

MASTERPIECE™

Downton Abbey Fans Invited to Special Preview Screening at WKAR

Three free showings on Saturday, December 13

Guests are encouraged to attend in period wear, pose for photos and snap selfies

EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN; DECEMBER 1, 2014 – Mid-Michigan fans of the popular **Downton Abbey** TV series from PBS have a chance for a sneak peak at the intricately interlaced stories of the Crawley family in the upcoming season of the award-winning hit from **MASTERPIECE** on PBS.

Three free preview screenings of **Downton Abbey Season Five** will be offered on **Saturday, December 13. Showtimes are 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.** at WKAR Studio A in the Communication Arts and Sciences building on the campus of Michigan State University.

Fans will get to see the full first episode of season five, which returns in January with new cast members Richard E. Grant (*Girls, Gosford Park, Doctor Who*) as a guest of the Granthams, Anna Chancellor (*The Hour, Four Weddings and a Funeral*) playing Lady Anstruther and Rade Sherbedgia (*Eyes Wide Shut, 24*) as a Russian refugee.

Guests are encouraged to attend in period wear, pose for photos and snap selfies. There will be Downton Abbey prizes and giveaways.

"This has become an annual free event for WKAR, and our fans absolutely love it," says Susi Elkins, WKAR TV station manager. "Last year, we had a great turnout in Jackson and our screening in Williamston was fully booked within 48 hours of opening reservations."

"We're excited to bring the show into our own Studio A this year," says Elkins. "It's a fun opportunity to meet new fans, and give WKAR viewers an inside look at their local source for quality, original television."

The event is free, but seating is limited and reservations are required at WKAR.org.

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Downton Abbey Season 5 premieres Sunday, January 4, on WKAR-TV and PBS.
For DVDs and more Downton Abbey items, visit shopPBS.org.

The **WKAR Network** is part of Michigan State University's College of Communication Arts and Sciences. The **WKAR Network** provides mid-Michigan and the global community with award-winning original programming and the best from PBS and NPR via television channels WKAR-HD, WKAR World and WKAR Create; and radio broadcasts at 90.5 FM, AM 870 and WKAR Radio Reading Service. At WKAR.org and video.wkar.org, the network offers live audio streaming, plus local news features, TV original full episodes and the best from NPR and PBS on-demand. The **WKAR Network** provides additional community outreach with WKAR Ready to Learn Service and PBS LearningMedia.

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DOWNTON ABBEY IS A CARNIVAL FILMS/MASTERPIECE CO-PRODUCTION



FUNDING FOR MASTERPIECE IS PROVIDED BY

