO




Unexpected. That might be the word to describe a folk punk group using a classical orchestra as its backup band. But that's exactly what happened when the Violent Femmes teamed up with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Violent Femmes' self-titled debut album. The concert plays the album's songs, cover to cover, including their iconic hit *Blister in the Sun*. Today that debut release stands as a pillar of an American underground movement, and this concert pays homage to the band's lasting influence.

Consisting of founding members Gordon Gano and Brian Ritchie, joined by multi-instrumentalist Blaise Garza and drummer

John Sparrow, the group began playing acoustic punk on the streets of Milwaukee in 1981. "The Violent Femmes were the soundtrack for so many young people including me," said Milwaukee PBS VP and General Manager Debbie Hamlett. "We're looking forward to presenting this celebration of the 40th anniversary of some of the Violent Femmes' greatest hits."

**Airs Friday,
December 13, at 9 p.m.**





LUCY WORSLEY'S HOLMES VS. DOYLE

It's elementary that fans of mystery and history alike have eagerly awaited *Holmes vs. Doyle*. Sherlock Holmes is perhaps the most famous detective in the world. For more than a century, he has intrigued and excited his fans with his intellect and powers of deduction. The fictional Sherlock made author Arthur Conan Doyle rich and famous. Despite the incredible success Sherlock Holmes brought him, Doyle came to hate his renowned character.

Now popular British historian and lifelong Sherlock Holmes fan Lucy Worsley dives

into the curious relationship between Holmes and Doyle. The first of the three one-hour programs covers the historical and biographical context for Sherlock's creation, including the dark criminal underbelly of Victorian London, and Doyle's days as a medical student. Things get more complicated in episodes 2 and 3 as Doyle seeks to distance himself from his character, and Sherlock Holmes finds a life beyond his author on stage and screen.

Begins Sunday, December 8, at 7 p.m.



NOVA DECODING THE UNIVERSE QUANTUM

Trying to learn your quarks from your gluons? Coming to PBS this November from *NOVA*, *Decoding the Universe: Quantum* delves into some of the biggest — yet tiniest — scientific mysteries. On the unbelievably tiny scale of the subatomic, things get very, very weird. How is it that, in the quantum realm, a particle can spin in two different directions at once? How can a particle instantly affect another particle with an entire galaxy in between? Even the simple act of observing a particle can change its location altogether.

You'll delve into the fascinating theories of quantum physics, as well as the incredible technologies and amazing scientists who made these discoveries possible. *Quantum* exemplifies why *NOVA* captivates audiences with its expertly crafted storytelling and gripping scientific inquiry. Don't miss this enchanting journey into the subatomic — you'll discover why *NOVA* has won multiple Emmy's and Peabody Awards.

Airs Wednesday, November 6, at 8 p.m.



CARL THE COLLECTOR

Coming this fall, *Carl the Collector* is a groundbreaking new series, the first PBS KIDS show to feature a main character with autism. Created by bestselling author and illustrator Zachariah OHora (*My Cousin Momo*), *Carl the Collector* follows the everyday adventures of Carl, a warm-hearted autistic raccoon who loves to collect everything from autographs to pet rocks and fake mustaches. Carl pays extraordinarily close attention to detail, and his collections often come in handy for solving problems around his Fuzzytown neighborhood.

Carl's friends include Sheldon, a beaver who helps Carl navigate certain social situations; Lotta the fox, who has sensory hypersensitivities; Forrest, an energetic squirrel with a tree nut allergy; and Nico and Arugula, twin bunny sisters with identical appearances but different personalities.

"By portraying a close group of neurodivergent and neurotypical friends, *Carl the Collector* models how all of us can be helpful, supportive, and appreciative of each other's ways of thinking," said Sara DeWitt, Senior Vice President and General Manager of PBS KIDS.

**Airs daily at
7:30 a.m. starting
November 14.**



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Viewer Comments

"Thank you! What you do is SO important!"

— Zac O., KLRN Member

"My favorite channel has always been PBS. It does what no other media outlet can or will do. Well researched, non-biased, and fact-based documentaries."

— Crystal C., KLRN Member

"PBS has A LOT of good shows to watch. Growing up it was a staple channel for our house and for my children."

— Nancy L., KLRN Member



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ATTENBOROUGH'S LIFE JOURNEY

Beloved by millions around the world, Sir David Attenborough has captivated viewers as they've joined him on journeys across the world and back in time. Now *Nature* is celebrating the remarkable life of Sir David Attenborough with this hourlong special.

Attenborough's connection to nature runs deeper than many may know. From his boyhood love of hunting for fossils and his early career work as a host on *Zoo Quest* to his ongoing globetrotting adventures, his inquiry into the secrets of the natural world has been a lifelong and ever-developing passion. You'll also learn about Attenborough's contributions to the genre of documentary filmmaking, including his early work with revolutionary technologies such as 3D and 4K.

Using behind-the-scenes footage from his documentaries and intimate on-location interviews everywhere from the mountains of Canada to the jungles of Borneo, this charming film reveals the iconic narrator himself.

**Airs Wednesday, November 20
at 7 p.m.**



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.