

**PBS KIDS Launches Civics Content Initiative in 2024**

*CITY ISLAND Season 2 and Two New Music Video Series, TOGETHER WE CAN (w.t.) and CITY ISLAND SINGS, Along with Other Social Studies-Themed Programming to Encourage Young Viewers to Learn About and Get Involved in Their Communities*

**Arlington, VA, February 12, 2024** – Beginning this year, [**PBS KIDS**](http://www.pbskids.org/) is rolling out a full slate of civics-themed content. The effort will span across a range of both new and existing series aimed at encouraging viewers to get involved in their communities and learn more about what’s happening around them. The programming, which will expand on PBS KIDS’ Social Studies learning goals, will feature a second season of hit shorts series, [**CITY ISLAND**](https://www.pbs.org/about/about-pbs/blogs/news/city-island-shorts-to-premiere-on-pbs-kids-december-26-2022/), and two new music video series, **CITY ISLAND SINGS** and **TOGETHER WE CAN** (w.t), created with Sesame Workshop.PBS KIDS is also in development with TIME Studios on a live-action shorts series supporting civic engagement through media literacy.

“Kids are so perceptive to everything happening around them, and at PBS KIDS, we believe it’s important that they have a place to go to learn about civics in an age-appropriate way,” said Sara DeWitt, Senior Vice President and General Manager, PBS KIDS. “At a time when many K-12 schools have cut back on civics curriculum requirements, we are significantly expanding our offerings to meet the growing need, reinforce the core principles of citizenship, and help kids understand how they can be a good neighbor and have a positive and lasting impact in their communities.”

PBS KIDS’ civics-focused content integrates foundational Social Studies concepts to support the core idea that everyone, including children, can be active and contributing members of their home, school, and broader communities. When they work together as a member of a group, conduct themselves responsibly, and develop conflict resolution skills, children begin to explore ideas at the heart of government and the democratic process. This content, including **CITY ISLAND SINGS, CITY ISLAND Season 2, TOGETHER WE CAN** (w.t.),and **ROSIE’S RULES** were made possible with funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. CPB and PBS KIDS are committed to helping all kids become informed citizens and active members of their communities.

The growing world of [**CITY ISLAND**](https://pbskids.org/video/city-island/) will include a new suite of games that will enable young players to become **CITY ISLAND** citizens, along with a new music video spin-off series, **CITY ISLAND SINGS**, which encompasses 10 music videos that will debut across streaming platforms every Wednesday and Friday beginning May 29. Season 2 of the series, which will include 20 episodes that will roll out every Friday, is set to premiere on July 5 and builds on the first season’s focus on civic engagement, expanding the curricular focus to media literacy, covering topics such as news media, fact-based reporting, advertisements, and the flow of information on the internet.

**CITY ISLAND,** from creator Aaron Augenblick and Future Brain Media, is a series of animated shorts for early elementary school-aged children set in a thriving metropolis and living city, where every object is a character. It includes local organizations, government institutions, and a diverse citizenry (like main character Watt, a lightbulb, and his friend Windy, a kite), while highlighting topics like cooperation, conflict resolution, and city planning. The series aims to help foster young viewers’ understanding of how cities and communities work.

New music-focused series **TOGETHER WE CAN** (w.t.),created and produced by Sesame Workshop**,** consistsof 20 live-action music videos that cover civics topics such as what it means to be a member of a community, the importance of rules and rights, and broader civics engagement concepts from voting and symbols of democracy to our Constitution. TOGETHER WE CAN, for children 4-8, will premiere the first ten episodes on July 3, with the remaining ten rolling out on August 7.

New content, including new episodes of **ROSIE’S RULES**, will join PBS KIDS’ existing civics-oriented offerings, like **YOU, ME & COMMUNITY**, a series of animated shorts about broader civics themes with catchy songs, which cover roles and responsibilities in communities, different kinds of families, creating positive change in your community, and more. In addition, slated for October is a playlist of civics-focused episodes from hit PBS KIDS series such as **ARTHUR, ROSIE’S RULES, DANIEL TIGER’S NEIGHBORHOOD, MOLLY OF DENALI, ALMA’S WAY, PEG + CAT,** and **XAVIER RIDDLE AND THE SECRET MUSEUM**.

**About PBS KIDS**

PBS KIDS believes the world is full of possibilities, and so is every child. As the number one educational media brand for kids, PBS KIDS helps children ages 2-8 learn lessons that last a lifetime. Through media and community-based programs, PBS KIDS wants children to see themselves uniquely reflected and celebrated in lovable, diverse characters who serve as positive role models, and to explore their feelings and discover new adventures along the way. Families can [stream PBS KIDS for free anytime](https://help.pbs.org/support/solutions/12000004780), no subscription required. A large collection of mobile apps and [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org/) provide accessible content that spark kids’ curiosity. PBS KIDS and local stations across the country support the entire ecosystem in which children learn and grow – including their teachers and caregivers, parents, and community – providing resources accessible anytime and anywhere. For more information, visit [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom), or follow PBS KIDS on [Twitter](http://twitter.com/pbskids), [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/pbskids) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/pbskids).

# # #

**Contacts:**
Lubna Abuulbah, PBS KIDS; 703-739-8463; pbskidspr@pbs.org
Alison Grand, Grand Communications; 212-584-1133; alison@grandcommunications.comGabrielle Torello, Grand Communications; 917-312-2832; gab@grandcommunications.com