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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NOVA ‘A.I. REVOLUTION’**

**DIVES INTO THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF ONE OF THE MOST CONSEQUENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS OF OUR TIME**

**Premieres Wednesday, March 27 at 9 p.m. ET/8 p.m CT on PBS**

**Also available for streaming at** [**pbs.org/nova**](https://pbs.org/nova)**,** [**NOVA on YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/user/NOVAonline)**, and the** [**PBS App**](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/)

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**BOSTON, MA; Feb.12, 2024—**The award-winning PBS science series, **NOVA**, a production of **GBH**, will premiere the one-hour film “**A.I. REVOLUTION” Wednesday, March 27 at 9 p.m. ET/8 p.m. CT on PBS.** Can we harness the power of artificial intelligence to solve some of the world’s most challenging problems without creating an uncontrollable force that ultimately destroys us? New A.I. tools like ChatGPT can now answer complex questions, write essays, and generate realistic-looking images in a matter of seconds. In **“A.I. REVOLUTION**,” which will also be available for streaming at [**pbs.org/nova**](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/ai-revolution/)**,** [**NOVA on YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/user/NOVAonline)**,** and the [**PBS App**](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/), correspondent **Miles O’Brien** meets some of the scientists who are at the forefront of A.I. advancement and explores the promise, perils, and possible future of this unprecedented technology taking the world by storm.

**“**There’s been a lot of media coverage of people’s fears of A.I. and the idea that it could one day turn against us,” said **NOVA Co-Executive Producer Julia Cort.** “At the same time, many scientists we’ve talked to are excited and optimistic, convinced that A.I. will help us build a substantially better, healthier future. We hope this film will provide audiences with a deeper understanding of the technology, so they can make informed decisions about the best path forward.”

“The conversation around A.I. in our world is changing rapidly every day,” said correspondent **Miles O’Brien**. “‘**A.I. REVOLUTION’** aims to show people what this new technology is capable of, as well as some of the concerns that emerge when you are creating something that has the power to perceive things far beyond the scope of our own understanding of the world.”

**“A.I. REVOLUTION”** dives into how scientists have modeled A.I. to mimic the human brain in so-called neural networks on powerful supercomputers. The film highlights the development of AlphaGo, software created to play the Chinese board game, Go — a notoriously complex strategy game. Tasked with beating reigning champion Lee Sedol, A.I. researcher **Mustafa Suleyman** details the strategies that the team at DeepMind employed to coach AlphaGo to victory — taking inspiration from the way human brains work. Researchers trained AlphaGo with a large data set of expert Go games so that it could learn how the game is played. Then, the software played against itself millions of times. Not only did AlphaGo beat Sedol, but the software made a completely novel move — so creative that some initially believed it to be a mistake.

The power of A.I. to recognize complex patterns and make predictions has already grown beyond the capacity of the human brain in several key areas, opening up major opportunities in many fields, including medicine. Using pattern recognition software similar to AlphaGo along with deep learning models, theoretical chemist **Petrina Kamya** and her team at biotech startup Insilico Medicine are developing new drugs by predicting protein structures significantly faster than human researchers were previously able to. Additionally, the film follows Miles — whose left arm was amputated after an accident a decade ago — as he visits a bioengineering company called CoApt. The company has developed a machine learning algorithm that can interpret faint electromyographic (EMG) signals from amputees to allow them more control of myoelectric limbs. CEO **Blair Lock** attached Miles to a virtual prosthetic depicted on a screen, in order to begin the process of training the AI model which will be in his new arm.

Beyond drug discovery and prosthetics, the film explores several other ways that A.I. is transforming science. Computer scientist **Regina Barzilay** at Massachusetts General Hospital has trained a neural network to detect breast cancer from mammograms years before they are detectable by human eyes with over 85% accuracy. A.I. is also being used to help detect lung cancer. Lives are even being saved from natural disasters, as A.I. is now being deployed in California to detect wildfires early before they rage out of control.

In addition to these hopeful stories, “**A.I. REVOLUTION”** also presents some of the threats that A.I. poses to our society. Miles speaks with **Hany Farid**, a professor of computer science at UC Berkeley, on the rise of A.I.-generated deep fake videos featuring false impersonations of any individual. To demonstrate, Hany creates two deep fake videos of Miles — one showing an exact replica of Miles speaking words that the real Miles never spoke, and another placing Miles’s face on “The Terminator" from the blockbuster science fiction franchise. Hany shares his concern that A.I. generated photos and videos will lead people to distrust the world around them.

While deep fakes are already starting to fool people, some fear that A.I. could cause far greater harm. **Yoshua Bengio**, a pioneer of A.I., deep learning, and neural networks, says that he has now shifted his research to focus solely on the threat A.I. poses to humankind. He, along with many other experts, signed a public statement saying that mitigating the risk of extinction from A.I. should be a global priority.

“This is the perfect time for **NOVA** to lift the veil on A.I. and provide a clear picture of what this technology is, how it works, what it can — and cannot — do, and explore the key potential risks and benefits,” said **NOVA Co-Executive Producer Chris Schmidt**. “‘**A.I. REVOLUTION’** is the newest installment in a story NOVA has been following over the last fifty years, at a moment where researchers are at a crossroads — confronting thorny issues around regulation and ethics.”

**“A.I. REVOLUTION”** features interviews with experts who have unparalleled insight into the most cutting-edge A.I. innovations. Experts in the series include Inflection AI CEO **Mustafa Suleyman,** MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL) director **Daniela Rus**, MIT CSAIL computer science professor **Manolis Kellis**, CoAptCEO **Blair Lock,** MIT CSAIL professor for AI and health **Regina Barzilay**, MIT CSAIL researcher **Alexander Amini**, Head of AI Platforms and President of Insilico Medicine Canada **Petrina Kamya**, University of California, Berkeley professor of computer science **Hany Farid**, Cal Fire's staff chief for fire intelligence **Phillip SeLegueg**, and A.I.pioneer, founder, and scientific director of the Mila-Quebec AI Institute **Yoshua Bengio** as they untangle the world of artificial intelligence.

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**“A.I. REVOLUTION”** is a NOVA Production by MOBIAS Media, Inc. for GBH. Produced by Will Toubman. Reported, produced, and directed by Miles O’Brien. Senior Producer for NOVA is Caitlin Saks. Executive Producers for NOVA are Julia Cort and Chris Schmidt. NOVA is a production of GBH. A.I. REVOLUTION is distributed internationally by [PBS International](https://pbsinternational.org/).

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**About NOVA**

[NOVA](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/?utm_source=promourl&utm_medium=direct&utm_campaign=nova_2019) is the most popular primetime science series on American television, demystifying the scientific and technological concepts that shape and define our lives, our planet, and our universe. The PBS series is also one of the most widely distributed science programs around the world, and is a multimedia, multiplatform brand reaching more than 55 million Americans every year on TV and online. NOVA’s important and inspiring stories of human ingenuity, exploration, and the quest for knowledge are regularly recognized with the industry’s most prestigious awards. As part of its mission to make the scientific enterprise accessible to all, NOVA is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all its work, from the production process to the range of stories we tell and the voices we amplify. In addition, science educators across the country rely on NOVA for resources used in the classroom as well as in museums, libraries, and after-school programs. NOVA is a production of GBH; more information can be found at [pbs.org/nova](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/?utm_source=promourl&utm_medium=direct&utm_campaign=nova_2019), or by following NOVA on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NOVApbs/),[X](https://twitter.com/novapbs) (formerly Twitter), or [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/novapbs/?hl=en).

**About PBS**

[PBS](http://www.pbs.org/), with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 120 million people through television and 26 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’s broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS’s premier children’s media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math, and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV — including a 24/7 channel — online at  [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org/), via an array of mobile apps, and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [PBS.org](http://pbs.org), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following  [PBS on Twitter](https://twitter.com/pbs), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs) or through  our  [apps for mobile and connected devices](http://www.pbs.org/anywhere/home/). Specific program information and updates for press are available at  [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pressroom.pbs.org/) or by following [PBS Communications on X](https://twitter.com/PBS_PR) (formerly Twitter).

**About GBH**

GBH is the leading multiplatform creator for public media in America. As the largest producer of content for PBS and partner to NPR and PRX, GBH delivers compelling experiences, stories and information to audiences wherever they are. GBH produces digital and broadcast programming that engages, illuminates and inspires, through drama and science, history, arts, culture and journalism. It is the creator of such signature programs as MASTERPIECE, ANTIQUES ROADSHOW, FRONTLINE, NOVA, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, *Arthur* and *Molly of Denali,* as well as WORLD Channel and a catalog of streaming series, podcasts and on-demand video. With studios and a newsroom headquartered in Boston, GBH reaches across New England with GBH 89.7, Boston’s Local NPR®; CRB Classical 99.5; and CAI, the Cape and Islands NPR® station. Dedicated to making media accessible to and inclusive of our diverse culture, GBH is a pioneer in delivering media to those who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind and visually impaired. GBH creates curriculum-based digital content for educators nationwide with PBS LearningMedia and has been recognized with hundreds of the nation’s premier broadcast, digital and journalism awards. Find more information at [wgbh.org](https://www.wgbh.org/).

**Press Contacts:**

Jordan Lawrence

DKC Public Relations

jordan\_lawrence@dkcnews.com

212.981.5220

Jennifer Welsh

NOVA/GBH

jennifer\_welsh@wgbh.org

978.985.9835