



**PBS Summer TCA Schedule
Monday and Tuesday,
July 15 and 16, 2024**

as of July 13

Confidential for TCA Press Tour planning purposes only

Questions? Please email Phil Piga, ppiga@pbs.org

All press conferences will take place in the Huntington Ballroom

(For current season programming, visit pressroom.pbs.org)

MONDAY:

8:30 am – Buffet breakfast in the Viennese Ballroom

9:30 **MASTERPIECE "Moonflower Murders" press conference**

In "Moonflower Murders," Susan Ryeland (Lesley Manville, "The Crown," "Back to Black") has left publishing and is living in Crete with her long-time boyfriend, Andreas. But her idyll is disturbed by the shadow of a murder committed at a British country hotel eight years ago. Alan Conway visited the hotel and wrote a novel based on what happened there. Cecily Treherne, the young woman who helps run the hotel, read the book and believed the wrong man had been arrested. Now she has disappeared. Can Susan uncover the secret hidden in the book and find Cecily before it is too late? In Conway's novel "Atticus Pünd Takes the Case," (Tim McMullan, "Patrick Melrose," "The Crown") is assisted by Madeline Cain (Pippa Bennett-Warner, "See How They Run?," "Gangs of London") to investigate the murder of movie star Melissa James. When another death occurs, can Pünd and Miss Cain get to the bottom of what's really happening?

- Pippa Bennett-Warner, actress, "Madeline Cain"
- Jill Green, executive producer and founder of Eleventh Hour Films
- Anthony Horowitz, creator, writer, and executive producer
- Tim McMullan, actor, "Atticus Pünd" (via Zoom)
- Susanne Simpson, series executive producer

Premieres Sunday, September 15

Publicity contacts: Laura Garvey, 781-249-9143, laura_garvey@wgbh.org;

Kelly Moloney, 518-269-2829, kelly_moloney@wgbh.org

10:15 **PBS NEWS press conference**

Live from Milwaukee on Day 1 of the Republican National Convention, PBS News Hour co-anchors Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett will preview PBS News's special and cross-platform coverage of the summer political conventions and 2024 elections.

- Geoff Bennett, co-anchor, PBS News Hour (via Zoom)
- Amna Nawaz, co-anchor, PBS News Hour (via Zoom)

Publicity contact: Ella Richardson, erichardson@newshour.org

10:45 **Program press conference to be announced Monday morning**

11:30 **AMERICAN MASTERS "Blake Edwards: A Love Story in 24 Frames" press conference**

Discover the life and career of director Blake Edwards, one of Hollywood's most iconic figures. Edwards redefined slapstick comedy through a lens that still resonates with today's directors and actors. With a body of work spanning over a four-decade career — often in collaboration with his wife, legendary actress and singer Julie Andrews — the film offers reflections on the times he lived in and tackles issues including sex, gender, and power that remain at the forefront of present-day zeitgeist. Featuring interviews and never-before-seen video and stills from the Edwards/Andrews archive, explore the legacy of one of the most influential figures in film history.

- Bo Derek, actress, "10"
- Danny Gold, director
- Michael Kantor, series executive producer
- Lesley Ann Warren, Oscar-nominated actress, "Victor/Victoria"

Premieres Tuesday, August 27

Publicity contact: Lindsey Horvitz, 845-548-0104, horvitzl@wnet.org

12:15 pm – Buffet lunch in the Viennese Ballroom

1:15 **CARL THE COLLECTOR press conference**

This new PBS KIDS series for children ages 4-8 follows the everyday adventures of Carl, a warm-hearted autistic raccoon who enjoys collecting things and loves his friends and family in Fuzzytown. Carl pays extraordinarily close attention to detail and comes up with unique ideas that others might not consider. These traits have helped him amass his extensive collections — from autographs and bottle caps to fake mustaches, pet rocks, sweaters, and virtually everything in between — which can come in handy for solving problems around the neighborhood. In each episode, Carl and his friends work and play together, and in the process, find out what makes each of them who they are.

- Zachariah OHora, creator and executive producer
- Ava Rigelhaupt, writer
- Adriano Schmid, vice president, PBS KIDS content
- Lisa Whittick, director

Premieres Fall 2024

Publicity contact: Lubna Abuulbah, 571-263-0386, labuulbah@pbs.org

2:00 **INDEPENDENT LENS "One Person, One Vote?" press conference**

At a time when many Americans question democratic institutions, "One Person, One Vote?" unveils the complexities of the Electoral College, the uniquely American and often misunderstood mechanism for electing a president. The documentary follows four presidential electors representing different parties in Colorado during the intense 2020 election.

- Polly Baca, Democratic elector and former Colorado State Senator
- Jelani Cobb, dean and professor, Columbia Journalism School and staff writer at The New Yorker
- Maximina Juson, director, producer and cinematographer
- Lois Vossen, series executive producer
- Derrick Wilburn, Republican elector and founder and executive director, Rocky Mountain Black Conservatives

Premieres Monday, September 30

Publicity contact: Aisha Almada, 415-356-8383 x251, 562-457-7225, aisha.almada@itvs.org

2:45 **NATURE "San Diego: America's Wildest City" press conference**

San Diego is an oasis at the intersection of hostile worlds: the dividing line between the Mojave Desert to the East and the Pacific Ocean to the West; the Sierra Mountains to the North and Mexican border to the South. Despite its 3.3 million human residents and utterly transformed landscape, San Diego County is the most biologically diverse county in America. From the dramatic rituals of grebes and the playful antics of ground squirrels to the thrilling hunts of orcas, witness nature's resilience and beauty amidst the urban sprawl.

- Nate Dappen, writer and director
- Fred Kaufman, series executive producer
- Rattlesnake, coycodog and handler Benay Karp

Premieres Wednesday, November 6

Publicity contact: Chelsey Saatkamp, 513-266-1748, SaatkampC@wnet.org

3:30 Refreshment break in the Huntington Foyer featuring some of San Diego's wild animals, including the rattlesnake and baby opossums.

4:00 **VOCES “Latino Vote 2024” press conference**

VOCES “Latino Vote 2024” is a one-hour documentary and six digital shorts that examine a range of election related issues that matter most to the politically diverse Latino community in battleground states (Pennsylvania, Nevada, Wisconsin and Arizona) and states with large Latino populations (California and Florida). The program will also examine the role that Latino evangelical pastors are playing in shaping community perspectives and the role that Spanish-language media will play in the 2024 election.

- Andrés Cediél, producer and UC Berkeley professor
- Tamara Gould, producer
- Maria Teresa Kumar, founder and CEO, Voto Latino
- Pastor Sam Rodriguez, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference president and New Season lead pastor
- Bernardo Ruiz, director and producer

Premieres Tuesday, October 22

Publicity contacts: JP Shields, 646-620-6288, jps Shields@pbs socal.org, Cara White, 843-224-1442, cara.white@mac.com and Mary Lugo, 770-851-8190, lugo@negia.net

4:45 **NOVA “What Are UFOs?” press conference**

UFOs have long captivated the imagination of the public. Now, they’re moving out of the shadows and into the light as NASA pledges to study them scientifically. So, what does science have to say? NOVA’s investigation looks at the evidence from every angle, marshaling expert opinion from physicists, engineers, cosmologists, and others who are bringing new technologies and greater rigor to solving these mysteries. How can new ground-based sensors, NASA satellites, and crowdsourcing of data help explain what military pilots and others have seen? Many of these sightings can be attributed to physical objects like balloons or drones, weather phenomena, or optical illusions. But others so far remain mysterious. What other potential explanations remain? Could they be the result of secret new technology developed by other governments – or our own? And what would it take for alien engineers to traverse vast distances to send probes or visit Earth from other solar systems?

- Ryan Graves, former Lt. U.S. Navy and F/A-18F pilot, first active-duty pilot to come forward publicly about regular sightings of UAPs
- Terri Randall, producer, director, and writer
- Chris Schmidt, series co-executive producer
- Mick West, author, UFO analyst, and founder of Metabunk
- Shelley Wright, professor in astronomy, astrophysics and physics, University of California, San Diego

Premieres Wednesday, January 22

Publicity contact: Jordan Lawrence, 201-396-6529, jordan_lawrence@dkcnews.com and Jennifer Welsh, 978-985-9835, jennifer_welsh@wgbh.org

5:30 – 7:00 pm – Reception in the Lobby Lounge

TUESDAY:

8:00 am – Buffet breakfast in the Viennese Ballroom

9:00 **BIG CATS 24/7 press conference**

In this six-part series, a team of local and international wildlife filmmakers uses the latest technology to follow a group of African big cats in Botswana's awe-inspiring Okavango Delta, day and night for six months, revealing their lives like never before.

- Brad Bestelink, wildlife cinematographer (via Zoom from Africa base camp)
- Rowan Crawford, series producer, BBC Studios
- Anna Dimitriadis, wildlife cinematographer (via Zoom from Africa base camp)
- Diana El-Osta, senior director, multiplatform programming and development, PBS
- Gokongwei Seetsele "Sets" Nthomiwa, wildlife cinematographer (via Zoom from Africa base camp)

Premieres Wednesday, September 18

Publicity contact: Meredith Tiger, 516-551-8511, mjtiger@pbs.org

9:45 **LEONARDO DA VINCI press conference**

LEONARDO DA VINCI is a two-part, four-hour documentary directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Burns, and David McMahon that explores the life and work of the 15th century polymath. Set against the rich and dynamic backdrop of Renaissance Italy, the film brings the artist's towering achievements to life through his prolific personal notebooks, primary and secondary accounts of his life, and on-camera interviews with modern scholars, artists, engineers, inventors, and admirers.

- Sarah Burns, filmmaker
- David McMahon, filmmaker

Premieres Monday and Tuesday, November 18 and 19

Publicity contacts: Jordan Lawrence, 201-396-6529, jordan_lawrence@dkcnews.com; and Meredith Tiger, 516-551-8511, mjtiger@pbs.org

10:30 **FRONTLINE "China, the U.S. & the Rise of Xi Jinping" press conference**

FRONTLINE investigates the state of U.S.-China relations, the key turning points as the two countries have grown apart, and the high stakes for the U.S., China and the world.

- Raney Aronson-Rath, series executive producer
- Marcela Gaviria, director and producer
- Martin Smith, director and producer
- Jianying Zha, journalist and author

Premieres Tuesday, October 8
Publicity contact: Anne Husted, 617-300-5312, anne_husted@wgbh.org

11:15 **POV "Who's Afraid of Nathan Law?" press conference**

At 21, he was a leader of Hong Kong's Umbrella Revolution. By 23, he became Hong Kong's youngest elected lawmaker. At 26, he was Most Wanted under the National Security Law. "Who's Afraid of Nathan Law?" offers a close look at the city's most famous dissident to uncover what happens to freedom when an authoritarian power goes unchecked.

- Nathan Law, film subject (via Zoom from the UK)
- Matthew Torne, producer
- Chris White, series executive producer

Premieres Monday, September 23
Publicity contact: Marlea Willis, mwillis@pov.org

12:00 HOTEL PORTOFINO themed lunch in the Viennese Ballroom

1:00 **VOCES "American Historia: The Untold History of Latinos" press conference**

Actor and playwright John Leguizamo's work preparing for his 2018 Broadway show, "Latin History for Morons," produced an obsession with reading and researching the history of the Americas. His frustration over the whitewashing of American history, coupled with his nature as a curious student of the world, resulted in "American Historia." In this three-part series, Leguizamo travels throughout Mexico and the U.S. to shed light on both the known and lesser-known Latino stories.

- Ben DeJesus, co-creator, director, and executive producer
- John Leguizamo, co-creator, host, and executive producer
- Stephen Segaller, vice president, programming, The WNET Group

Premieres Fridays, September 27, October 4 and 11
Publicity contact: Cara White, 843-224-1442, cara.white@mac.com; Mary Lugo, 770-851-8190, lugo@negia.net; Lindsey Horvitz, 845-548-0104, horvitzl@wnet.org

1:45 **COUNTING THE VOTE: A FIRING LINE SPECIAL WITH MARGARET HOOVER press conference**

In this one-hour documentary, Margaret Hoover embarks on a journey to explore voting systems across the United States. She examines methods to increase voter confidence and sheds light on states that face challenges in their vote count processes as the 2024 election approaches.

- David Becker, non-partisan attorney and election expert
- Jocelyn Benson, Michigan Secretary of State

- Ben Ginsberg, Republican election lawyer for President George W. Bush in 2000, later testified before the Jan 6th committee against fraud claims
- Margaret Hoover, host and correspondent

Premieres Tuesday, August 27

Publicity contact: Lindsey Horvitz, 845-548-0104, horvitzl@wnet.org

2:30 **HOTEL PORTOFINO (Season 3) press conference**

Set on the Italian coast during the 1920s, this series follows the story of Bella Ainsworth, the daughter of a wealthy industrialist who has moved to the breathtakingly beautiful seaside town of Portofino with dreams of opening a quintessentially British hotel. The period drama leans into the long-established literary tradition of comic and idiosyncratic British travelers abroad and their various adventures, while exploring the liberating influence of Italy's enchanting culture, climate, and cuisine on these more reserved foreign guests. But the show is also occasionally laced with darker themes and more serious storylines, which is understandable as it is set against the historical backdrop of the rise of fascism in Mussolini's Italy.

- Matt Baker, series creator and writer (via Zoom from the UK)
- Sylvia Bugg, chief programming executive, PBS
- Natascha McElhone, actress, "Bella Ainsworth"
- Mark Umbers, actor, "Cecil Ainsworth"

Premieres Sunday, July 28

Publicity contact: Caitlin Jaynes, cjaynes@mprm.com; Chelsie Pope, 703-405-8280, cepope@pbs.org

3:15 Refreshment break in the Huntington Foyer

3:45 **AMERICAN EXPERIENCE "Wilmington 1898: An American Coup" (w.t.) press conference**

In November 1898, the multiracial government of Wilmington, North Carolina, was overthrown by white supremacists in a deadly massacre and coup d'état. This film tells the little-known story in which white supremacists overthrew the multiracial "Fusion" government of the state's largest city through a coordinated campaign of violence and intimidation that destroyed Black political and economic power and imposed white control. It combines a detailed investigation of the events of 1898 and their broader historical contexts with an examination of present-day efforts to seek justice and correct the historical record.

- Cameo George, series executive producer
- Kieran Haile, great-great grandson of Alexander Manly, editor and publisher, The Daily Record, Wilmington's only Black-owned daily newspaper of the era
- Brad Lichtenstein, co-director
- Dr. Crystal R. Sanders, associate professor, African American studies, Emory University

Premieres Tuesday, November 12
Publicity contact: Cara White, 843-224-1442, cara.white@mac.com and Mary Lugo,
770-851-8190, lugo@negia.net

4:30 **AMERICAN MASTERS and VOCES "Julia Alvarez: A Life Reimagined"**
press conference

Explore the life and career of Julia Alvarez, one of the most influential Latina writers of her generation. Since bursting onto the American literary scene in 1991 with her autobiographical novel, "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents," the widely acclaimed book that sold 250,000 copies, followed by "In the Time of the Butterflies" (1994), which raised global awareness about three sisters assassinated by Dominican dictator Rafael Trujillo, Alvarez has blazed a trail for Latina authors to break into the literary mainstream. As one of the most critically acclaimed and commercially successful writers, Alvarez's work spans multiple genres and audiences, including three books of nonfiction, three collections of poetry, 11 books for children and young adults, and seven literary novels.

- Julia Alvarez, film subject
- Adriana Bosch, director and producer
- Michael Kantor, series executive producer, AMERICAN MASTERS

Premieres Tuesday, September 17
Publicity contacts: Lindsey Horvitz, 845-548-0104; and horvitzl@wnet.org Mary Lugo,
770-851-8190, lugo@negia.net

5:00 **GREAT PERFORMANCES "Patsy Cline: Walkin' After Midnight"**
press conference

Patsy Cline's music transcended generations, leaving an indelible mark on the cultural landscape of American music. With her unmistakable voice and heartfelt delivery, she became a trailblazer in country music and beyond, paving the way for countless artists who followed in her footsteps. Filmed at the renown Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, this tribute concert features Beverly D'Angelo, Grace Potter, Crystal Gayle, Kellie Pickler, Kristin Chenoweth, Mickey Guyton, Rita Wilson, Pam Tillis, Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo, Wynonna, and many more.

- Beverly D'Angelo, actress and singer, portrayed Cline in "Coal Miner's Daughter"
- Julie Fudge, daughter of Patsy Cline
- David Horn, series executive producer
- Grace Potter, Grammy-nominated recording artist
- Barbara Hall, executive producer

Premieres November 22, 2024
Publicity contact: Elizabeth Boone, 212-560-8831, booneb@wnet.org

5:45 Press Tour ends

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(For current season programming, visit pressroom.pbs.org)