

# Insider News



MASTERPIECE  
MISS  
AUSTEN

It is a truth often acknowledged that a lover of great storytelling and breathtaking production values awaits a new *MASTERPIECE* series airing on PBS. *Miss Austen* will definitely fit the bill.

Years after Jane Austen's death in 1817, her sister, Cassandra, to whom Jane had written most days when they were apart, burned almost all of her letters. *Miss Austen* takes this notorious literary mystery and reimagines it as a fascinating, witty, and heartbreaking story of sisterly love.

The narrative weaves a bit of intrigue through its flashbacks and scenes of Cassandra's later life, raising questions: Why didn't Jane or Cassandra marry? How did Jane navigate being a female writer? Why did Cassandra ultimately set her sister's letters ablaze?

The four-part drama begins many years after Jane has died. Cassandra rushes to visit Isabella, the niece of her long-dead fiancé, who is about to lose her home following her father's death. Cassandra is ostensibly there to help Isabella. Her real motive is to find a hidden bundle of private letters that,

in the wrong hands, she fears could destroy Jane's reputation.

On discovering them, Cassandra is overwhelmed as she is transported back to her youth. There we meet young Cassy and Jane as they navigate the romantic infatuations, family feuds, and dashed hopes that shaped their lives. Picture Elinor and Marianne in *Sense and Sensibility* or Elizabeth and Jane in *Pride and Prejudice*.

*Miss Austen* is based on the best-selling novel of the same name by Gill Hornby. The star-studded cast, led by Keeley Hawes (*The Durrells in Corfu*) as Cassandra Austen and Rose Leslie (*Downton Abbey*) as Isabella Fowle, will thrill viewers throughout this magnificent production. "It's like another Austen novel," says series star Keeley Hawes.

*Miss Austen* will air in four episodes starting Sunday, May 4. The timing is nothing less than thrilling since 2025 also marks 250 years since Jane Austen was born.

**Watch on Sunday nights, from May 4 – 25, at 8 p.m.**

NATURE PRESENTS

# HUMMINGBIRDS OF HOLLYWOOD

Hummingbirds have enchanted birdwatchers for years, but few are as dedicated to the tiny avians as Terry Masear. Author of *Fastest Things on Wings*, Masear has rescued and rehabilitated hummingbirds for more than 20 years. This *Nature* special introduces viewers to Masear as she nurtures wounded hummingbirds amid the glamour of Hollywood. Along the way, you'll meet Cactus, Jimmy, Wasabi, Alexa, and Mikhail, her diminutive patients.

A visually captivating and magical tale of love, fragility, and healing, *Hummingbirds of Hollywood* celebrates their small victories and laments their tiny tragedies. The compassion and empathy Masear shows her Lilliputian charges serves as a lesson to us all — there is delicate beauty in acts of kindness.

Moving stories like *Hummingbirds of Hollywood* are what viewers have come to expect from television's longest running weekly natural history series. *Nature* has won more than 200 honors, including the only award ever given to a television program by the Sierra Club.

**Airs Wednesday, May 7, at 7 p.m.**



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**Questions?**  
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## Words from the President...

Dear Friends,

It's a lovely time of year! Flowers are blooming, days are longer, and there's lots to celebrate. I most look forward to Memorial Day — always watching the *National Memorial Day Concert* and taking time to pay my respects to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation.

May and June are also filled with thrilling and important programs that never fail to fascinate. *MASTERPIECE* offers a possible answer to one of the most controversial literary mysteries on *Miss Austen*. The new documentary *Caregivers* brings to light that the United States' long-term care system threatens to flip into crisis.

But there's one thing that's not a mystery. You make *NOVA*, *Nature*, *Great Performances*, and so many other programs possible through your generous support. On behalf of everyone here at KLRN, thank you for being a cherished member of our family.

Sincerely,

**Arthur R. Emerson**  
 President and CEO

**GREAT PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**



**GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY**  
DULUTH, MINN. 1934



**KISS ME, KATE**  
THE HIT MUSICAL COMEDY

The stars continue to shine on *Great Performances*! The merry month of May takes you to Broadway for the Tony-nominated *Girl from the North Country*, and then across the pond to the West End of London for *Kiss Me, Kate*.

*Girl from the North Country* reimagines 20 legendary songs by Bob Dylan, set in 1934 Duluth, Minnesota, where a group of wanderers' lives intersect at a house full of music, life, and hope. Originally opening to rave reviews on



March 5, 2020, the musical was forced to close after one week due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It reopened in October 2021. This *Great Performances* production was filmed with its original cast in April 2022.

London's Barbican Centre revival of Cole Porter's classic *Kiss Me, Kate* is a love letter to the world of theater, blending Shakespeare with backstage romance. The crowning achievement of Porter's celebrated career, the musical features a score brimming with hits such as "Too Darn Hot," "From This Moment On," and "Brush Up Your Shakespeare." The 2024 production stars American Tony-winner Stephanie J. Block and Irish star Adrian Dunbar as Porter's famously feuding couple.

***Girl from the North Country* airs Friday, May 23, at 8 p.m. and *Kiss Me, Kate* airs Friday, May 30, at 8 p.m.**



# caregiving



“There are only four kinds of people in the world,” said Rosalynn Carter, former First Lady of the United States. “Those who have been caregivers. Those who are currently caregivers. Those who will be caregivers, and those who will need the caregiver.”

In the U.S., more than 53 million family caregivers are unpaid, providing 34 billion hours of care annually, amounting to an estimated \$67 billion in personal lost earnings. As caregiving in America faces the twin pressures of an aging baby boomer generation and rising life expectancy, the United States’ long-term care system threatens to tip into crisis.

*Caregiving*, a two-hour documentary from executive producer Bradley Cooper, will personalize this urgent national issue. Featuring stories from caregivers and interviews with experts, *Caregiving* brings to light the fight to give caregivers the security and support they provide for so many others. Viewers will come away from the production with a greater understanding of the vital impact of the caregiver’s role in the family, the workplace, and the country’s economy.

**Airs Tuesday, June 24, at 8 p.m.**



# ACOUSTIC ROOSTER



PBS KIDS programs have always been cool and they’re about to get even cooler with *Acoustic Rooster!*

Based on the beloved children’s book by Newbery medalist Kwame Alexander, the *Acoustic Rooster* universe includes *Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band*, a one-hour special, and *Acoustic Rooster: Jazzy Jams*, a lively series of 20 animated shorts.

Centered on a guitar-strumming rooster who joins the Barnyard Band of Jazz Greats, the music-filled special and shorts introduce children ages 3–5 and their caregivers to the vibrant world of the arts, specifically jazz. “At its core, jazz is about collaboration and working together to create something magical and beautiful,” says executive producer Julius Harper. “Through the story of Rooster, kids will learn how self-expression and individuality can help everyone in a community work toward a shared goal and that music can influence everyday life.”

**Airs Friday, May 23, at 10 a.m.**



## NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY CONCERT

May 25

A beloved annual tradition, the *National Memorial Day Concert* returns to PBS on May 25, uniting the country in remembrance and appreciation of those who gave their lives for our nation. This multi-award-winning television event features uplifting musical performances, documentary footage, and dramatic readings.

The *National Memorial Day Concert* is one of PBS’s highest rated programs. On the broadcast, celebrities share real-life stories spanning our nation’s

broad military history. Award-winning musicians perform songs in tribute to our country’s true heroes. Another highlight of the show features moving performances from our nation’s premier military choirs and ensembles.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Chiefs of Staff offer their leadership perspective on the value and honor of military service and acknowledge the challenges veterans and their families face.

**Airs Sunday, May 25, at 7 p.m. with a full rebroadcast at 8:30 p.m.**



Conversation. Connection. Community.



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# KLRN BACK TO SCHOOL BASH



## SAVE THE DATE

### SATURDAY, JULY 19 | 10AM - 1PM



### Viewer Comments

- “Thank you for all you do...we’ve got you.” – Carrie S., Cibolo, TX
- “Keep doing what you are doing, KLRN!” – Alvin R., San Antonio, TX
- “Thank you for all you do.” – Patricia P., Ingram, TX

### 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.



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