Winter 2019 TCA Schedule

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***Remember, no pictures or videotaping allowed in the ballrooms at any time***

Thursday, January 31

9:00 pm – 2:00 am — PBS closed-circuit programming on channels 69 and 70

Friday, February 1

6:00 – 8:50 am — PBS closed-circuit programming on channels 69 and 70

8:30 Buffet breakfast (Viennese Ballroom)

9:00 **MOLLY OF DENALI** (PBS KIDS) press conference (Viennese Ballroom)

PBS KIDS’ newest animated series, MOLLY OF DENALI, is the first nationally distributed children’s series in the U.S. to feature a Native American lead character, with Alaska Native voices included in all aspects of production both on and off camera. The show follows Molly Mabray, a feisty and resourceful Alaska Native girl, her dog Suki and her friends Tooey and Trini on their daily adventures in Alaska. Designed for children ages 4-8, MOLLY OF DENALI will help kids learn through a literacy-based curriculum. Premieres Summer 2019.

- Lorne Cardinal, actor, “Grandpa Nat”
- Princess Johnson, creative producer
- Dorothea Gillim, executive producer
- Linda Simensky, vice president, Children’s Programming, PBS

PR Contact: Lubna Abuulbah, labuulbah@pbs.org; 703-739-8463

9:45 **PBS Programming Announcements** (Huntington Ballroom)

- Perry Simon, PBS chief programming executive and general manager, General Audience Programming
COUNTRY MUSIC preview press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

COUNTRY MUSIC will chronicle the history of a uniquely American art form, rising from the experiences of remarkable people in distinctive regions of our nation. From southern Appalachia’s songs of struggle, heartbreak and faith to the rollicking western swing of Texas, from California honky tonks to Nashville’s Grand Ole Opry, Ken Burns’s latest film will follow the evolution of country music over the course of the 20th century, focusing on the biographies of the fascinating characters who created it—from the Carter family, Jimmie Rodgers and Bob Wills, to Hank Williams, Johnny Cash, Loretta Lynn, Charley Pride, Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton, Merle Haggard, Emmylou Harris, Garth Brooks and many more—as well as the times in which they lived. And like the music itself, COUNTRY MUSIC will tell unforgettable stories—stories of the hardships and joys shared by everyday people. (Ken will not be in Pasadena, but will join us in person next summer at the Beverly Hilton to talk about the film.)

- Sally Williams, general manager, Grand Ole Opry Ryman Auditorium
- Dayton Duncan, writer and producer
- Julie Dunfey, producer

PR contact: Jordan Lawrence, 212-981-5220; jordan_lawrence@dkcnews.com; Joe DePlasco joe_deplasco@dkcnews.com; 212-981-5125

10:45 EMILIO & GLORIA ESTEFAN: THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GERSHWIN PRIZE FOR POPULAR SONG press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

A PBS music special honoring Emilio and Gloria Estefan's receipt of the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. The Estefans are musical auteurs who have created a unique sound of Latin rhythms that transcends cultural boundaries. The event, taping on March 13, 2019 at the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., will feature performances by Gloria Estefan and a star-filled lineup. During the event, the Estefans will be presented the Gershwin Prize by Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, and a delegation of Members of Congress. This will be the first time the Gershwin Prize will be awarded to a married couple or to musicians-songwriters of Hispanic descent. Premieres Friday, May 3

- Emilio Estefan, recipient
- Gloria Estefan, recipient
- Tim Swift, producer

PR contact: Kate Kelly, kkelly@weta.org; 703-998-2072

11:30 INDEPENDENT LENS “Charm City” press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

Meet a group of Baltimore citizens, police and government officials as they cope with the consequences of three years of unparalleled violence. With grit, fury and compassion, they're trying to reclaim their city’s future. Premieres Monday, April 22
• Maj. Monique Brown, Baltimore Police Department, film subject
• Marilyn Ness, director
• Brandon Scott, Baltimore City Councilman, film subject
• Lois Vossen, series executive producer

PR contact: Tanya Leverault, tanya.leverault@itvs.org; 415-356-8383 ext. 317

12:15 Buffet lunch (Viennese Ballroom)

12:45 **MASTERPIECE “Mrs. Wilson”** press conference (Viennese Ballroom)

Ruth Wilson (*The Affair, Luther*) stars as her grandmother Alison in this three-hour miniseries based on the true story of Alison’s complicated marriage to MI-5 operative and popular spy novelist Alexander Wilson, portrayed by Iain Glen (*Game of Thrones; Downton Abbey*). Fact and fiction merge in Alec’s life, when he deceives wives, children and colleagues. We follow Alison’s journey to the truth at the heart of Alec’s lies and deceit. Keeley Hawes, Patrick Kennedy and Fiona Shaw also star in this extraordinary true-life drama with a plot as tangled as anything by Alexander’s heir in the spy fiction genre, Ian Fleming. Premieres Sundays, March 31 & April 7

• Ruth Wilson, actor, “Alison Wilson”
• Iain Glen, actor, “Alec Wilson”
• Anna Symon, writer
• Rebecca Eaton, series executive producer

PR contacts: Ellen Dockser, 617-300-5338; ellen_dockser@wgbh.org; Laura Garvey, 617-300-5342; laura_garvey@wgbh.org

1:45 **BOSS: THE BLACK EXPERIENCE IN BUSINESS** press conference (Huntington)

The history of business and entrepreneurship lies at the heart of the American story, but often absent are the names and experiences of African Americans who, from the country’s earliest days, have embodied the qualities of innovation, risk-taking and determination to forge a path toward a better life – which is at the heart of the American entrepreneurial spirit. **BOSS: THE BLACK EXPERIENCE IN BUSINESS**, by Peabody and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Stanley Nelson, seeks to illuminate, educate, and inform, by examining more than 150 years of African American men and women – from those bound by bondage, to moguls at the top of multi-million dollar empires. Premieres Tuesday, April 23.

• Marcia Chatelain, Provost’s Distinguished Associate Professor of History and African American Studies, Georgetown University
• Richelieu Dennis, Founder, CEO & Executive Chairman – Sundial Brands; Founder & Chairman – Essence Ventures; Founder, New Voices Fund & New Voices Foundation
• Stanley Nelson, filmmaker
• Lesley Norman, executive producer

PR contact: Lindsey Horvitz, 212-560-6609; horvitzl@wnet.org; Dorean Pugh, 212-560-3005; pughd@wnet.org
2:30 AMERICAN MASTERS “Charley Pride: I’m Just Me” press conference, concluding with a two-song performance accompanied by guitarist Kevin Bailey (Huntington Ballroom)

Explore the complicated history of the American South and its music through the life of country star Charley Pride. Raised in the brutally segregated Mississippi Delta, Pride’s buttery voice, talent and steely resolve led him to the Country Music Hall of Fame. A Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award winner, his journey shows the ways that artistic expression can triumph over prejudice and injustice. Directed by Barbara J. Hall (PATSY CLINE: AMERICAN MASTERS). Premieres Friday, February 22

- Charley Pride, legendary performer
- Barbara J. Hall, director and executive producer
- Michael Kantor, series executive producer

PR contact: Natasha Padilla, 212-560-8824; padilla@wnet.org; Ava Tews, 212-560-8153; tewsa@wnet.org

3:25 Coffee break

3:45 FRONTLINE “Sex Trafficking in America” press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

Sex trafficking happens in every state across America — and many victims are America’s children. In this film, FRONTLINE travels to Phoenix, Arizona, where filmmaker Jezza Neumann and producer Lauren Mucciolo provide an up-close look at the lucrative industry and efforts to combat it. With unprecedented access to local law enforcement, the justice system and service providers, FRONTLINE has been following a case through the Maricopa County courts. Premieres Winter 2019 – TBA

- Marriah, trafficking survivor
- Lauren Mucciolo, producer
- Jezza Neumann, producer
- Det. Heidi Chance, Phoenix Police Department
- Raney Aronson-Rath, executive producer

PR contacts: Pam Johnston, pam_Johnston@wgbh.org; 617-300-5327; Anne Husted, Anne_husted@wgbh.org; 617-300-5312

4:30 NOVA “The Planets” press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

In this five-part miniseries, NOVA will explore the awesome beauty of “The Planets” of our solar system, including Saturn’s 175,000-mile-wide rings, Mars’ ancient dried waterfall beds that were once four times the size of any found on Earth and Neptune’s winds—12 times stronger than any hurricane felt on our planet. NOVA will also reveal how each of them has affected our own planet in unique ways. Premiering Wednesdays, July 24–August 14

- Gideon Bradshaw, miniseries showrunner, BBC Studios Science
• Dr. Linda Spilker, project scientist, Cassini, NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory
• Dr. Ashwin Vasavada, project scientist, Curiosity Mars Rover, NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory
• Chris Schmidt, miniseries executive producer and series senior producer

PR contact: Eileen Campion, 646-325-6455; 212-966-4600; Eileen@rc-pr.com; Jennifer Welsh, 978-985-9835; 617-300-4382; jennifer_welsh@wgbh.org

5:15  **MASTERPIECE “Les Misérables”** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

Dominic West (*The Affair, The Wire*) stars as Jean Valjean, David Oyelowo (*Selma, A United Kingdom*) as Javert and Lily Collins (*Rules Don’t Apply*) as Fantine in this epic retelling of Victor Hugo’s classic novel, *Les Misérables*. They are joined by a host of Britain’s most talented actors, including Olivia Colman (*The Favourite, The Crown, Broadchurch*) as Madam Thénardier, and Josh O’Connor (*The Crown, The Durrelles in Corfu*) as Marius. The six-part drama was written for the screen by Andrew Davies (*Pride & Prejudice, War & Peace*). Premieres Sundays, beginning April 14

  • Lily Collins, actor, “Fantine”
  • David Oyelowo, actor, “Inspector Javert,” and executive producer
  • Dominic West, actor, “Jean Valjean”
  • Andrew Davies, screenwriter
  • Rebecca Eaton, series executive producer

PR contacts: Ellen Dockser, 617-300-5338; ellen_dockser@wgbh.org; Laura Garvey, 617-300-5342; laura_garvey@wgbh.org

6:15–6:45  Press “scrum” with the cast and producers in the Huntington foyer

6:45–8:45  Cocktails and heavy hors d’oeuvres in the Lobby Lounge

9:00 pm–2:00 am – PBS closed-circuit programming on channels 69 and 70

**Saturday, February 2**

6:00–8:50 am – PBS closed-circuit programming on channels 69 and 70

8:30  Buffet breakfast (Viennese Ballroom)

9:15  **RECONSTRUCTION: AMERICA AFTER THE CIVIL WAR** press conference (Viennese Ballroom)

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. presents the definitive history of one of the least understood chapters in American history — the transformative years following the American Civil War, when the nation struggled to rebuild itself in the face of profound loss, massive destruction and revolutionary social change. The program takes a broad view of the Reconstruction era and its outcomes, beginning with the hopeful moment of war’s end and emancipation in 1865, and carrying through to 1915,
when the nation was fully entrenched in Jim Crow segregation. In the aftermath of the Civil War, members of the U.S. Congress endeavored to reunite North and South while granting citizenship rights to newly freed African Americans. The dream of an interracial democracy was brief, and the broken promises of the Reconstruction era haunt the country to this day. Premieres Tuesdays, April 9 & 16

- David W. Blight, Ph.D., author, and Yale University history professor
- Kimberlé Crenshaw, Columbia University and UCLA law professor
- Eric Foner, Ph.D., Columbia University history professor
- Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., executive producer and host

PR contact: Sara Serlen, reconstruction@id-pr.com; 212-774-6148

10:15 **AMERICAN MASTERS “Terrence McNally: Every Act of Life”** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

Explore four-time Tony-winning playwright Terrence McNally’s six groundbreaking decades in theater, from *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* and *Master Class* to *Ragtime*, *The Visit* and *Mothers and Sons*. The film also delves into McNally’s pursuit of love and inspiration throughout his career, LGBTQ activism, triumph over addiction, and the power of the arts to transform society. Produced, directed and written by Jeff Kaufman. Premieres Friday, June 14

- Terrence McNally, playwright
- Michael Shannon, Tony- and Oscar-nominated actor, soon be featured in the Broadway revival of *Frankie And Johnny In The Clair De Lune* with Audra McDonald
- Jeff Kaufman, producer, writer and director
- Michael Kantor, series executive producer

PR contact: Natasha Padilla, 212-560-8824; padilla@wnet.org and Ava Tews, 212-560-8153; tewsa@wnet.org

11:00 **JOSH GROBAN BRIDGES: IN CONCERT FROM MADISON SQUARE GARDEN** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

- Josh Groban, featured artist
- Jim Dunford, vice president, PBS programming and operations

Premieres March 2019 (check local listings). PR contact: Cara White, 843-881-1480; 843-224-1442; cara.white@mac.com

11:45 Buffet lunch (Viennese Ballroom)
12:45 **AMERICAN EXPERIENCE “Chasing the Moon”** press conference (Viennese)

This series about the space race, from its earliest beginnings to the monumental achievement of the first lunar landing in 1969 and beyond, premieres July 2019. CHASING THE MOON, a film by Robert Stone, thoroughly reimagines the race to the moon for a new generation, upending conventional mythology and recasting the Space Age as a fascinating stew of scientific innovation, political calculation, media spectacle, visionary impulses and personal drama. With a visual feast of previously overlooked and lost material, the film features a diverse cast of characters who played key roles in these historic events. Penguin Random House will publish the book *Chasing the Moon* to coincide with the PBS premiere, Monday through Wednesday, July 8-10.

- Mark Bloom, *New York Daily News* journalist who covered NASA’s Apollo missions
- Poppy Northcutt, a mathematics whiz who gained worldwide attention at age 25 as the first woman at NASA’s Mission Control
- Robert Stone, writer, producer and director
- Susan Bellows, series senior producer

PR contact: Cara White, 843-881-1480; 843-224-1442; cara.white@mac.com

2:00 **NATURE “American Spring LIVE”** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

“American Spring LIVE” will be an unprecedented NATURE event, broadcast over three consecutive days from iconic locations across North America showcasing varied ecosystems ranging from the Rockies to the Everglades, from inner-city parks to remote wilderness preserves. A diverse group of researchers and citizen scientists will investigate in real time how a wide range of organisms respond to the change of seasons. They will share their insights into the natural world and reveal new technologies that make their discoveries possible. A strong social media component will encourage the audience to participate in the event on a second screen, inspiring them to join in the adventure of science. Premieres Monday, April 29 through Wednesday, May 1

*In person:*

- Al Berman, executive producer
- Juju Chang, host
- Thor Hanson, science expert
- Fred Kaufman, series executive producer

*Via satellite:*

- Ann Johnson Prum, senior producer
- Nanne Kennedy, farmer
- Rachel Gately, veterinarian performing ewe sonogram
- Pregnant ewe

PR contact: Chelsey Saatkamp, 212-560-4905; SaatkampC@wnet.org
2:45 Coffee break

3:15 **PBS Executive Session** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

- Paula Kerger, President & CEO

PR contact: Jennifer Rankin Byrne, jrbyrne@pbs.org; 703-739-5487; Jeremy Gaines, jmgaines@pbs.org; 703-739-5135

4:00 **MASTERPIECE “Mystery!”** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

“Endeavour” — A sixth season of the popular prequel to the beloved “Inspector Morse” series. Set in the 1960s, the show follows Endeavour Morse in his early years. Premieres June 2019

“Grantchester” — Tom Brittney (*Outlander*) joins the hit series in its fourth season as Reverend Will Davenport, crime-solving partner to Robson Green’s Geordie Keating—replacing James Norton, who makes his final appearance in this new season. Premieres July 2019

- Tom Brittney, actor, “Rev. Will Davenport”
- Shaun Evans, actor, “Endeavor Morse”
- Rebecca Eaton, series executive producer

PR contacts: Ellen Dockser, 617-300-5338; ellen_dockser@wgbh.org; Laura Garvey, 617-300-5342; laura_garvey@wgbh.org

5:00 **GREAT PERFORMANCES “Julius Caesar”** press conference (Huntington Ballroom)

Featuring a monologue performance

Set in a women’s prison, GREAT PERFORMANCES “Julius Caesar” offers a powerful dramatization of the catastrophic consequences of a political leader’s extension of power beyond constitutional confines through an all-female lens. In this acclaimed Donmar Warehouse production directed Phyllida Lloyd (*The Iron Lady, Mamma Mia!*), Shakespeare’s famous discourse on power, loyalty and tragic idealism is heightened against the backdrop of female incarceration. The women play male inmates and guards: Brutus (Harriet Walter) wrestles with his moral conscience over the assassination of Julius Caesar (Jackie Clune), and Mark Antony (Jade Anouka) manipulates the crowd with subtle and incendiary rhetoric to create frenzied mob violence. Performed in-the-round and enhanced by a guerilla filming style on a mostly bare stage, GREAT PERFORMANCES “Julius Caesar” creates a unique perspective on Shakespeare’s tragedy. Premieres Friday, March 29.

- Harriet Walter, actor, “Brutus”
- David Horn, series executive producer

PR contact: Elizabeth Boone, 212-560-8831; BooneB@wnet.org

6:00 Buffet dinner and cocktails
7:15  **LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER “Stars in Concert: Megan Hilty”** — performance followed by press conference (Viennese Ballroom)

With her operatic voice range and sunny charm, Tony-nominated songstress Megan Hilty is the epitome of musical stardom. After making her Broadway debut as “Glinda” in *Wicked* opposite Idina Menzel to critical acclaim, Hilty went on to star in *Noises Off*, *9 to 5*, and TV’s musical drama *Smash*. For one night only, the multifaceted artist brings her immense talents and infectious charisma to the twinkling Appel Room with a versatile set of songs celebrating favorite musical-theater composers and classic standards. Premiere date TBA

Hers is one of three solo “Stars in Concert” specials coming to PBS’ LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER. Tony-winners Annaleigh Ashford and Cynthia Erivo will also headline their own episodes.

*TCA members and PBS-credentialed press are welcome to bring a guest.*

- Megan Hilty, Tony-nominated performer
- Andrew C. Wilk, series executive producer

PR contact: Desiree Naranjo, 212-875-5078; dnaranjo@lincolncenter.org

8:45 pm — PBS Press Tour concludes

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