

klrn 

Insider News

LIFE ON EARTH

ATTENBOROUGH'S GREATEST ADVENTURE

When you imagine a nature documentary, whose voice do you hear? The answer is likely Sir David Attenborough. The biologist, natural historian, and iconic television personality has been our guide through the living world — inspiring generations of viewers to learn about planet earth and how to appreciate and care for our home.

To celebrate Sir David's 100th birthday, PBS presents *Life on Earth: Attenborough's Greatest Adventure*. The original 13-episode documentary, *Life on Earth*, was a landmark in wildlife filmmaking. The classic BBC series took Attenborough and his crew around the world over the course of three years to obtain footage of many creatures and behaviors for the first time.

Life on Earth: Attenborough's Greatest Adventure gives viewers a glimpse from behind the camera and features new interviews with Attenborough and the original production team. They reveal the highs and lows of filming the unprecedented leadoff series, which was created when global air travel and color filmmaking were in their infancy.

Yet, this was far from the crew's only challenge. They ran upon a coup on the island nation of Comoros in southeastern Africa and met gunshots near the equator in Rwanda. Nevertheless, the cinematographers captured Attenborough's astonishing encounter with mountain gorillas, which is considered one of the top TV moments of all time.

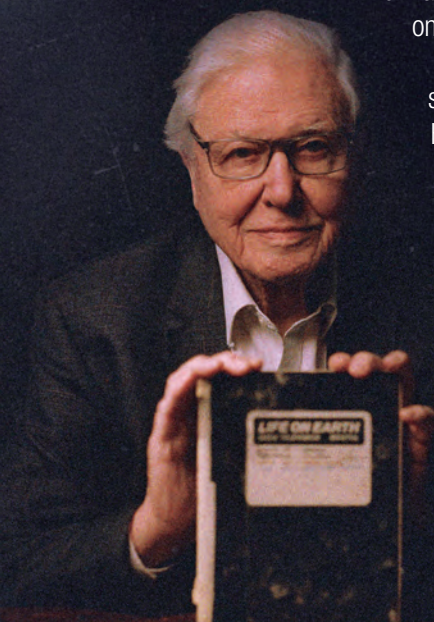
First broadcast in 1979, *Life on Earth* followed Attenborough as he traveled to 40 countries where his crew filmed 600 different species. The groundbreaking documentary has been watched by 500 million people worldwide, cementing Sir David's reputation as the most successful, well-known, and influential wildlife filmmaker of our time. Since then, Attenborough's extensive programming has taken PBS viewers on fascinating journeys into the natural world, and many of his films have been shown on *NATURE* and *NOVA*, and are available for streaming on PBS Passport.

During his long career, Attenborough embraced technology to reinvent storytelling and portray animals, plants, and ecosystems in fascinating ways. His numerous series helped pioneer filmmaking methods such as time-lapse cameras, super slow motion, infrared filming, and underwater photography.

If you thought his boundless imagination was only limited to the natural world, here's a fun fact about Sir David Attenborough. When he worked for the BBC earlier in his career, he commissioned Kenneth Clark's critically acclaimed *Civilisation*, as well as *Monty Python's Flying Circus* — both considered early PBS treasures.

Whether you are a longtime admirer of Sir David Attenborough's work or new to his engaging style, you won't want to miss *Life on Earth: Attenborough's Greatest Adventure*.

Airs Wednesday, May 6, at 7 p.m.



klrn 

NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY CONCERT

A cherished annual tradition, the *National Memorial Day Concert* takes place as America prepares to celebrate the 250th anniversary (semiquincentennial) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Since 1776, brave and heroic service members have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation. Broadcast live from the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, the concert honors the courage, sacrifice, and service of our military men and women, and their families. A star-studded lineup will grace the stage for an evening of powerful storytelling, musical salutes, and poignant moments of remembrance. Tune in on Sunday evening, May 24, and find out why the *National Memorial Day Concert* is one of the highest rated programs on PBS.

Airs Sunday, May 24, at 7 p.m.



klnr

KLRN - Public Television

501 Broadway
San Antonio, TX 78215
210-270-9000

Questions?

membership@klnr.org

Words from the President...

Dear Friends,

Spring is here — time to enjoy everything nature has to offer! If you understand and appreciate the natural world a little better because of Sir David Attenborough, I invite you to celebrate his 100th birthday by watching *Life on Earth: Attenborough's Greatest Adventure*. It's a surprising glimpse back behind the scenes at the making of the landmark documentary series 50 years after production began with the first *Life on Earth* film.

Attenborough's anniversary series is far from the only wonderful programming you'll find on KLRN during May and June. Front-row seats are ready for you to enjoy *Broadway's Best on Great Performances*. You'll also discover lesser-known stories of the American Revolution with *Declarations:*

Black Americans and the Revolutionary War and a salute to America's fallen heroes during our perennial favorite, the *National Memorial Day Concert*.

The programs mentioned just scratch the surface of what you'll see on KLRN. Because of your generous membership support, you and your neighbors will always find respite, illumination, and inspiration here. Thank you for making our world a little kinder and more positive by keeping KLRN well supported and accessible to all.

Sincerely,

Arthur R. Emerson
President and CEO

**GREAT
PERFORMANCES**
PRESENTS



Your front-row seat awaits as *Great Performances* brings you four acclaimed Broadway sensations on four consecutive Fridays in May. First up on stage is *Suffs*. This Tony Award-winning musical tells the story of the American suffragist movement and the remarkable friendships, heartbreak, and action that brought women together — or in some cases tore them apart. The ensemble cast features Shaina Taub as Alice Paul, Nikki M. James as Ida B. Wells, and Jenn Colella as Carrie Chapman Catt.

Following *Suffs* is *Top Hat*. Inspired by the 1935 movie musical that starred Fred

Astaire and Ginger Rogers, this musical features classic Irving Berlin songs including "Cheek to Cheek," "Let's Face the Music and Dance," and "Puttin' on the Ritz." This revival is directed and choreographed by three-time Tony Award-winner Kathleen Marshall.

For more than 50 years on PBS, *Great Performances* has provided an unparalleled showcase of the best in all genres of the performing arts, serving as America's most prestigious and enduring broadcaster of cultural programming.

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

W.E.B. Du Bois

REBEL WITH A CAUSE

For W.E.B. (William Edward Burghardt) Du Bois, the power of the pen was his greatest weapon. Born just five years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued by Abraham Lincoln, Du Bois lived through the collapse of Reconstruction, through two World Wars, to the rise of the Civil Rights Movement. Now Peabody Award-winning filmmaker Rita Coburn brings this prolific scholar and civil rights pioneer to light in a new two-hour documentary.

Viewers will follow this visionary's singular journey by exploring both his monumental achievements and his deeply personal struggles. From the loss of his infant son to his lifelong battles with systemic racism — Du Bois' humanity shaped his activism, inspiring leaders from the Harlem Renaissance to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Narrated by Viola Davis, *W.E.B. Du Bois: Rebel With A Cause* includes dramatic readings by Common, Courtney B. Vance, and Jeffrey Wright. The film is further illuminated with commentary from prominent scholars, historians, artists, and biographers including Henry Louis Gates Jr., Imani Perry, Eric Foner, and others.

Airs Tuesday, May 19, at 8 p.m.



Declarations: Black Americans and the Revolutionary War

As part of **PBS America @ 250** programming, KLRN is presenting *Declarations: Black Americans and the*

Revolutionary War. The founding tenets, as declared by the framers, stated: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...endowed with certain unalienable Rights, among them Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Yet for many of the enslaved and freed Black people who were helping to build the United States of America, these truths rang hollow.

Now this feature-length film expands the story of America's founding fathers and mothers by exploring the lives of four largely

forgotten Black men and women who created their own version of the American Dream despite all odds, and armed with the promises of the framers. Viewers will meet Elizabeth "Mumbet" Freeman, James Armistead Lafayette, Harry Washington, and Abraham Peyton Skipwith. These four Black Americans followed very different but equally powerful journeys in their quest for freedom, equality, and a better life during the early years of the republic.

Airs Monday, June 29, at 9 p.m.



DID YOU KNOW?

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT GREAT PERFORMANCES

1. *Great Performances* has been America's preeminent performing arts television series for 53 seasons and counting, showcasing a diverse range of performing arts specials from around the world.
2. Since its beginnings in 1972, *Great Performances* has received numerous accolades, including 67 Emmy Awards, six George Foster Peabody Awards, a Grammy Award, and an NAACP Image Award.
3. Its first episode premiered on November 4, 1972, with a broadcast production of the Lanford Wilson play *The Rimers of Eldritch*, starring a promising up-and-coming actress named Susan Sarandon.
4. In addition to the annual *Broadway's Best* programming, *Great Performances* has brought *From Vienna: The New Year's Celebration* to American audiences since 1985. Viewers ring in the new year with the famed Vienna Philharmonic at its annual concert from Vienna's Musikverein.
5. Repeat guest hosts include Walter Cronkite, Julie Andrews, Whoopi Goldberg, and Hugh Bonneville.
6. *Great Performances* was the brainchild of Jac Venza. He was among the pioneering leaders of American public media for over three decades. Venza was a major force in harnessing the power of television to achieve international recognition for America's leading performing artists.



Scan to watch on-demand



Hosted by Henry Cisneros

New episodes: April 30, May 21, June 18

Proudly supported by: Texas Mutual WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

klrn **Back to School Event**

Free school supplies, games & activities, costume character visit, cooking demos & more!

RSVP NOW!
klrn.org/events

FREE FAMILY EVENT!

July 11, 2026 | 10AM - 1PM

San Antonio Food Bank
5200 Historic Old Hwy 90, 78227

Viewer Comments

“Thank you for continuing to create representation for all different types of kids out there. It’s the reason I’ve loved y’all since I was young.”

— Melinda R., Converse

“KLRN is a valuable media outlet, and I hope we can save it for generations to come.”

— Sonja A., San Antonio

“PBS has some of my favorite programming of all time. Beautiful quality filming, production, and content.”

— Mandy F., San Antonio

klrn

Give Your Old Vehicle a New Purpose!

Donate cars, trucks, motorcycles and more to KLRN and support public media.



We will tow your vehicle at no cost to you!



Get a tax deductible receipt and help our cause.



Call us at **866-KLRN-123**

OR VISIT

www.klrn.org/CARS