





College of Media

JNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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Mailing List Exchange

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Patterns

Friends of WILL Membership Magazine Editor & Designer: Doris Dahl Art Director: Kurt Bielema

RADIO

90.9 FM

Illinois Classical is a mix of classical and other music and NPR information programs, including local news. Also with live streaming on will. illinois.edu. *See pages 4-5*.

101.1 FM

Illinois Soul is a mix of Black-hosted NPR and local news programs, smooth jazz, neo soul, R&B, and throwback jams. 101.1 FM is available in the Champaign-Urbana area. It is also heard on 90.9 FM HD2 with live streaming on illinoissoul.org. See pages 6-7.

580 AM

News and information, NPR, BBC, agriculture, talk shows. Also heard on 90.9 FM HD3 with live streaming on will.illinois.edu. *See page 8*.

TELEVISION

WILL-HD

All your favorite PBS and local programs, in high definition when available. 12.1: Contact your cable or satellite provider for channel information. Also live streaming at will.illinois.edu. *See pages 9-16.*

WILL Kids 24/7

Around the clock, award-winning children's programming. 12.2: also available on Comcast and Mediacom. Stream at will.illinois.edu.

WILL Create

Cooking, travel, home improvement, arts and crafts, and gardening.12.3: also available on Comcast and Mediacom.









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will.illinois.edu/signup



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Patterns

December 2025, Vol. LI, No.6



As we close out 2025, we want to thank all of you — for watching, for listening, and for standing with Illinois Public Media through a challenging and transformative year.

Federal funding reductions of \$1.5 million have directly impacted the operations of our stations. Throughout the year, we said farewell to several remarkable colleagues — reporters, communicators, content creators, and behind-the-scenes staff — whose creativity and dedication helped shape who we are. Their work continues to inspire us and reminds us why public media matters more than ever.

While these cuts have had a severe impact to all aspects of operations, they have also highlighted the strength of local support. In just the last five months, the Friends of WILL have contributed \$500,000 more than at this time last year. Every day, we see how this support helps connect our communities — from classrooms to living rooms, from farms to city halls. We are still here, sharing local stories that reflect our region's diversity, providing trusted and independent news, celebrating Illinois voices through meaningful programs, sharing a wide variety of music, and offering free educational resources to help children learn.

As we look ahead to the new year, your partnership remains vital. Our goal is to raise an additional \$500,000 by Dec. 31 to help offset federal funding losses and strengthen Illinois Public Media for the future. Please consider making a year-end contribution at willgive.org or by using the enclosed envelope. Your generosity keeps this public media station thriving — for the good of all of us in central Illinois.

With gratitude and hope for a joyous holiday season,

All staff members of Illinois Public Media

More to love: 'Prairie Fire' airs bonus episode to celebrate Mid-America Emmys

Fans of **Prairie Fire** have twice as much to love this month with two episodes: One honors the team's recent win of five regional Mid-America Emmy awards (see page 20).



Shannon Voss



Best of Prairie Fire, airing at 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 4, commemorates the Emmy honors with a rebroadcast of the four award-winning segments from season 2. In addition, it features exclusive conversations with members of the production team, offering an inside look at the creative process behind these exceptional stories. Join us to celebrate the artistry, innovation, and commitment to showcasing the people and places of Illinois.

The featured segments: Meet Shannon Voss, a Chicago native and his remarkable journey; Illinois Hip Hop Camp, young creatives at an Illinois youth summer camp; Fresh Press Paper, a research lab dedicated to turning agricultural

waste into handmade, artisanal paper; and Leah Marlene Live, a studio performance as the singer wrapped up her 2024 summer tour.





Leah Marlene



Charity Davis

Prairie Fire's regular monthly episode, airing at 7:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 18, will feature singer Charity Davis (CherryD). Her studio performance will include songs of the season, as well as her own version of the Prairie Fire theme song. A University of Illinois graduate, she has extensive performance credits as a backup singer, having toured with Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Lady Gaga, Robin Thicke, and currently Eric Benét.

Also on this episode, we will visit Bloomington-based sculptor and painter Herb Eaton. Inspired by the local landscape, Eaton's work is often a narrative reflection of what surrounds us in central Illinois: corn, Route 66, the circus, and the Mackinaw River.

Happy 100th Birthday, Dick Van Dyke!

Celebrate the life and career of legendary actor Dick Van Dyke in honor of his 100th birthday this month. He is known for films like "Bye Bye Birdie," "Mary Poppins," "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," TV show "Diagnosis Murder," and his classic CBS sitcom "The Dick Van Dyke Show." A native of Danville, Illinois, Van Dyke has delighted audiences on screen and stage for eight decades.

American Masters premieres Starring Dick Van Dyke at 8 pm Friday, Dec. 12; 8 pm Monday, Dec. 22; and 7 pm Tuesday, Dec. 30. The special features never-before-seen footage, photos, and home movies, along with interviews and clips from his extraordinary showbiz legacy.



Photo: Getty Images, L. Cohen

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



MUSIC OF THE SEASON

Music that provides 'Hope of the Season'

This Christmas, the world-renowned Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square joins with Tony Awardwinner Ruthie Ann Miles and Hollywood veteran Dennis Haysbert in the unforgettable holiday spectacular Hope of the Season: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir. Packed with classic carols, holiday favorites, and an inspirational portrait of real life, this special concert features songs and stories of hope for audiences of all ages. Hope of the Season: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir airs at 8 pm Monday, Dec. 15 and 7 pm Wednesday, Dec. 24.

A magical Christmas tradition

Step into a world where anything is possible. Join Clara on a fantastical sugar-spun adventure as English National Ballet's "Nutcracker" bursts to life with over 100 dancers and musicians. It's Christmas Eve in Edwardian London, and a visit to Drosselmeyer's Sweets & Delights Emporium introduces Clara to an enchanted Nutcracker doll, setting in motion a magical journey. Nutcracker from English National Ballet airs on Great Performances at 8 pm Tuesday, Dec. 16.



Purdue's annual Christmas show

This one-hour version of the 91st Annual Purdue Christmas Show features musical highlights from the 2024 performance. The first act of this high-energy production features holiday favorites from Purdue musical ensembles including University Choir, Purdue Bells, Heart & Soul, the Purduettes, and the Purdue Varsity Glee Club. The second half features selections performed by the massed choirs of Purdue musical organizations. The Purdue 91st annual Christmas Show airs at 3 pm Sunday, Dec. 21.

New 'Call the Midwife' holiday special airs



Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2025 premieres at 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 25 (and repeats at 9 pm). Senior members of the convent embark on a mercy mission, swapping the snowy East End of London for the sun-drenched terrain of Hong Kong. The rise in hospital births, and wider changes in the National Health Service, have clipped their wings. But their mission to the Far East is a chance to take flight and work out what really matters. After years of battling change, Sister Julienne decides to embrace the changes and see what love can do.

EXPLORING HANUKKAH

A Celebration of Hanukkah provides a heartwarming, nostalgic, and humorous exploration of Hanukkah, Discover the time-honored traditions of this joyous Jewish holiday as host Geoffrey Baer shares the holiday's origin, the

significance of its cherished dishes, and how families celebrate together across generations. In addition, Baer provides an overview of Hanukkah in popular culture, weaving in personal memories. He also tries his hand at creating seasonal culinary delights while connecting the dishes to Hanukkah's history. A Celebration of Hanukkah airs at 8 pm Tuesday, Dec. 9 and noon Sunday, Dec. 14.



Geoffrey Baer

Join us on a historical and culinary journey as we explore the traditions of Hanukkah. Check our TV schedule for more programs.

> Direct from kitchens across America. Family Recipe: Jewish American **Style** uncovers the personal stories and the history behind the mouthwatering meals that we call home cooking. From the tang of Iraqi kubbeh soup

to the richness of Ethiopian red lentil stew to the comfort of Eastern European blintzes, Jewish American food is as varied as it is tasty. Enjoy a feast for the senses and the soul as we embark on a historical, genealogical, and culinary journey through the Jewish American diaspora. Family Recipe: Jewish American Style airs at 9 pm Tuesday, Dec. 9.

CELEBRATING KWANZAA

On the first day of Kwanzaa, we feature several specials that explore African American culture as well as the African American holiday that celebrates family, community, and culture.

Presented by Henry Louis Gates Jr., Gospel Live! is a one-of-a-kind musical celebration that honors the legacy and influence of Gospel music in America. Contemporary artists join celebrated gospel singers to perform their favorite gospel classics. A companion to the series GOSPEL, it includes secular and gospel artists singing their favorite gospel classics. Gospel Live! Presented by Henry Louis Gates Jr. airs at 8 pm Friday, Dec. 26.



When Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle took the stage of Carnegie Hall March 18, 1990, to sing spirituals, a breath of history wafted through America's most famous

concert hall. This documentary examines the behind-thescenes story of the opera legends and that famed concert. The

film features extensive performance clips and interviews. The Magic of Spirituals airs on Great Performances at 9 pm Friday, Dec. 26.

Honoring the heritage, unity, culture, and rich contributions of African Americans, Kwanzaa is more than just a celebration; it's a way of life. Cultural **Expressions: Kwanzaa** is an hourlong documentary that explores the seven principles that are the foundation of Kwanzaa by sharing real-life stories of impact. These stories reveal how each principle plays a role in the Black community, enhanced by cultural elements of dance, storytelling, music, and spoken

word. Cultural Expressions: Kwanzaa airs at 10 pm Friday, Dec. 26.



WEEKDAYS

NPR Morning Edition with Leila Fadel, Steve Inskeep, A Martínez, and Michel Martin

9 am

Classic Mornings with Vic Di Geronimo

Vic makes each morning a classic morning!

Noon

Performance Today

2 pm

Classical Music

5 pm

NPR All Things Considered with Ailsa Chang, Mary Louise Kelly, and Juana Summers

The 21st Show with Brian Mackey

7 pm Monday-Wednesday

The Evening Concert

Monday-Wednesday and Friday at 7 pm and 6 and 7 pm Sundays. Listings may change.

Monday:

The New York Philharmonic This Week

Vivaldi: Piccolo Concerto in C, RV. 444 Hindemith: Symphony, "Mathis der Maler" Mozart: Bassoon Concerto, K. 191

Bernard: Winter Wonderland 12/8 Anderson: Sleigh Ride Vivaldi: Winter from The Four Seasons Vaughan-Williams: Fantasia on Greensleeves

Tchaikovsky: Selections from The Nutcracker 12/15 Ravel: Valses nobles et sentimentales Nielsen: Clarinet Concerto

Tchaikovsky: Selections from Swan Lake 12/22 & 12/29 To Be Announced

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Radio Broadcast

Tchaikovsky: Capriccio Italien, Op. 45 Tchaikovsky: Variations on a Roccoco Theme Tchaikovsky: Suite from The Nutcracker

Berlioz: Overture to Les Franc-juges Dohnányi: Variations on a Nursery Song Weber: Overture to Oberon David Del Tredici: Final Alice

12/16 Mahler: Rückert Lieder Mahler: Symphony No. 7

12/23 Handel: Part One of Messiah Giovanni Gabrieli: Canzon duodecimi toni à 10 Tchaikovsky: Selections from The Nutcracker

12/30 Bruckner: Psalm 150 Bartók: Cantata profana Brahms: A German Requiem

Wednesday:

WFMT Orchestra Series: Los Angeles Philharmonic

Debussy: Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun Bryce Dessner: Violin Concerto Beethoven: Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"

12/10 Ravel: Pavane for a Dead Princess Ravel: Rapsodie espagnole Ravel: Boléro

12/17 Caroline Shaw: The Observatory Gershwin: Piano Concerto in F Richard Strauss: Also sprach Zarathustra

12/24 Bernard Herrmann: Suite from Vertigo Joseph Pereira: Naru Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5

12/31 Sunghyun Lee: Clockworks and Fireworks Kay Kyurim: Rhie H'on Texu Kim: Viola Concerto "Ko-Oh"

7 pm Thursday

Prairie Performances with Mel Miller

The best of classical and jazz music in central Illinois.

12/18 Holiday Magic

12/25 Christmas Day Special

8 pm Thursday

The Middle with Jeremy Hobson

This nonpartisan live call-in talk show focuses on elevating the voices of the people in the middle of the country.

7 pm Friday

Heifetz On Air

Schubert: Quartettsatz in C Minor, D. 703 Beethoven: String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor

12/12 John Williams: Theme from Schindler's List Joseph Achron: Stimmung, Op. 32, No. 1 Jenö Hubay: Csárdás No. 4, Óp. 32

12/19 Maurice Ravel: Tzigane

12/26 Richard Wagner: : Albumblatt, WW 94 ("Romance")

Vivaldi: Variations on La Folia Maurice Ravel: Tzigane, M. 76

Shostakovich: Cello Sonata in D Minor, Op. 40

8 pm Friday

Atomic Age Cocktail Party with Jason Croft

12/5 In the Background (encore) Music that usually lives in the background, including production music, commercials, music services, and more!

12/12 Winter Weather (encore) Songs about snow falling, the wind blowing, and other bits of winter fun.

12/19 Hi-Fi Christmas 2025 Swinging holiday music to decorate your Christmas tree to!

12/26 Rogers and Hart A spotlight on one of the most well-known Great American Songbook teams!

9 pm Friday

Classical Music

SATURDAYS

7 am

NPR Weekend Edition

with Scott Simon

9 am

Classics By Request

Send requests to Vincent Trauth at classreq@illinois.edu or leave a message at 217-265-5064.

Classics of the Phonograph

John Frayne's weekly exploration of memorable recordings from the 20th century.

12/6 In Memoriam: Roberta Alexander, Soprano, 1949-2025, and Benita Valente, Soprano, 1934-2025

12/13 Historic Recordings of Handel's Oratorio "Messiah"

12/20 Music for the Holiday Season

12/27 The St Louis Symphony Orchestra on Records



Programs on WILL Radio are partially sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

Noon

Afternoon at the Opera

- La Bohéme (Puccini), conducted by Daniele Rustioni with Juliana Grigoryan (Mimì), Stephen Costello (Rodolfo), Mané Galoyan (Musetta), David Bizic (Marcello), Alexander Köpeczi (Colline), Iurii Samoilov (Schaunard), and Donald Maxwell (Benoit/Alcindoro).
- 12/13 Andrea Chénier (Giordano) conducted by Daniele Rustioni with Piotr Beczała (Andrea Chénier), Sonya Yoncheva (Maddalena di Coigny), and Igor Golovatenko (Carlo Gérard).
- 12/20 **The Magic Flute** (Mozart), (abridged Englishlanguage holiday presentation), conducted by Steven White with Paul Appleby (Tamino), Joélle Harvey (Pamina), Michael Sumuel (Papageno), Rainelle Krause (Queen of the Night), Alexander Köpeczi (Sarastro), Thomas Capobianco (Monostatos), and Harold Wilson (Speaker).
- 12/27 Handel at the Met A celebration of Handel at the holidays, with excerpts from Met performances, in honor of the 300th anniversary of "Rodelinda."

4 pm

Classical Guitar Alive! with Tony Morris

Performance Today Weekend with Valerie Kahler Classical music in concert from American Public Media studios and sites across the nation and around the world, as well as classical music news, interviews, and features.

7 pm

The Midnight Special with Marilyn Rea Beyer A lively potpourri of folk, Celtic and bluegrass, show and novelty tunes, and hilarious comedy routines.

9 pm

Tiny Desk Radio

with Bobby Carter and Anamaria Sayre Performances, interviews and behind-the-scenes stories made exclusively for public radio stations.

NPR News Headlines at 9:01.

10 pm

Atomic Age Cocktail Party (See 8 pm Friday) with Jason Croft

Atomic Age Double Shot with Jason Croft An episode from our archives.

12/6 Time After Time

12/13 Cole Porter

12/20 Hi-Fi Christmas 2022

12/27 Tropical Treasures

Midnight

Classics All Night

SUNDAYS

6 am

Classical Music

NPR Weekend Edition with Ayesha Rascoe

9 am

Sunday Baroque with Suzanne Bona NPR News Headlines at 9:01 and 10:01

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Illinois Classical will once again feature a selection of special holiday programs to mark the season. However, at press time, details of this year's offerings were not yet finalized. For that reason, holiday specials are not included in the **Evening** Concert listings. We have included two specials on Prairie Performances.

Pipedreams with Michael Barone

Performance Today Weekend

5 pm

Reel Music with Matt Rogers

Music from the movies each week with an hour of orchestral themes from cinema's best film scores.

The Evening Concert

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

- Vivaldi: Concerto for Lute, Two Violins, and Continuo in D Major, RV 93
- Taneyev: Piano Quintet in G Minor, Op. 30 12/14 Giovanni Gabrieli: Canzon XVI a 12, C. 209 Boccherini: Quintet in E Major for Two Violins, Viola, and Two Cellos, G. 275, Op. 11, No. 5
- 12/21 Vivaldi: Violin Concerto in G Major, RV 310 Marcello: Oboe Concerto for Oboe in C Minor J.S. Bach: Musical Offering, BWV 1079
- 12/28 Elgar: Introduction and Allegro, Op. 47 J.S. Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 Haydn: Symphony No. 94 "Surprise"

Fiesta! with Elbio Barilari

- Orchestral Music from Perú, Brazil & Spain Some brilliant examples of music inspired by these cultures.
- 12/14 The Super Guitar Show
- Some of the most important works for classical 12/21 Classical Christmas in Latin America
- Celebrate the season with a recording of "Missa de Nossa Senhora da Conceição." 12/28 Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Music
- from Spain A short history of Spanish classical music.

8 pm

Prairie Performances (encore)

9 pm

Jazz Night In America with Christian McBride

10 pm

Classical Music

NPR News Headlines at 11:01

Overnight

Classical Music





Email us at Illinois-Soul@illinois.edu or leave a voicemail at 217-244-1989.

Monday - Friday		Saturday	Sunday
Neo + SMJ	5:00	Neo + SMJ	Jazz Network
NPR Morning Edition with Kimberly Schofield	6:00	R&B/Throwbacks	
	7:00		NPR Weekend Edition
R&B	8:00		
Smooth Jazz Neo-Soul	9:00		The Cut
Funk on Fridays	10:00		(featuring gospel music)
Funk Ride (Fridays at 5 pm)	11:00	Dialogue	Illinois Soul Gospel
	Noon	R&B/Throwbacks	R&B Dusties
	1:00		
	2:00		
	3:00		
	4:00		
	5:00		
Code Switch/Life Kit (M), Dialogue (Tu), Reveal (W), Throughline (Th), Funk Ride continues (F)	6:00	The Wind Down with Will Downing	Roots of Smooth
The Quiet Storm	7:00	Catch the Flo	Soul of Jazz
	8:00		
	9:00	New Urban Jazz	Pillow Talk
	10:00		
	11:00	Jazz Night in America	Overnight: Neo + SMJ
Overnight: Neo + SMJ	midnight to 6 am	Overnight: Jazz Network	







Jill Clements, Illinois Soul Manager

TOP 5 R&B Artists

Tying in to our on-air series, we feature the Top 5 R&B artists according to community members, staff members, and VIPs.



Joe Stovall is beginning his 38th year with State Farm Insurance (nine years as an auto claims representative/ manager and 29 years as a sales agent). He also is the vice president of First String Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing sports programs for the youth of Champaign-Urbana. His top 5:

- 1. Marvin Gaye
- 2. Barry White
- 3. Average White Band
- 4. Will Downing
- 5. Alexander O'Neal

Join us for Certified Organic holiday jams

Get ready for a night of pure soul at the **Certified Organic** Jam Session: Holiday Edition at 7:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 11 at Gallery Art Bar in downtown Urbana. This special holiday installment brings together some of the area's most talented musicians for an unforgettable evening of live music, good vibes, and soulful energy.

Enjoy the smooth sounds of Certified Organic as the musicians blend timeless grooves with a few of your favorite classic holiday hits, creating the perfect soundtrack for the season. Whether you're vibing to the rhythm, reconnecting with friends, or simply soaking up the spirit of the holidays, the night will be both festive and full of soul.

Don't miss this celebration of holiday music, community, and culture as Illinois Soul continues to amplify local Black voices and Black culture.



Illinois Soul: A (musical) year in review

This past year, Illinois Soul turned up the volume on culture, community, and music. From unforgettable performances to historic partnerships, we continue to amplify Black voices across east central Illinois and beyond.



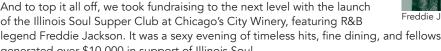
Jane Eugene

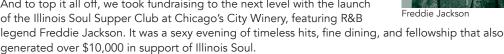
We kicked off 2025 in style with our sold-out one-year anniversary celebration at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts — headlined by the No. 1 neo-soul band Loose Ends featuring the incomparable Jane Eugene. It was a night of nostalgia, joy, and further proof that Illinois Soul's rhythm keeps getting stronger.

Then came the return of Grammy Awardwinning guitarist Isaiah Sharkey to Krannert Center's Stage 5. His riveting

performance left audiences spellbound, bridging the brilliance of Chicago soul with the intimacy of a live Illinois Soul experience.

Our partnership with Pygmalion brought one of the most talked-about shows of the year — a standing-room-only performance by the magnetic Yaya Bey at the Rose Bowl Tavern in Urbana. The energy was electric, with a curated groove that's both authentic and unforgettable.





Illinois Soul continues to be the heartbeat and culture of our east central Illinois communities. Here's to the next chapter — because the best is yet to come.



Yaya Bey



Tis the soul holiday season!



This month, Illinois Soul is turning up the holiday spirit by airing your favorite new and classic R&B holiday hits once every hour. You'll hear timeless grooves from Boyz II Men, Luther Vandross, The Emotions, and the Godfather of Soul himself, James Brown — alongside fresh new music from four-time Grammy nominee Eric Benét, including his first holiday album, "It's Christmas." The album blends heartwarming originals with reimagined classics like "Please Come Home for Christmas," "O Holy Night," and "My Favorite Things." With soulful duets, family harmonies,

and jazzy tributes, the album captures the warmth, love, and joy of the season. So cozy up, keep it tuned to Illinois Soul, and let the rhythm of the holidays fill your days with pure soul magic.



Monday -	Friday		Saturday	Sunday	
NPR Morning Edition with Kimberly Schofield		5:00	The Middle (encore)	Thoroughline	
		6:00	Commodity Week	Inside Europe	
		6:30	State Week in Review		
		7:00 NPR Weekend Edition		NPR Weekend Edition	
		8:00			
1A		9:00	The Splendid Table		
		10:00	Wait Wait Don't Tell Me!	lt's Been a Minute/ Wild Card	
The 21st Show with Brian Mackey		11:00	Weather Realness	Code Switch/Life Kit	
Here & Now with Jason Croft		Noon	Statewide	Wait Wait Don't Tell Me! (repeat)	
	The Middle	1:00	This American Life	The Treatment	
	(F repeat)			State Week in Review	
The Closing Market Rep	oort 2:06 pm	2:00	Radiolab	Reveal	
BBC Newshour	Commodity Week (F)	2:30			
Fresh Air with Terry Gross & Tonya Mosley		3:00	TED Radio Hour	On the Media	
All Things Considered		4:00	All Things Considered	All Things Considered	
		5:00	Hidden Brain	The New Yorker Radio Hour	
		6:00	Left, Right & Center	Travel with Rick Steves	
The 21st Show (repeat)		7:00	Ezra Klein	This Old House Radio	
(M) On the Media (Tu) Ezra Klein (W) Dia- logue	(Th) The Middle (F) Science Friday	8:00	Latino USA	Weather Realness	
The Daily/Today Explained		9:00	Dialogue	Tiny Desk Radio	
On Point		10:00	Embodied	Sports in America	
BBC World Service		11:00	Moth Radio Hour	Not By the Playbook	
		Midnight	Sam Sanders Show	Le Show	
		1 am to 5 am	BBC World Service	BBC World Service	

Bold Listing = National/International News

Lillie Duncanson, Director of Broadcast Operations



AGRICULTURE

Todd Gleason, host, Closing Market Report and Commodity Week:

Opening Market Report: 8:49 am; Market Update: 10:58 am; Midday Market Report: 12:58; Closing Market Report: 2:06. Fridays: Commodity Week: 2:30; Grain Market Summary: 4:32.

To listen to archived Ag reports, sign up for the Illinois Public Media Ag e-newsletter, or download our agricultural podcasts. Visit www.willag.org.



IPM NEWS • IPMnewsroom.org

Reginald Hardwick, news and public affairs director, Illinois Public Media

The news from Illinois Public Media's award-winning staff of reporters, hosts, and producers can be heard during Morning Edition, The 21st Show, Here & Now, and All Things Considered:

Jason Croft, Christine Hatfield, Emily Hays, Kulsoom Khan, Brian Mackey, Steve Morck, Stephanie Mosqueda, David Pierce, Kimberly Schofield, Tinisha Spain, Arjun Thakkar, and Jose Zepeda. WILL Call: Wednesdays at 6:45 and 9:45 am and Thursdays at 5:44 pm on AM 580 and FM 90.9



WEATHER

Weather forecasts from meteorologist Andrew Pritchard throughout the day.





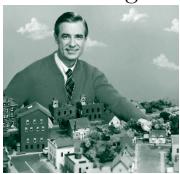
Monday - Friday		Saturday	Sunday	
Newsline	5:00	Mister Rogers' Neighborhood	Mister Rogers' Neighborhood	
Classical Stretch (M,W,F) Sit and Be Fit (T, Th)	5:30	Arthur	Arthur	
Wild Kratts	6:00	Wild Kratts	Wild Kratts	
Weather Hunters	6:30	Weather Hunters	Weather Hunters	
Lyla in the Loop	7:00	Lyla in the Loop	Lyla in the Loop	
Carl the Collector	7:30	Carl the Collector	Carl the Collector	
Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood	8:00	Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood	Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood	
Rosie's Rules	8:30	Rosie's Rules	Rosie's Rules	
Sesame Street	9:00	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	
Work It Out Wombats!	9:30	Work It Out Wombats!	Opportunity Knock\$	
Donkey Hodie	10:00	MotorWeek	Consuelo Mack WealthTrack	
Pinkalicious & Peterrific	10:30	Garden SMART 12/6 Midsomer Murders	To the Contrary with Bonnie Erbe	
Elinor Wonders Why	11:00	Mid American Gardener	Rick Steves' Europe	
Alma's Way	11:30	12/6 We ♥ Public Television 12/13, 27 My Greek Table 12/20 Prairie Fire	Market to Market	
Molly of Denali	Noon	America's Test Kitchen	Nov. 30	
Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum	12:30	Cook's Country	Noon Rick Steves Art of Europe: Michelangelo to Monet 2:00 We ♥ Public Television! 5:00 PBS News Weekend	
Arthur	1:00	Christopher Kimball's Milk Street Television	5:30 Broadway's Leading Ladies Dec. 7 Noon From Sea to Shining Sea:	
Odd Squad 12/24 Nutcracker/Jacobs School of Music	1:30	Pati's Mexican Table Relish (begins 12/20)	Katharine Lee Bates and America the Beautiful 1:00 Women of World War II: The Untold Stories	
M 12/1 ACGS Cheers to the Years 12/8 Easy Yoga (Peggy Cappy) 12/15, 22, 29 Father Brown	2:00	Sara's Weeknight Meals	2:30 Moments to Remember (My Music Presents) 5:00 PBS News Weekend	
Tu Antiques Roadshow 12/2 '60s & '70s Soul Celebration W 12/3 Family Recipe: Jewish Am. Style 12/10, 17 Finding Your Roots 12/31 London Parade (40 Years) 12/31 Am. Masters: Dick Van Dyke (2:30) Th 12/4 Mister Rogers: It's You I Like Nature/animal programs F NOVA 12/5 Designing Your Ideal Future	2:30	Lidia's Kitchen	5:30 Rick Steves European Christmas Dec. 14 Noon A Celebration of Hanukkah 1:00 Miss Scarlet on MASTERPIECE 5:00 PBS News Weekend 5:30 Rick Steves' Europe 6:00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries Dec. 21	
M 12/1 ACGS Christmas in the Dales (3:30) 12/8 Great Performances: Andrea Bocelli Sister Boniface Mysteries	3:00	Weekends with Yankee	Noon Miss Scarlet on MASTERPIECE 2:00 Christmas at Longleat 3:00 Purdue 91st Anniversary Christmas Show	
Tu 12/9 Chef's Life Holiday Special 12/16 AmMasters: Groucho & Cavett 12/23 Journey of Our Christmas Tree 12/30 Real Rail Adventures	3:30	Samantha Brown's Places to Love 11/30 France Made With Love	4:00 Come and See! A Concordia Christmas 5:00 PBS News Weekend	
W 12/3 France Made With Love (3:30) 12/10 Pearl Harbor — The Arizona 12/17 Christmas with Tabernacle Choir 12/24 Great Perf.: Nutracker (3:30)		11/30 Trained Made With Edve	5:30 Rick Steves' Europe 6:00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries Dec. 28	
Th 12/4 Rick Steves European Christmas Nature/animal programs F 12/5 Change Brain, Change Pain 12/12 NOVA 12/26 Earth's Natural Wonders			Noon RFDS: Royal Flying Doctor Service 5:00 PBS News Weekend 5:30 Rick Steves' Europe 6:00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries	
M 12/22 Mary Berry's Ultimate Christmas 12/23 St. Thomas Christmas 12/9 Mary Berry's Highland Christmas 12/16 European Christmas 12/16 European Christmas Market (4:30) 12/23 St. Thomas Christmas 12/30 Real Rail Adventures W 12/10 First to Fight Pacific War Marines 12/17 Christmas in New England (4:30) Th Nature/animals programs F Environmental programs	4:00	This Old House	WILL Kids 24/7 on 12.2 For the full WILL Kids 24/7 schedul	
	4:30	Ask This Old House	go to www.illinois.edu/tv/schedule Create 24/7 on 12.3 View the Create schedule, at www.illinois.edu/tv/schedule	
DW News	5:00	PBS News Weekend		
BBC World News America PBS News Hour	5:30 6:00	Antiques Roadshow 12/6 All New Rock, Pop & Doo Wop	During the fund drive, Nov. 28-Dec. 7, the daytime schedule will vary.	
	6:30	As Time Goes By		

We all just need a bit of 'Happiness'

Called a cross between "Schitt's Creek" and "Glee," Happiness premieres this month on WILL-TV. In the musical sitcom, Broadway director and local golden boy Charlie Summers returns to his hometown of Tauranga, New Zealand, 20 years after leaving. He is back living in his childhood bedroom, and he's devastated. After working his way up the top of the musical theatre world, he reluctantly finds himself helping his Mum at the local community musical theatre society. Happiness airs two episodes nightly beginning at 9:30 pm Sunday, Dec. 14. Friends of WILL may binge all six episodes with WILL Passport beginning Dec. 14.



Celebrating Mister Rogers and friends



Premiering in 2018, the documentary Mister Rogers: It's You I Like celebrated the 50th anniversary of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, created and hosted by Fred McFeely Rogers from 1968 to 2001. In the documentary special, Michael Keaton and a host of celebrities provide a heartfelt tribute to the pioneering PBS series that became an iconic and enduring landmark in the world of children's television and beyond. Cast members and guest celebrities from the groundbreaking series share their personal perspectives and insights that pay tribute to television's longest-running children's series. Mister Rogers: It's You I Like airs at 7 pm Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Song celebrates the complexity of our nation

"America the Beautiful" may be America's most beloved song. But few know about the fascinating life of the writer behind it. From Sea to Shining Sea: Katharine Lee Bates and the Story of America the Beautiful explores the rich life of poet, professor, and social reformer Katharine Lee Bates. Hundreds of still photos, archival film clips, beautiful watercolors and stunning contemporary footage bring to life the historical events that shaped Bates' thinking. From Sea to Shining Sea: Katharine Lee Bates and the Story of America the Beautiful airs at 10 pm Tuesday, Dec. 2 and noon Sunday, Dec. 7.



Explore the rich heritage of France

A new program from the Emmy Award-winning Made with Love series embarks on a journey across France, showcasing the exquisite craftsmanship and renowned cultural charm of the country's most remarkable artisans. From the iconic streets of Paris to the quaint countryside, viewers will be immersed in the rich heritage of centuries-old traditions and the distinct, influential style of France. Whether making the perfect macaron, restoring iconic stained glass and stone works of art, or producing wines from historic chateaus, these makers illustrate the unique allure, innate passion, and elegant taste of French craftsmanship. France Made With Love airs at 3:30 pm Saturday, Nov. 29 and 9 pm Sunday, Nov. 30.



Jean-Paul Hévin, chocolatier and pastry chef, makes the shells of the macaron.

Memorable moments plus season 5 of 'All Creatures'

For fans of All Creatures Great and Small on MASTERPIECE who can't wait for the season 6 premiere next month, don't worry. We have you covered with two specials and an encore broadcast of season 5. In case you're new here — the series features James Herriot's adventures as a veterinarian in 1930s Yorkshire in a new adaptation of his internationally celebrated books.

Cheers to the Years! (7:30 pm Sunday, Nov. 30 and 10 pm Thursday, Dec. 4) shares the most memorable moments from the first five seasons of the popular series,

going behind the scenes with the cast and creators to discuss the evolution of the series, from the books to their first impressions of each other to the series pilot. It explores each of the characters — human and animal.

All Creatures Great and Small: Christmas in the Dales (10:30 pm Sunday, Nov. 30) looks at the Christmas specials of the first three seasons.

Season 5 of All Creatures Great and Small on MASTERPIECE will re-air Sundays at 7 pm beginning Dec. 14 (with two episodes nightly).



Established in 1964, the Order of Lincoln honors Illinois residents whose work uplifts every community in the state. In May, the Lincoln Academy of Illinois bestowed the award upon six deserving recipients: Bonnie Blair, Sandra Cisneros, Jeanne Gang, Janice K. Jackson, Carol Marin, and Julieanna L. Richardson. The ceremony took place at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in Champaign. "With worldrenowned achievements in athletics, literature, architecture, education, journalism and history, the 2025 class of Lincoln Laureates embody the very best that Illinois has to offer," said Governor JB Pritzker. WILL-TV will air Lincoln Academy of Illinois 61st Convocation and Investiture of Laureates at 8 pm Thursday, Dec. 11.



Champaign native Bonnie Blair

Connecting through music ...



Rick Springfield is joined by fellow 1980s pop radio hitmakers Wang Chung and John Waite, performing some of the biggest songs of the decade in this concert special. I Want My '80s Tour Live airs 9 pm Saturday, Nov. 29 and 10:30 pm Saturday, Dec. 6.



Get ready to relive the magic of an unforgettable evening in André Rieu: Power of Love. Recorded live during his spectacular Summer Open Air Concerts at the Vrijthof Square in Maastricht, Netherlands in 2024, this performance captures the enchantment, joy, and romance that only André and his Johann Strauss Orchestra can deliver. André Rieu: Power of Love airs at 7 pm Saturday, Nov. 29 and 8 pm Thursday, Dec. 4.

Filmed live at New York's Town Hall, Broadway's Leading Ladies, hosted by Bebe Neuwirth, is a star-studded concert that celebrates

the women who have defined Broadway and those shaping its future. Broadway's Leading Ladies airs at 5:30 pm Sunday, Nov. 30.

November

Friday

7:00 Washington Week with the Atlantic

7:30 Firing Line with Margaret Hoover

8.00 Kris Kristofferson: Life & Songs (TV-G) Celebrate Kristofferson with a star-studded 2016 concert featuring Dierks Bentley, Rosanne Cash, Eric Church, Emmylou Harris, Jamey Johnson, Alison Krauss, Lady A, Martina McBride, Reba McEntire, Willie Nelson, Jennifer Nettles, Darius Rucker and Hank Williams Jr. Repeated 12 am 11/29.

9:30 Neil Diamond: Hot August Night/NYC Considered by many to be his best work, this album is a compilation of Neil Diamond's biggest hits, performed across his four sell-out shows at Madison Square Garden in 2008. Repeated 1:30 am 11/29.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

29 Saturday

This Land Is Your Land (My Music) (TV-G) Take a musical journey through the evolution of modern American folk music, from its roots in bluegrass to San Francisco coffee houses to clubs in Greenwich Village. The Smothers Brothers and Judy Collins host. Repeated 10 pm 12/1, 12:30 am 12/2 & 3 am 12/3.

7:00 Andre Rieu: Power of Love (TV-G) See page 11. Repeated 2 am 12/2, 8 pm 12/4, 12:30 am 12/5 & 2:30 am 12/6.

I Want My '80s Tour Live (TV-G) 9:00 See page 11. Repeated 12 am 11/30 & 10:30 pm 12/6.

10:30 Air Supply: 50th Anniversary Concert (TV-G) Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock celebrate five decades of hits in this May 2025 concert.

30 Sunday

5:30 **Broadway's Leading Ladies** (TV-G) See page 11. Repeated 12 am 12/1.

7:30 All Creatures Great and Small: Cheers to the Years

See page 11. Repeated 2 am 12/1, 2 pm 12/1, 10 pm 12/4 & 2:30 am 12/5.

France Made with Love (TV-G) See page 10. Repeated 3:30 am 12/1 & 3:30 pm 12/3. 10:30 All Creatures Great and Small: Christmas in

the Dales (TV-PG) See page 11. Repeated 3:30 pm 12/1.

December

9:00

Monday

60s and 70s Soul Celebration (My Music Presents) (TV-G)

The legends of 1960s and '70s soul music return to perform their biggest hits. Repeated 2 pm 12/2, 12 am 12/3, 7:30 pm 12/6 & 12 am 12/7.

10:00 This Land Is Your Land (My Music Presents)

See 5:30 pm 11/29. Repeated 12:30 am 12/2 & 3 am 12/3

11:30 Amanpour and Company

2 Tuesday

Mister Rogers: It's You I Like (TV-G) See page 10. Repeated 3:30 am 12/4 &

8:30 **Becoming Thurgood: America's Social** Architect (TV-14)

Explore the life and legacy of the nation's first African American Supreme Court justice. The film follows Justice Marshall, known as "Mr. Civil Rights," from his legal career with the NAACP to his 1967 appointment to the nation's highest court.

10:00 From Sea to Shining Sea: Katharine Lee Bates and the Story of America the Beautiful (TV-G)

See page 10. Repeated 4 am 12/5 & 12 pm 12/7.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

3 Wednesday

7:00 Change Your Brain, Change Your Pain with Daniel Amen, MD (TV-PG)

Dr. Amen maps the brain networks that drive both physical and emotional pain and reveals practical, brain-based strategies that quiet overactive pain circuits and help you feel better, think clearer, and live more fully. Repeated 12 am 12/4 & 3:30 pm 12/5.

9:00 Designing Your Ideal Future with Rajiv Nagaich (TV-PG)

How you can lay the groundwork for a life you can look forward to by infusing your unique perspective into every document in your legal plan. Repeated 2 am 12/4 & 2 pm 12/5.

10:30 Rick Steves' Festive Europe (TV-G) Rick Steves captures Europeans doing what they do so expertly - celebrating the good life. Repeated 4:30 am 12/6.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

4 Thursday

7:00 **Prairie Fire** (TV-G) Best of Prairie Fire. See page 1.

8:00 Andre Rieu: Power of Love (TV-G) See page 11. Repeated 12:30 am 12/5 & 2:30 am 12/6.

10:00 All Creatures Great and Small: Cheers to the Years (TV-PG) See page 11. Repeated 2:30 am 12/5.

11:30 Amanpour and Company

5 Friday

7:00 Washington Week with the Atlantic

7:30 Firing Line with Margaret Hoover

8:00 **Great Performances (TV-PG)**

> Andrea Bocelli 30th — The Celebration. Experience the world-renowned Italian tenor's 30th anniversary concert from Tuscany featuring global superstars. Repeated 12:30 pm 12/6, 3 am 12/7 & 3 pm 12/8.

10:00 Tom Lehrer — Live In Copenhagen 1967

During his brief yet rearkable music career, Tom Lehrer developed brilliant parody songs that entertained and enlightened millions. Filmed for Danish television, this 1967 film captures a rare concert recording with many of his best known songs.

6 Saturday

5:30 All New Rock, Pop and Doo Wop (My Music Presents) (TV-G)

> Full-length performances include Johnny Maestro, The Duprees, Jay Back, Little Anthony & The Imperials, Ronnie Spector, Frankie Valli, Jerry Butler, and many more artists from the 1950s and '60s.

7:30 '60s and '70s Soul Celebration (My Music Presents) (TV-G)

See 7 pm 12/1. Repeated12 am 12/7.

10:30 I Want My '80s Tour Live (TV-G) See page 11.

Sunday

Rick Stevés European Christmas (TV-PG) From manger scenes and mistletoe to wintry wonderlands, this special celebrates the Christmas season throughout the European continent.

7:00 Magic Moments: The Best of 50s Pop (My Music Presents) (TV-G)

The Best of 1950s pop hosted by Pat Boone and Phyllis McGuire of the McGuire Sisters.

9:30 We ♥ Public Television!

Honoring 55 remarkable years of public television, this special includes live performances, celebrity appearances, and viewer testimonials, plus clips from iconic television shows.

8 Monday

Antiques Roadshow (TV-G)

The Gen X Years.

Antiques Roadshow (TV-G) 8:00 Junk in the Trunk 13.

9:00 **POV** (TV-14)

> Between Goodbyes. When a queer Korean adoptee reunites with her birth mother in Seoul, deep cultural misunderstandings and unspoken regrets surface. With tenderness, humor, and determination, both navigate the heart-wrenching legacy of international adoption. Repeated 2 am 12/10 & 2 am 12/13.

10:30 The Last Ring Home (TV-PG)

This film tells the story of Lt. Minter Dial and his 1932 Annapolis Naval Academy ring that miraculously made its way home 17 years after he was killed as a POW of the Japanese in World War II.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

9 Tuesday

7:00 Finding Your Roots (TV-PG) (DVS)

Fighters. Henry Louis Gates Jr. sits down with Terry Crews and Tony Danza, who discover they aren't the first in their families to beat the odds through sheer force of will. Repeated 2 pm 12/10, 3 am 12/11 & 4 am 12/14.

8:00 A Celebration of Hanukkah (TV-G) (DVS) See page 3. Repeated 12 pm 12/14 & 4 pm 12/15.

9:00 Family Recipe: Jewish American Style (TV-G) See page 3.

10:00 Frontline

The Deal: Trump, Bukele & The Gangs of El Salvador. The Salvadoran president's deal with Trump to imprison deportees, and what each stood to gain. With the Salvadoran news outlet El Faro, now reporting from exile, President Nayib Bukele's tangled history with the gangs the U.S. says it is fighting. Repeated 1 am 12/10.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

10 Wednesday

Nature (TV-PG) (DVS)

Canada: Surviving The Wild North. Journey from Canada's high arctic to boreal forest and discover how polar bears, coastal wolves, lynx, and more survive in the North. Repeated 2 pm 12/11 & 1 am 12/14

NOVA (TV-PG) (DVS) 8:00

Ice Age Footprints. Thousands of prehistoric footprints in New Mexico's White Sands National Park capture moments when Ice Age humans crossed paths with enormous ground sloths and mammoths. What does this new evidence reveal? Repeated 2 pm 12/12.

9:00 NOVA (TV-PG) (DVS)

> Hunt for the Oldest DNA. Follow the dramatic quest to recover DNA millions of years old and reveal a lost world from before the last Ice Age. Repeated 1 am 12/11 & 3 pm 12/12.

10:00 Impossible Builds (TV-G)

Ice World. China's incredible Ice World will transform 37 acres of sub-tropical quarry into a sub-zero ski resort. The construction team will have to battle the worst nature can throw at them. But if they can pull it off, they will make science fiction a reality.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

1 Thursday

7:00 Mid American Gardener

7:30 Ask This Old House (TV-G) Sustainable Grass, Driveway Lights.

8:00 Lincoln Academy of Illinois 61st Convocation & Investiture of Laureates See page 11.

9:00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries (TV-14) Queen of the Flowers. Season 1, episode 9 of 13. Miss Phryne Fisher agrees to refine a group of delinquent flower maidens for the annual flower parade. Repeated 6 pm 12/14.

10:00 Grantchester on MASTERPIECE (TV-14)

Season 1, episode 2 of 6. Amanda's egagement ring is stolen on the same night a murder is committed. Repeated 3 am 12/12.



12 Friday

Washington Week with the Atlantic

7:30 Firing Line with Margaret Hoover

8:00 American Masters (TV-14)

> Starring Dick Van Dyke. See page 1. Repeated 2 am 12/15, 8 pm 12/22, 7 pm 12/30 & 2:30 pm 12/31.

10:00 American Masters (TV-PG) (DVS)

Groucho & Cavett. The enduring friendship between television personality Dick Cavett and his mentor iconic comedian Groucho Marx is chronicled through interviews with Cavett, archival footage, and interviews with George Burns and others. Repeated 3 pm

11:30 Amanpour and Company

13 Saturday

7:00 Father Brown

The Last Tango in Kembleford. Season 11, episode 8 of 10. Father Brown investigates when the competitive atmosphere at a local dance school leads to a dance with death. Repeated 2 pm 12/15, 8 pm 12/18 & 1 am

7:45 Midsomer Murders (TV-PG)

A Talent for Life, Parts 1 & 2 of 2. Season 6, episodes 1 & 2 of 10. Isobel Hewitt is an affluent pensioner with a young lover. Duncan Golf is a GP in the Village of Malham Bridge who is rumored to be having an affair. Their corpses are discovered alongside one another by the river.

Sherlock on MASTERPIECE (TV-PG (DVS) 9:27 The Great Game. Season 1, episode 3 of 3. The curtain rises on a battle of wits between Sherlock, John, and the shadowy stranger who seems to know all the answers.

11:00 Austin City Limits (TV-PG) Jon Batiste.

14 Sunday

All Creatures Great and Small on MASTERPIECE (TV-PG) (DVS)

To All Our Boys. Season 5, episodes 1 of 7. See page 11. Repeated 12 am 12/15 & 3 am

7:59 All Creatures Great and Smallon MASTERPIECE (TV-14) (DVS)

Holding The Baby. Season 5, episode 2 of 7. See page 11. Repeated 1 am 12/15 & 4 am 12/16.

9:30 Happiness (TV-14)

Part 1 of 6. See page 10. Repeated 2 am

10:00 Happiness (TV-PG)

Part 2 of 6. See page 10. Repeated 2:30 am 12/16

10:30 Velvet (TV-14)

The Night of the Pins. Season 2, episode 1 of 13. Alberto is back from his honeymoon in Rome and excited to return to the store.

15 Monday

7:00 Antiques Roadshow (TV-G) Tearjerkers.

8:00 Hope of the Season: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir (TV-PG)

See page 2. Repeated 12:30 am 12/16, 2 am 12/17, 3 pm 12/17, 2 am 12/22, 7 pm 12/24, 1 am 12/25, 2:30 am 12/26 & 2 am 12/27.

The St. Olaf Christmas Festival: Our Hope 9:30 for Years to Come (TV-G)

St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota presents music for the Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany season. First held in 1912, the St. Olaf Christmas Festival is one of the oldest musical celebrations of Christmas in the United States, and features more than 450 students from St. Olaf College's renowned choirs and orchestra.

10:30 Christmas on the Danube (TV-G)

Travel the majestic Danube river as it passes through stunning European landscape, filled with history and culture. The film visits cities along the Danube that are particularly spectacular at Christmas.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

16 Tuesday

7:00 Finding Your Ŕoots (TV-PG) (DVS) Songs of the Past. Henry Louis Gates Jr. accompanies Broadway stars Leslie Odom Jr. and Nathan Lane as they meet a cast of inspiring ancestors hidden in their family trees. Repeated 2 pm 12/17.

Great Performances (TV-PG) 8:00

Nutcracker from English National Ballet. See page 2. Repeated 12:30 am 12/17, 3:30 am 12/18, 1 am 12/24, 3:30 pm 12/24 & 2:30 am 12/25

Frontline

10:30 To Be Announced

11:00 Amanpour and Company

17 Wednesday

7:00 Nature (TV-G) (DVS)

Santa's Wild Home. Get an intimate look into life in Lapland, fabled land of Santa Claus and actual home of tenacious wildlife such as reindeer, wolverines, brown bears, and more. Repeated 2 pm 12/18 & 1 am 12/21.

8:00 NOVA (TV-PG)

Polar Extremes. Following a trail of fossils found in all the wrong places — beech trees in Antarctica, redwoods and hippo-like mammals in the Arctic — uncover the bizarre history of the poles, from miles-thick ice sheets to warm polar forests teeming with life. Repeated . 12:30 am 12/18 & 2 pm 12/19.

10:00 Great Polar Bear Feast (TV-PG) (DVS) Investigate the problems facing a unique population of polar bears due to climate change. At the heart is an extraordinary event: the annual gathering of up to 80 polar bears on Barter Island in the Arctic Ocean each

September. Repeated 4 pm 12/18.

18 Thursday

Mid American Gardener

7:30 Prairie Fire

See page 1. Repeated 11:30 am 12/20

8:00 Father Brown

> The Last Tango In Kembleford. See 7 pm 12/13.

9:00 Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries (TV-14) Death By Miss Adventure. Season 1, episode 10 of 13. Phryne investigates the death of a young female worker in a factory "accident." Repeated 2 am 12/19 & 6 pm 12/21.

10:00 Grantchester on MASTERPIECE (TV-14) (DVS)

> Season 9, episode 6 of 7. Alphy and Geordie's investigation into the murder of an archaeologist uncovers a tangled web of betrayal and deceit. Repeated 3 am 12/19.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

19 Friday

7:00 Washington Week with the Atlantic

7:30 Firing Line with Margaret Hoover

8:00 Craft In America (TV-PG)

> East. Explore the intersection of history, culture, and contemporary craft in the eastern region of the U.S.

9:00 Craft In America (TV-PG)

West. Celebrate the continuum of heritage and the handmade, taking inspiration from the landscape, history, and culture of the American West. Repeated 1 am 12/20.

10:00 Christmas at Longleat (TV-G)

Follow the dedicated team of Longleat, one of Britain's grandest estates, as they prepare for the holiday season. Repeated 2 pm 12/21 & 10 pm 12/24.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

20 Saturday

7:00 Father Brown

The Dead of Night. Season 11, episode 9 of 10. Father Brown is determined to unmask a mortal being when a supposed vampire strikes in the village. Repeated 2 pm 12/22.

Midsomer Murders (TV-PG) 7:45

> Death and Dreams, Parts 1 & 2 of 2. Season 6, episodes 3 & 4 of 10. Reunited with an old acquaintance in the guise of Dr. Jane Moore, Barnaby is called in to investigate an apparent suicide.

9:15 Sherlock on MASTERPIECE (TV-14) (DVS) A Scandal In Belgravia. Season 2, episode 1 of 3. Sherlock and Watson are plunged into a case of blackmail involving crafty dominatrix.

11:00 Austin City Limits (TV-PG) Jacob Collier/Nickel Creek.

21 Sunday

All Creatures Great and Small on

MASTERPIECE (TV-PG) (DVS) Homecoming. Season 5, episode 3 of 7. See page 11. Repeated 12 am 12/22 & 3 am 12/23.

8:14 All Creatures Great and Small on MASTERPIECE (TV-PG) (DVS)

> Uninvited Guests. Season 5, episode 4 of 7. See page 11. Repeated 1 am 12/22 & 4 am 12/23.

Happiness (TV-14) 9:30

Part 3 of 6. See page 10. Repeated 2 am

10:00 Happiness (TV-PG)

Part 4 of 6. See page 10. Repeated 2:30 am 12/23.

10:30 Velvet (TV-14)

Taking Flight. Season 2, episode 2 of 13. When the designers are commissioned to design clothing for an airline, Ana struggles to come up with an idea.

22 Monday

7:00 Antiques Roadshow (TV-G)

Wags to Riches.

8:00 American Masters (TV-14)

> Starring Dick Van Dyke. See page 1. Repeated 7 pm 12/30 & 2:30 pm 12/31.

10:30 European Christmas Markets (TV-G)

Join us on our discovery of Europe's Christmas Markets, where the town center, market square or just the narrow, cobblestone streets of the cities and towns of Europe come alive in winter.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

23 Tuesday

Finding Your Roots (TV-14) (DVS)

Born to Sing. Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the remarkable roots of singers Alanis Morissette and Ciara, using DNA analysis and genealogical detective work to travel back centuries.

8:00 American Masters (TV-14) (DVS)

Brenda Lee: Rockin' Around. Discover the story behind singer Brenda Lee's iconic songs and explore how her early fame and life of poverty shaped her artistry across pop, rock n' roll and country. Repeated 4 am 12/25, 1 am 12/28 & 4 am 12/29.

9:00 **Great Performances** (TV-PG)

Patsy Cline: Walkin' After Midnight. Recorded at Cline's musical home at Nashville's legendary Ryman Auditorium, this film honors her legacy with her signature songs and memories from those she knew and influenced.

10:30 Debbie Gibson Holiday: A Soundcheck Special (TV-G)

> Singer-songwriter, producer, and actress Debbie Gibson shares insight and inspiration about recording her first holiday album, "Winterlicious," and performs some classic and new holiday hits.



24 Wednesday

Hope of the Season: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir (TV-PG)

See page 2. Repeated 11 am 12/25, 2:30 am 12/26 & 2 am 12/27.

8:30 Too Hot to Handel — The Gospel Messiah

> Handel's 18th-century masterpiece "The Messiah" has been reimagined by Conductor Marin Alsop with colleagues Bob Christianson and Gary Anderson. Handel's arias, choruses and orchestration have been infused with gospel, jazz and R&B creating an uplifting reinterpretation of this Christmas and Easter favorite. Repeated 3:30 am 12/27.

10:00 Christmas at Longleat (TV-G) See 10 pm 12/19.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

25 Thursday

7:00 Call the Midwife Holiday Special (TV-14) See page 2. Repeated 9 p 12/25, 12:30 am 12/26 & 3 am 12/28.

9:00 Call the Midwife Holiday Special (TV-14) See page 2. See repeats above.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

26 Friday

7:00 Washington Week with the Atlantic

7:30 Firing Line with Margaret Hoover

8:00 Gospel Live! Presented by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (TV-G) (DVS) See page 3. Repeated 2 am 12/29.

9:00 **Great Performances (TV-G)** The Magic of Spirituals. See page 3. Repeated 3 am 12/29.

10:00 Cultural Expressions: Kwanzaa (TV-PG) See page 3.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

27 Saturday

Father Brown

The Scars of War. Season 11, episode 10 of 10. Sullivan asks for Father Brown's help when Mrs. Devine's son Eddie is framed for murder.

Midsomer Murders (TV-PG) 7:45 Painted In Blood, Parts 1 & 2 of 2. Season 6, episodes 5 & 6 of 10. When Joyce Barnaby finds a dead woman while painting watercolors of Midsomer Florey, she unwittingly uncovers a nest of plots and double-dealings.

9:15 Sherlock on MASTERPIECE (TV-14) (DVS) The Hounds of Baskerville. Season 2, episode 2 of 3. Sherlock and Watson pursue the trail of the Baskerville experiments — topsecret government research on genetically engineered gigantic animals for military use. Or so it is rumored.

11:00 Austin City Limits (TV-PG) Rodrigo y Gabriela featuring the Austin Symphony Orchestra.

28 Sunday

7:00 All Creatures Great and Small on MASTERPIECE (TV-PG) (DVS)

> Pair Bond. Season 5, episode 5 of 7. See page 11. Repeated 12 am 12/29 & 3 am 12/30.

All Creatures Great and Small on 8:15 MASTERPIECE (TV-PG) (DVS)

> Glass Half Full. Season 5, episode 6 of 7. See page 11. Repeated 1 am 12/29 & 4 am 12/30.

9:30 Happiness (TV-14) Part 5 of 6. See page 10. Repeated 2 am 12/30.

10:00 Happiness (TV-14) Part 6 of 6. See page 10. Repeated 2:30 am 12/30.

10:30 Velvet (TV-14)

Glory Days. Season 2, episode 3 of 13. Rita asks for Clara's help to prepare for her hotel

29 Monday

Antiques Roadshow (TV-G) Did Ġrandma Lie?

8:00 Antiques Roadshow (TV-G) Junk in the Trunk 14.

9:00 Antiques Roadshow (TV-G) Let's Celebrate!

10:00 Real Rail Adventures: Swiss Winter Magic (TV-G)

> Hosted by veteran traveler and avid train buff Jeff Wilson, this film showcases the construction marvels and visual splendors of the Swiss rail system, world-class mainlines, stunning scenic routes, and beautiful cog trains.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

30 Tuesday

American Masters (TV-14) Starring Dick Van Dyke. See page 1. Repeated 2:30 pm 12/31.

9:30 **Showstoppers! Great Women of TV Variety** (TV-G)

> Hosted by three-time Grammy Award winner Debby Boone, this dazzling musical comedy is a salute to the history-making women of 1960s and '70s TV variety shows. The program features classic performances from Carol Burnett, Lily Tomlin, Diahann Carroll, Cher, Mitzi Gaynor, Toni Tennille, Ella Fitzgerald, Ann-Margret, Vikki Carr, Leslie Uggams, and many more.

11:00 Amanpour and Company

31 Wednesdav

7:00 To be announced



Member exclusives: 'Mademoiselle Holmes' and season 6 of 'Miss Scarlet'

Available exclusively to members on WILL Passport, Mademoiselle Holmes (season 1 from Walter Presents) offers a fresh take on the detective story. The series follows Charlie Holmes, a timid French police officer and descendant of Sherlock Holmes. After a car accident awakens her dormant powers of deduction and the bold spirit of her famous ancestor, Charlie teams up with her partner, Samy, to tackle seemingly unsolvable cases. From a missing 6-year-old and long-lost siblings to a ghostly warning of danger ahead, Charlie must rely on her own Watson to help her solve each mystery.



Starting Dec. 7, WILL Passport members can stream season 6 of Miss Scarlet on MASTERPIECE a full month early. Enjoy all six hourlong episodes packed with fresh mysteries, rich Victorian atmosphere, and the continuing adventures of the fearless Eliza Scarlet, single parent DI William Blake, and newlyweds Ivy and Barnabus Potts.

COMING AND GOING THIS MONTH TO





DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS The American Revolution American Heart in WWI: A Carnegie Hall **Tribute**, 12/10

American Masters

• Brenda Lee: Rockin' Around, 12/21

Great Performances

• Twelfth Night

The Great Escaper on MASTERPIECE Miss Scarlet, season 6, 12/7

Nature

Jaguar Beach, 12/11

Salute to Service 2025: A Veterans Day Celebration

Walter Presents (with English subtitles)

- Addict, season 1, 12/5 (French)
- Panda, season 2, 12/26 (French)
- Sisi: Austrian Princess, season 2, 12/26 (German)

LEAVING SOON

America ReFramed

• Brooklyn Inshallah, 12/14

Call the Midwife Holiday Specials, seasons 11-14, 12/20

Celtic Woman 20th Anniversary Concert, 12/24

Doc World, season 5, 12/10

• Afghanistan: The Wounded Land, Parts 1-4

England Made With Love, 12/24 Letters from Baghdad, 12/10 Nature

- Born to Run, 12/31
- Peacock's War, 12/1
- Grizzly Country, 12/31

Neil Diamond: Thank You Australia, 12/24 United in Song, 12/31

Go to will.illinois.edu/ passport, your TV's app menu, or your preferred streaming device, and find



out how you can unlock more shows with your WILL Passport via the PBS App.

ILLINOIS PUBLIC MEDIA

Meet with our news managers Dec. 12

You're invited to our next Morning with the Managers, an informal meeting just for Friends of WILL to meet with Illinois Public Media leadership to discuss upcoming projects and initiatives, and answer your questions.

Please join us at 10 am Friday, Dec. 12 at Campbell Hall for a discussion with Reginald Hardwick, Illinois Public Media's director of news and public affairs, and Christine Herman, editor of IPM's Student Newsroom.

Hardwick will talk about the IPM Newsroom's talented journalists, the reach and impact of our newsroom, the obstacles our journalists experience, and the





Reginald Hardwick Christine Herman

information gap in downstate Illinois. Herman will talk about our newsroom's work with the College of Media's next generation of journalists.

Those attending will be able to ask questions, give feedback, and learn more about our goals and priorities for the coming years. Coffee and pastries will be served. Space is limited so please RSVP to elippitz@illinois.edu. Campbell Hall is located at 300 N. Goodwin Ave., Urbana. Metered street parking is available along Clark Street and Harvey Street.

IPM proudly supports LGBTQ+ community

Illinois Public Media staff members were thrilled to once again participate in the CU Pride Fest activities on Oct. 25 in downtown Urbana. Staff members met with festival attendees throughout the day at our



tent, answering questions, and handing out stickers, notebooks, and our brand new "For the Good



of All" yard signs. A group of staff and family members also marched in the parade and tossed candy to onlookers.

₩ING TUESDA

Support Illinois Public Media Dec. 2, 2025



Now in its 10th year, #GivingTuesday inspires millions of people to contribute to not-for-profit organizations that matter to them.

As we face the loss of federal funding, your support of Illinois Public Media matters more than ever.

Help us keep independent media alive for the good of all!



A view off the coast over Tunnels Beach on Kauai with Na Pali Mountains.

IPM, Allerton to co-host trip to Hawaii in 2026

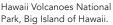
Join us for a trip of a lifetime next year as we visit Allerton Gardens and more in Hawaii.

Illinois Public Media and Allerton Park & Retreat Center are excited to invite you on a special trip to Hawaii early next fall, in partnership with Tour Group Planners. This unforgettable adventure will feature a visit to the breathtaking Allerton Garden in the Lawai Valley on Kauai. Other highlights include exploring Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, marveling at the beauty of Akaka Falls, and enjoying plenty of time to relax and experience the spirit of aloha.



The trip is scheduled for Aug. 31–Sept. 10, 2026, and includes several days on both Kauai and Hawaii Island (the Big Island). For more information, visit will.illinois.edu/willtravel or scan the QR Code at left.

Moreton Bay Fig tree, also called "Jurassic Park tree," at the Allerton Garden, National Tropical Botanical Gardens.





Special screening hosted for WILL Friends

Friends of WILL recently attended a screening of From Sea to Shining Sea: Katharine Lee Bates and the Story of America the Beautiful followed by a conversation between filmmaker John de Graaf and Brian Mackey, host of The 21st Show. The discussion offered in-depth insights into the documentary's themes and production, providing attendees with a deeper understanding of de Graaf's work. The documentary will air on WILL-TV at 10 pm Tuesday, Dec. 2 and noon Sunday, Dec. 7. (See page 10.) The interview with de Graaf also aired on The 21st Show. You can listen to the interview at 21stshow.org.



At left, filmmaker John de Graaf is interviewed by Brian Mackey, host of 'The 21st Show,' with an audience of members of the Friends of WILL. The interview took place after an in-studio screening of 'From Sea to Shining Sea.'

'Prairie Fire' wins five regional Emmys

Illinois Public Media's local magazine program, Prairie Fire, was awarded five regional Emmy awards — out of nine nominations — by the Mid-America chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Among the awards, Prairie Fire was named Best Magazine program at the awards event Oct. 25 in St. Charles, Missouri.

"Our win for Magazine Program for the second year in a row is a real thrill for the Prairie Fire team," said host and producer Sarah Edwards, "It really underscores the excellence and thought we put into



From left, Sarah Edwards, Taylor Plantan, and Tinisha Spain accepted the regional Emmy awards for the 'Prairie Fire' team at the Oct. 25 event. Also honored Daniel Clarke, DJ Roach, and James Treichler.

making every episode as good as it can be. Prairie Fire represents the best of PBS programming produced at the local level."

The team also earned regional Emmys for four Prairie Fire segments. See page 1 for information on a "best of" segment this month featuring these award-winning segments:

- Fresh Press Paper Informational/Instructional (Short Form Content)
- Illinois Hip Hop Camp Education/Schools (Short Form Content)
- Leah Marlene Live Entertainment (Short or Long Form Content)
- Meet Shannon Voss Human Interest (Short Form Content)

The award-winning Prairie Fire production team includes Edwards, fellow producers Taylor Plantan, DJ Roach, and Tinisha Spain, along with cinematographer Daniel Clarke, and audio engineer and cinematographer James Treichler.

"As producers of the show, we carefully curate and construct the stories of Illinois' local characters to highlight the very best creatives, small business owners, and innovators our state has to offer," Plantan said. "The success of the program is a testament to the charisma and talent of the central Illinois community."

"We're incredibly proud of the **Prairie Fire** team and their dedication to telling authentic, locally grounded stories," said Moss Bresnahan, IPM executive director. "These awards reflect the quality, creativity, and heart that exemplify Illinois Public Media's work."

Spain pointed to the significance of the work done by the Prairie Fire team: "Being honored with an Emmy is a deeply humbling reminder that local storytelling is important — that the stories we tell do matter. Prairie Fire gives us the opportunity to amplify voices and stories that deserve to be heard and shared."

Roach added a nod to supporters of IPM: "It's an honor to be able to introduce you to the people and stories that highlight the great downstate. To be honored with Emmy awards for our work is icing on the cake, but we couldn't do it without the those who support our brand of storytelling."





Prairie Fire airs on WILL-TV at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of the month (Dec. 18 this month). Don't miss our **Best of Prairie Fire** bonus episode airing at 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 4 featuring the Emmy-winning segments (see page 1). You also can watch on demand on YouTube, WILL Passport, or on our website at will.illinois.edu/prairiefire. In addition, **Prairie Fire** airs on member stations across Illinois, including Nine Network St. Louis and WTTW Chicago.

Thank you, Program Underwriters!

Private support accounts for the largest single source of funds necessary to make Illinois Public Media and the WILL stations great resources for communities across central Illinois.

We appreciate the following organizations that have stepped forward to join the individuals and families who support award-winning public media services.

40 North/88 West

7 Senses

AARP

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum

Abyss Wares

Allerton Park and Retreat

Center

Amara Yoga & Arts

Ameren Illinois

Art Mart

Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana

Beard Culture Barbershop & Gallery

The Beat @ Market Street

Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology

Birch Tree Counseling

Busev

Campus Middle School for Girls

Center for Advanced Study

Champaign County Chamber

of Commerce

Champaign Park District

Champaign Urbana Public

Health District

Champaign-Urbana Spinners

and Weavers Guild

Champaign-Urbana Symphony

Christie Clinic

The CHORALE

City of Champaign Community

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Department

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City of Urbana — Market @

The Square

Common Ground Food Co-op

Community Shares of Illinois

Countryside School

C-U BIPOC Artist Collective

C-U Jazz Festival

CU Schools Foundation

CVH Entertainment

Danville Symphony Orchestra

Delta Dental

Department of Dance at the

University of Illinois

Des Moines Art Center

Development Foundation

Divine Not Divided

Dixon Graphics

Douglass Branch Library

Enchanted Viola

European Union Center

Exceptional Artists

Experience Champaign-Urbana

The Gillette Group - Keller

Williams

The Glenwood of Mahomet

Health in Harmony Wellness

Center

Housing Authority of

Champaign County

Humanities Research Institute

The Idea Store

Illini Mattress

Illinois Arts Council

Illinois State Board of

Education

Illinois Symphony Orchestra

International Galleries

Institute for Genomic Biology

Iyengar CU Yoga Institute

JAC Local 149 Plumbers, Pipefitters & Service

Technicians

Jay Goldberg Events

Krannert Center for the

Performing Arts

Landscape Recycling Center

Leek and Sons Funeral Home &

Cemetery

The Literary

Live Nation

Lonestar Lodge #18

Mammoth, Inc.

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NAACP of Champaign County

Natural Gourmet

Neil Street Blues

New Prairie Solar

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Institute

The Prairie Enthusiasts

Pygmalion

Record Swap

Rental City

Russ Rybicki SharePower

Responsible Investing

Sinfonia da Camera

Soul on Sunday

Spurlock Museum of World

State Farm Center

Sweeney Brothers Fine Flooring

Symphony Orchestra Guild of

Decatur

Ten Thousand Villages

TrophyTime

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Friends of **will** Campbell Hall

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College of Fine & Applied Arts

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