



**WKAR INVITES TECH-SAVVY MICHIGAN EDUCATORS TO ENTER  
NATIONAL PBS DIGITAL INNOVATORS PROGRAM**

*Program recognizes innovative K-12 educators using digital media and  
technology to advance student achievement*

**EAST LANSING, MI; JANUARY 15, 2014** -- Today, WKAR announced the third annual **2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators Program** for tech-savvy K-12 educators. Mid-Michigan teachers are encouraged to apply for the program, which recognizes the top 100 applicants nationwide who are incorporating digital media in classrooms and serving as leaders in educational technology.

Beginning today through **February 11, 2015**, mid-Michigan educators can apply to the PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators program by submitting a 60 -120 second video showcasing how they are creatively using digital technology and tools in the classroom to drive student achievement and completing a profile and two essay questions. The online application is available at [pbslearningmedia.org/digitalinnovators](http://pbslearningmedia.org/digitalinnovators).

"All educators are innovators at heart," says Susi Elkins, TV station manager at WKAR. "They strive to inspire students to reach their full potential by taking risks, trying new things and stepping out of their own comfort zone in order to lead their students down a path of discovery. WKAR recognizes that many mid-Michigan educators have taken that journey to extraordinary places, so we'd like to highlight those efforts with this invitation to apply for the Digital Innovator Award."

A distinguished panel of judges will select the top 100 applicants as 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators. The selected teachers will be rewarded with yearlong professional development opportunities that include one-of-a-kind virtual training with a focus on innovative instructional strategies and digital best practices, access to premium and exclusive resources from PBS LearningMedia Custom, invitations to special events, access to a free PBS TeacherLine professional development course, membership into a robust professional learning community, and networking opportunities with other innovative educators and thought leaders.

A select top thirty applicants will be designated as Lead PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators and will also receive a three-day all-expense paid trip to Philadelphia, PA to participate in the 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Summit and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) conference. This trip will offer attendees access to renowned speakers and experts, strategies for delivering best practices in digital education that they can immediately apply to the classroom, and networking opportunities with educators from across the country. All Lead PBS Digital Innovators will also receive a Samsung Galaxy(R) tablet.

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The 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators will be announced in March. For more information on PBS LearningMedia, visit [www.pbslearningmedia.org](http://www.pbslearningmedia.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](http://WKAR.org) and [video.wkar.org](http://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.

### **About PBS LearningMedia**

As America's largest classroom, teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS LearningMedia, a partnership of PBS and WGBH Educational Foundation, is a free media-on-demand service offering educators access to the best of public media and delivers research-based, classroom-ready digital learning experiences to engage students in exploring curriculum concepts that align with National and Common Core State Standards. Nationwide, more than 1.5 million teachers have registered access to more than 87,000 digital resources available through PBS LearningMedia. More information about PBS LearningMedia is available at [www.pbslearningmedia.org](http://www.pbslearningmedia.org) or by following PBS LearningMedia on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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