

NEWS RELEASE

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Expand Your World! WKAR Fall Preview Specials Highlight New Season Ahead

(East Lansing, MI) – WKAR will kick off its fall season with a series of three half-hour TV specials highlighting upcoming programs, both local and from PBS, that promise to expand the viewer’s world, and intrigue and delight them.

WKAR Fall Preview will air Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 3-5 at 9 p.m. The three separate specials will be hosted by WKAR’s TV station manager Susi Elkins and broadcasting director Gary Reid, with guest appearances by WKAR hosts Al Martin (**Current Sports**) and Mark Bashore (**Current State**).

On Tuesday, Sept. 3, learn what’s new in arts, culture and drama. Included will be clips from the anticipated series **Last Tango in Halifax**, premiering in September. The new series stars **Masterpiece Theatre** veteran Derek Jacobi and Anne Reid as two seniors who meet again after 60 years and fall in love. Also included is a look at two new Britcoms joining the WKAR line-up, **The Café** and **Doc Martin**. Locally produced programs that will be highlighted include **BackStage Pass** and a new WKAR offering, **Forte**, featuring area high school bands. And, for those wondering about **Downton Abbey** and **Sherlock**, updates on what's ahead for both programs will be included.

Wednesday, Sept. 4, WKAR’s Fall Preview will focus on documentaries, science, nature and children’s programs. Programs highlights will include **Independent Lens**, **American Experience**, a new three-part series on superheroes, and **Earthflight: A Nature Special Presentation**. For kids, the delightful new **Peg + Cat** premieres in October. WKAR’s local documentaries will include a look at **Wills and Steel**, a film following the creation of the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum and a new documentary on the Verdehr Trio.

On Thursday, Sept. 5, the series will wrap up with a look at news, public affairs and WKAR’s new **Current Sports** series. This weekly program will be hosted by Al Martin and make its debut on Thursday, Sept. 12, featuring an exclusive interview with Greg “Special K” Kelsner, former Spartan and NBA star and current Pistons color analyst for Fox Sports and sports commentator for the Big Ten Network. **Fall Preview** will also take a look ahead with WKAR Radio host Mark Bashore for upcoming programs on **Current State**, a daily radio show that was launched at the beginning of the year.

WKAR Fall Preview is made possible in part by contributions from the Michigan Humanities Council and the Levine Law Group.

WKAR is part of Michigan State University’s College of Communication Arts & Sciences and includes WKAR-TV, WKAR Radio, WKAR.org, WKAR Radio Reading Service and WKAR Ready To Learn. WKAR is funded in large part by contributions from viewers and listeners, with additional support from Michigan State University and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

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