**BETTY WHITE: FIRST LADY OF TELEVISION**

**Premieres Tuesday, August 21 on PBS**

**TCA PANELIST BIOS**

**STEVE BOETTCHER** is the five-time Emmy-winning filmmaker who created the popular PBS series *Pioneers of Television*.Through four seasons of that series, Boettcher landed exclusive in-depth interviews with the top-tier of Hollywood celebrities, including Jerry Seinfeld, Tina Fey, Jay Leno, Ray Romano, Bob Newhart, Carol Burnett, Carl Reiner, Oprah Winfrey and more than 100 others. After *Pioneers of Television*, Mr*.* Boettcher and producing partner Mike Trinklein began a series of ambitious documentaries, each featuring a single iconic celebrity. The first, *Robin Williams Remembered*,was one of PBS’ top-rated shows of 2014. That film was followed by *Mary Tyler Moore: A Celebration*, a critically-acclaimed look at Ms. Moore’s life and career. Mr. Boettcher has spent the last five years on the Betty White project, which stands as the definitive film on White’s life and career.

**ARTHUR DUNCAN** is a singer and dancer who became the first African-American regular on a television talk/variety show when Betty White hired him for *The Betty White Show* in 1954. Shortly after his first appearances, stations in the south demanded he be dropped from the program. Betty refused, and instead did the opposite — increasing Mr. Duncan’s role on her series. Later, Mr. Duncan joined *The Lawrence Welk Show* where he performed from 1964 to 1982. Mr. Duncan began his dancing career at age 13, in 1946. More than 70 years later, he’s still dancing.

**GEORGIA ENGEL** has been one of Betty White’s closest friends for more than 35 years. Georgia is best known as the lovably naive Georgette on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, where she first met Betty. When Betty got her own sitcom in 1977, *The Betty White Show*, Georgia played her character’s best friend. The two have remained close over the years, often getting together for visits to zoos and animal preserves. Georgia and Betty were reunited onscreen for the third season of *Hot in Cleveland,* when Georgia again played the best friend of Betty’s character. Ms. Engel is an accomplished comic performer in her own right, having appeared on a range of sitcoms including *The Office* and *Two and a Half Men*. She’s also starred on Broadway from the late 1960s up to the present day; her most recent production was *Half Time*,which just finished its run this July.

**GAVIN MacLEOD** traded barbs with Betty White on *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* for most of the 1970s. As the quick-witted Murray, he was the perfect counterpoint to Betty’s man-hungry character Sue Ann Nivens. In 2013, he reunited with Betty for a YouTube video that ranked among the most-watched viral clips that year. After *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, Mr.MacLeod went on to his most-famous role as Capt. Stubing on *The Love Boat*. Mr.MacLeod’s long career has included a range of parts, from guest spots on *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, *Hogan’s Heroes* and *That 70s Show*,to movie roles in films like *Kelly’s Heroes* and *Operation Petticoat*.