

History in Motion

American Archive
OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Greetings from the AAPB!

As we welcome spring, we're excited to share new collections, classroom resources, and historic moments from across the archive. This month's highlights include the launch of new special collections, additional primary source sets for educators, and iconic moments and anniversaries remembered in the archive. There's a lot to explore, so let's dive in!

New & Notable



New Jersey Network Collection

On April 5, 1971, the New Jersey Network (N.J.N.) first went on the air. To celebrate NJN's birthday, our newly launched New Jersey Network Collection features more than 15,000 programs documenting local government, culture, and history across more than 40 years of public television from New Jersey.

Historically one of the largest producers of local content in the public television system, NJN offers a rich and varied selection of programming. Highlights include *New Jersey Nightly News*, one of public television's only



Representing Children with Disabilities on Public Television Collection

In honor of National Deaf History Month, the AAPB is proud to announce a new collection created in collaboration with the National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM). This collection highlights eight notable examples of public television created for and about children with disabilities, illustrating how public media has long led the way in accessibility, representation, and inclusive storytelling.

daily news programs, and *Images/Imágenes*, the longest-running Latino program on the air.

For a taste of what the collection has to offer, [check out this trailer](#).

The Jean Walkinshaw Collection

This month, we lost award-winning documentarian and producer Jean Walkinshaw. Remember Walkinshaw's incredible work and legacy with more than 40 documentaries and interviews produced for Seattle public television station KCTS. Notable programs include [Celebrate the Women](#), a series of short programs in honor of Washington State's centennial year; *Faces of the City*, a series of personal profiles that find the extraordinary in the ordinary, based on Studs Terkel's approach; and *Remarkable People*, a collection of documentaries and raw interviews on notable Pacific Northwest figures. The collection, spanning the years 1972-2008, covers much of Walkinshaw's career.

To hear Walkinshaw discuss the collection and her career in her own words, [listen to this episode of the AAPB's Presenting the Past](#).

Among the programs featured is the Emmy Award-winning PBS series *Rainbow's End* (1978–1979), the first national series created specifically for Deaf children and one of the first to use open captions. Each episode includes lessons in American Sign Language, explores Deaf culture and technology, and introduces young viewers to Deaf role models in sports, entertainment, and the arts.

Introducing New Primary Source Sets

Our team of educators has been hard at work developing 18 new primary source sets for use in the classroom, all set to launch later this year.

Two new sets are available now on the AAPB, exploring [the Urban Crisis](#) and [Protest During the Great Recession](#).

Both sets include carefully selected audiovisual primary sources from the archive, along with discussion questions, classroom activities, and recommended coursework to support easy integration into existing curricula.

A huge thank-you to our incredible team of teachers, who have spent the past year designing these resources to make teaching with the AAPB more accessible, engaging, and impactful for educators everywhere.

Dig Deeper

April 1, 2026 – The Artemis II Launches

To celebrate the first time in 50+ years that we return to the moon's orbit, listen as Jim Lovell, commander of Apollo 13, reflects on seeing the far side of the moon for *To the Moon*, a 1999 NOVA documentary.

[Watch](#)

April 3, 1968 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I've Been to the Mountaintop" Speech

Listen to MLK Jr.'s powerful final speech, delivered the night before his assassination.

[Listen](#)

April 5, 1968 – "The Night James Brown Saved Boston"

April 2 – Autism Awareness Day

WQED's documentary *Autism: Behind the Lens* follows the making of *Parallels*, a collaborative film created by professional filmmakers and those on the spectrum.

[Watch](#)

April 4, 1928 – Maya Angelou is Born

In a 1973 episode of *Bill Moyers Journal*, Maya Angelou shares her powerful perspective on race and culture in America.

[Watch](#)

April 11, 1967 – Senate Subcommittee Hearing Lays Groundwork for the Public Broadcasting Act

Just 24 hours after MLK Jr.'s assassination, Boston Mayor Kevin White joined James Brown for a live concert broadcast on GBH, a moment that became one of the most iconic in the station's history.

[Watch](#)

April 15, 1947 – Jackie Robinson Breaks the MLB Color Barrier

Explore Robinson's groundbreaking legacy in this 1987 episode of *GBH's Ten O'Clock News*.

[Watch](#)

Watch the hearing that led to the creation of PBS, NPR, and the foundation of modern public media.

[Watch](#)

April 17 – American Samoa's Flag Day

Celebrate culture, community, and the raising of the American flag over Tutuila Island. Explore historic broadcasts and past celebrations from KVZK, the island's public television station.

[Watch](#)

In the Industry

Celebrate National Volunteer Week Celebrating Public Television and the Power of Preservation with Fix-It+

Looking for a way to get involved this National Volunteer Week? With [Fix-It+](#), you can help the AAPB improve computer-generated transcripts for thousands of historic public broadcasting programs all on your own schedule.

Accurate transcripts are essential for accessibility, searchability, and metadata enrichment. Whether you correct one program or one hundred, your contributions directly support the AAPB's mission to preserve and share historically significant public radio and television programming.

To learn more about Fix-It+, [read AAPB Outreach Manager Meghan Sorensen's recent interview with the Library of Congress](#).

This month, we celebrate Public Television Day and Preservation Week by recognizing the essential role public media has played in preserving our shared history. From the pivotal [1967 Senate hearings](#) that led to the creation of PBS and NPR to beloved programs like *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, *American Experience*, and *NewsHour*, public broadcasting has informed, inspired, and connected communities for generations.

Watch [Fred Rogers' heartfelt testimony before Congress](#), where he made a powerful case for the value of children's programming and helped secure critical funding. Explore the moments and stories that shaped the nation — and see how archives like the AAPB are working to ensure that legacy endures.

In Case You Missed It: AAPB in the News

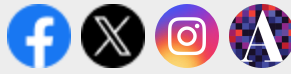
- [Fix-It+ Interview: Volunteer-powered Human-In-The-Loop transcription for the American Archive of Public Broadcasting](#) (Library of Congress)
- [May Webinars: Researching Jewish American Heritage through the American Archive of Public Broadcasting](#) (Echoes & Reflections)
- [Jean Walkinshaw, Seattle TV producer and documentarian, dies at 99](#) (The Seattle Times)
- [Outside the Black Box: AI Shedding Light for AV Cataloging](#) (Society of American Archivists' Descriptive Notes)

Share the Newsletter with a Friend!

Ideas for future AAPB collections or exhibits? Questions about how to digitize your station's items with the AAPB? Recommendations for the next edition of the newsletter?

Get in Touch

The [American Archive of Public Broadcasting](#), a collaboration between the Library of Congress and GBH, coordinates a national effort to digitally preserve and make accessible significant historical content created by public media over the past seven decades.



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