

# IN THE SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY



**Local Content and Service Report to the Community**  
Detroit Educational Television Foundation  
Local Value — 2023 Key Services — Local Impact



# Partnering in the spirit of community and collaboration



This past year has been an inspiring journey, and we at Detroit Public TV (DPTV) are ready for whatever challenges lie ahead. As we look at people across our communities, we see individuals striving to improve their lives and the lives of others. Hope is everywhere, made possible through the spirit of community and collaboration. Detroit Public TV promises to tell that story and be part of it.

Detroit is “The Most Important City in America,” represented by your stories, your community and your experiences. We dream big and work hard to turn dreams into reality. We take the ordinary and make it extraordinary. We are with you, shaping the narrative to ensure that our neighbors’ voices are heard, their stories are told, and they’re given the information they need to confront the issues of greatest importance to them.

The secret? Engagement. We have learned to listen. And we listen to learn. We create content, outreach, and educational opportunities to serve our diverse communities and help them become more informed and empowered about their community, nation, and world.

And then we ask those communities: What can we do next? What can we do better?

As you read this report, we hope you share our pride in the work we have accomplished with our community. We continue to evolve as a public media organization and better involve the community to deepen engagement and elevate diverse perspectives by respecting our differences and building connections and trust.



**Melissa Roy**  
Chair  
Board of Trustees



**Rich Homberg**  
President  
and Chief Executive Officer



# EDUCATION

**Devoting time and resources to ensure educators and families have the resources they need to help kids succeed**

Our education initiative involves two teams, Detroit PBS KIDS and the Michigan Learning Channel (MLC); both offer a wide range of instructional content and support for families, caregivers, educators, and students. These teams are immersed in the communities we serve — from visiting classrooms to holding workshops and bringing Clifford the Big Red Dog to neighborhood gathering spaces to presenting at educator conferences and working with partners all over Michigan. Our education teams are dedicated to meaningful outreach and effective community engagement to ensure children's academic success.







### Career Center & MLC Future of Work

New this year, the Michigan Learning Channel launched the Career Center TV show and its Future of Work initiative. These resource initiatives help mitigate Michigan's talent shortage, fill the technical skills gap in an ever-evolving job market, and demystify the future of work by helping students and young adults find a path to economic empowerment.

The new Future of Work website supports young people and job seekers by sharing a broad spectrum of career possibilities that exist here in Michigan and providing practical information to help the career journey.

### Jobs Explained Project

This past year, the station joined the national Jobs Explained Project. This video series connects local youth to education, training, and job opportunities across various industries to explore and attain fulfilling careers. Since technology touches all the Jobs Explained industries, DPTV created its own Tech Jobs Explained project on Instagram and TikTok to reach youth 13-18 with information about in-demand careers, non-traditional pathways, and jobs in growth tech industries.

### Detroit PBS KIDS

Detroit PBS KIDS is a digital broadcast channel and online service that provides round-the-clock children's programming and is consistently ranked as one of the most-watched PBS KIDS channels in the country. Beyond broadcast, the Detroit PBS KIDS Team also provides parent workshops and special events, particularly on building literacy skills in children from infancy to early elementary grades. The team's efforts reached approximately 4,600 kids and held 120 engagement events with students, families, and educators during FY23. During the past year, some of Detroit PBS KIDS' highlights include:

#### Recognizing Infant, Toddler and Preschool Professionals

Our commitment to educating our youngest learners and supporting the professionals who care for them was exemplified as we partnered with the office of Gov. Whitmer to declare April 21 as "Infant, Toddler and Preschool Professionals Day." In recognition of this milestone event, we gave six prizes to educators across Michigan, including \$500 worth of materials to support their professional work. As part of the day's festivities, Gov. Whitmer accompanied us to read to students at New Paul Head Start in Detroit.

### Be My Neighbor Day

We held a highly successful Be My Neighbor Day in FY23, which featured two sold-out shows with about 550 attendees, including more than 100 people from Brilliant Detroit locations — the day included exercises, games, stories, and a dance party with Daniel Tiger. Families also received free resources, giveaways, and educational activities.

### Every School Day Counts

We worked with parents of children enrolled in Detroit public and charter schools who volunteered through our new partner, Every School Day Counts Detroit. The project created social media content for schools and families, encouraging kids to attend school daily.







## The Michigan Learning Channel

The Michigan Learning Channel (MLC) delivers broadcast and on-demand instructional programming for Pre-K through 12th grade. The channel collaborates with six other PBS member stations in Michigan, reaching more than 500,000 monthly viewers.

In conjunction with MLC's Future of Work initiative, we provided educational materials and guidance for students and families facing decisions about careers and post-secondary education. In FY23, about 70,000 summer activity books and 15,000 literacy books were distributed to families and schools statewide.

Here are more highlights of the MLC activities last year:

### Detroit Zoo Educator Open House

MLC was on hand at the first Detroit Zoo Educator Open House. The team connected with hundreds of educators who toured the zoo through a teaching and learning lens. MLC worked with the zoo team to design teaching and learning invitations, which were placed around the zoo to challenge educators to think about how our local zoo can be a space for interdisciplinary learning. During the zoo open house – MLC signed up 60 educators for its newsletter and interacted with more than 500 attendees.

### Michigan Science Teachers Association Meeting

Michigan Learning Channel presented a one-hour session at the Michigan Science Teachers Association annual meeting and interacted with 300-plus educators at our exhibitor table and presented content to 60-plus in break out sessions. Educators lauded MLC's science initiatives, which support inquiry-driven science learning in K-12 classrooms. MLC science programs are some of the most watched and most engaged around the state, with engagement coordinators at our partner stations hosting STEM activity

pop-ups in libraries and classrooms and at teacher workshops and learning labs every week.

Some of these programs include Curious Crew, DIY Science Time, Extra Credit, and partner content from local and national organizations like the Detroit Zoo, MSU Extension, and Michigan Department of Natural Resources, along with our Great Lakes Now educational resources.

### LABS Launch

MLC collaborated with Learn & Build Statewide (LABS) teachers this past year to produce student-led media-making experiences. For example, MLC worked with a physical education teacher from Sashabaw Middle School in Clarkston to develop fitness and health instructional videos and an English teacher at Carman-Ainsworth High School in Flint to produce videos about Afrofuturism. Throughout the year, 22 teachers signed up for the LABS program.

### The Student Technology Showcase

During this event, the MLC team presented the only technological exhibit that promoted student voice in media production and storytelling, as exemplified by MLC's Extra Credit and its new digital miniseries, The Group Chat. MLC interacted with over 100 students and educators and signed up six new students to participate in its youth programming.

### Recognition in Leader Board Publication

MLC was recognized in the Michigan Association of School Boards flagship print publication, LeaderBoard, for leading the charge on supporting at-home learning when schools closed during the pandemic, for their support of early literacy, and for building successful partnerships to develop programming aligned with Literacy Essentials to enhance student learning.

## Using Detroit PBS KIDS and MLC resources to improve student outcomes

Detroit public libraries joined us to promote our education in the Neighborhood program. Libraries across Detroit invited families to join us in person on Thursdays and passed out copies of the Read, Write, ROAR! Activity Books to families.

Friends of the Children Detroit partnered with Detroit PBS KIDS to assist staff and mentors who work directly with the families to use Read, Write, ROAR! Activity Workbooks and Sesame Street in Communities to strengthen relationships and increase academic impact.

MLC and Detroit PBS KIDS presented their educational resources during a public event at the state capitol. DPTV partnered with Michigan's six PBS stations and the State of Michigan to promote the event, in which attendees took selfies with their favorite PBS KIDS character, met our staff, and learned about how Michigan uniquely provides standards-aligned, grade-level programming to help students stay on track.

# 250+

**PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED  
THROUGH OUR EDUCATION WORK**





# ARTS & CULTURE

## Showing the world the talent that resides in Southeast Michigan

DPTV is firmly committed to helping the arts thrive in Southeast Michigan. During this past year, we proudly amplified the rich diversity of our region through live performances with our valued community partners.





## **Partnering with organizations to deliver world-class performances**

The Sphinx Organization is a well-established partner of DPTV. Once again, DPTV shared the annual Sphinx Finals Competition Concert this year, which offers young Black and Latinx classical string players the opportunity to compete and perform under the guidance of an internationally renowned panel of judges.

DPTV partnered again with Concert of Colors, the Midwest's largest diversity festival, uniting Metro Detroit's many communities and ethnic groups through music and dance from around the world.

We also collaborated with Kresge Arts in Detroit to air a series of short films featuring a dynamic spectrum of talent

across multiple genres from Detroit's rich and diverse cultural community. These films showcased the 2022 cohort of Kresge Artist Fellows in the categories of Live Arts, Film, and Music.

DPTV and Detroit Public Theatre have been long-standing partners. Together, we presented *Nine Parts*, a film that looks at what the experiences and rituals of Iraqi women can teach us about grief, division, and the chaotic state of America today.

DPTV also continued to collaborate with our colleagues at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History to offer inspiring lectures and performances from the museum's schedule of artists and speakers from across the African diaspora as part of its efforts to explore,

understand, and celebrate the rich cultural legacy of African Americans. Together, we worked to promote and expand the audience for special Juneteenth, Kwanzaa and President's Lecture Series events, including the inaugural talk by famed author and columnist Charles H. Blow.

## **Providing a platform for individual creativity and artistic expression**

Detroit Public TV celebrated another season of Detroit Performs Live from Marygrove, with diverse artists reflecting Detroit's cultural community's individual creativity and dynamic talent. The season included performers in such diverse art forms as Jit dancing, hip-hop, folk, chamber music, rock and roll, poetry, and interpretive dancing.



## **90.9 WRCJ Detroit's only radio station that serves up classical and jazz music 24/7**

90.9 WRCJ is a unique part of DPTV, delivering classical and jazz music to entertain listeners and increase music literacy. Our hosts are music aficionados, subject-matter experts, and musicians in their own rite. This year, the radio station launched a new user-friendly website with myriad updates and new features. Other 90.9 WRCJ highlights include:

### **Detroit Jazz Festival**

90.9 WRCJ again partnered with the Detroit Jazz Festival in September 2022, which returned to a live and in-person experience after being a virtual event during the pandemic. It featured a robust lineup of jazz artists from around the world, such as Cuban pianist Chucho Valdes, the most influential figure in modern Afro-Cuban jazz, and the year's Artist-in-Residence. Other artists that brought

their improvisation and cultural flavor to the venue included international singing sensation Cécile McLorin Salvant, President and Artistic Director of the Detroit Jazz Festival Chris Collins, and preeminent jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves.

### **Partnering with organizations across the state to provide top-notch performances**

90.9 WRCJ and the Detroit Opera House continued to collaborate as partners to deliver world-class performances that enrich the community. We promoted events such as *Fountain of Tears*, an electrifying re-imagining of the life of Spanish poet and national icon Federico García Lorca; the world-renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater during its North American tour, celebrating the human spirit through the African American cultural experience and the opera, *Xerxes*, Handel's 1738 masterpiece.

In addition, 90.9 WRCJ broadcast all DSO performances throughout the year, including the DSO in the Neighborhood series, and recorded concerts from the Michigan Philharmonic and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.

Each week, 90.9 WRCJ continued to host an hour of classical concerts from Michigan State University, which regularly featured faculty artists, student ensembles, and guests from around the world.

90.9 WRCJ also partnered with the Community House Holiday Concert series in Birmingham, in which internationally renowned artists such as the Christa Grix Jazz Harp Trio, The Baldwin Ensemble, and the Joshua Chorale perform in an intimate setting.



# JOURNALISM



## **American Black Journal Exploring the issues and events from an African American perspective**

As the nation's longest-running news program probing issues facing the African American community, American Black Journal (ABJ) provides news coverage, panel discussions, and interviews focused on arts and culture, politics, race, and religion. Some of ABJ's highlights include:

### **The Black Church in Detroit**

One of ABJ's signature initiatives, The Black Church in Detroit series, celebrated another year of in-depth and heartfelt explorations of the Black church's decisive role in this community's life. This past year's topics ranged far and wide: the historical impact of the Black church, its role as a champion for education, women in the ministry, and the mental health of clergy in these challenging times. The monthly series is produced in partnership with the Ecumenical Theological Seminary and the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

### **The Black Church in Detroit Watch Parties**

DPTV held a half dozen Black Church in Detroit social media watch parties this past year. Subjects included defining the Black Church, womanist theology, Millennials and the Church, gospel music, and quelling gun violence. The Black Church in Detroit watch parties generated the most engagement of

any of our livestream events, with Womanist Theology reporting a 64% engagement rate on Facebook.

### **Commemorating the 1963 Detroit Walk to Freedom**

This past June marked the 60th anniversary of the 1963 Detroit Walk to Freedom; it was the precursor to the March for Jobs and Freedom in Washington held later that summer. Dr. Martin Luther King's famous "I Have a Dream Speech" was first delivered in Detroit at the Detroit Walk to Freedom. The demonstration brought together more than 125,000 people, who filed down Woodward to Cobo Hall to hear Dr. King. At that time, it was the largest civil rights event in the nation's history and stands out as one eminent example in the broader historical context of Detroit's role in the quest for racial justice.

### **Homegrown Future Visions**

DPTV's partnership with the short film series Homegrown Future Visions led to an ABJ virtual watch party with Ozi Uduma, filmmaker of Detroit We Dey, a film presented by Firelight Media and the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM). The watch party included a viewing of the film and a panel discussion. This regional initiative aims to illuminate the histories, cultures, and prospective future of the Midwest, featuring the work of eight BI-POC filmmakers from neighboring states.

## **Identity and Equity Connecting with the Black Community through town halls**

ABJ and our valued partner, BridgeDetroit, presented an expert-led conversation on the challenges Black developers face to bring more affordable housing to Detroit. The three-panel discussion, moderated by host Stephen Henderson, explored the hurdles that Black developers and real estate developers face.

### **Making Black Detroit**

In tandem with the epic series, Making Black America: Through the Grapevine -- a Henry Louis Gates, Jr. film that chronicles the vast social networks and organizations created by and for Black people beyond the reach of the "white gaze" -- DPTV produced Making Black Detroit, a town hall held on the campus of Wayne State University, in partnership with WDET-FM, public radio in Detroit. The event explored the history, contributions, and future of Detroit's Black sororities and fraternities, known as "The Divine Nine," through video reports and panel discussions.



**One Detroit:  
Delivering in-depth coverage  
of the issues that matter most to  
our viewers**

Rooted in the city, One Detroit’s journalists share the authentic stories of our diverse communities with intelligent and accurate storytelling that captures the character, culture, and concerns of Metro Detroit.

Our journalism bureau covers breaking news and addresses issues on public affairs, race, social justice, climate change and the environment, education and the economy, and other topics of importance to the communities we serve.

This past year, the region grappled with unprecedented events like the Michigan State University mass shooting. Reporting on tragedies of this magnitude requires responsible journalism, contextualizing the coverage with empathy, and presenting the facts while refraining from biased conjecture.

The journalistic team at Detroit Public TV demonstrated the station’s importance as the community struggled with fear and uncertainty, serving as a reliable source for trusted news and information.

One Detroit highlights include:

**One Detroit Weekend**

New this year, One Detroit added a segment to its broadcast and digital platforms, One Detroit Weekend, a rundown of the very best cultural activities and events around Southeast Michigan.

**Detroit Policy Conference**

One Detroit provided on-the-scene coverage at the Detroit Policy Conference, an effort that brought together forward-thinking leaders to explore economic and sustainable opportunities to pursue the ongoing revitalization of Detroit’s central business district.

**Interviewing Detroit Public Schools  
Community District Superintendent  
Dr. Nikolai Vitti**

In another community forum, One Detroit held a candid conversation with Detroit Public Schools Community District Superintendent Dr. Nikolai Vitti at Marygrove to discuss the district’s plan to restore students and learning to classrooms post-pandemic.

**Preparing the Next Generation of  
Michigan’s Workforce with Future  
of Work Town Halls**

Michigan currently has a talent shortage that’s impeding economic growth. The employment landscape is challenging to navigate, mainly due to gaps in the technical skills of job candidates and an ever-evolving job market. DPTV’s Future of Work Town Halls highlight conversations with industry and community leaders to help bridge the skills gap to fill the talent pipeline with a new generation of workers.

This past year, DPTV hosted several town halls that explored the generational differences affecting the work-force, probing generational perspectives around the future of work and what’s needed to make Michigan an attractive place to live, work, and play. Some of this year’s town halls included Gen Z in the Workforce: Amplifying the Power of Youth Voices, Millennials on the Move, From Boomers to Zoomers and Baby Boomers, Retirement and the Michigan Economy.

Other Future of Work town halls addressed recruitment and workforce development, women in the workforce, Michigan’s teacher shortage, and the JOBS Project with Detroit Action – while also exploring specific industries like design and medical devices.

**IN THE SPIRIT OF  
COLLABORATION AND  
COMMUNITY**





# JOURNALISM

## Embracing the Model of Collaborative Journalism

DPTV continued to uphold the model of collaborative journalism and collaborated with numerous media outlets on critical reports.





## **Solutions Journalism Collaborative Summit: A New Approach on Caregiving and Mental Health**

DPTV co-sponsored and live-streamed this summit held in Downtown Detroit, featuring more than a dozen sessions that brought together journalists and partners of the New York and Michigan Solutions Journalism Collaborative and the South-west Michigan Journalism Collaborative. Social innovation author David Bornstein, founder and CEO of the Solutions Journalism Network, and Amy Goyer, a consultant for AARP and well-known family and caregiving expert, each delivered keynote addresses streamed live on PBS Books.

### **Collaborating with Local Media Partners**

One Detroit partnered with The Detroit News on caregiving in Michigan and the responsibilities those with aging loved ones inevitably face.

We also joined the Detroit Free Press to present a one-hour special, Election 20/20: Detroit to D.C., which marked the first anniversary of the assault on the U.S. Capitol by those hoping to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. We examined the long-term consequences of the events surrounding the 2020 election, talking to reporters who were inside the TCF center when the votes were being counted, hearing from U.S. Congress members what it was like to be in the Capitol during the assault, and hosting a roundtable on the state of our democracy, misinformation, trust in media and more.

### **Great Lakes Now's coverage exemplifies how DPTV is better positioned to connect critical national issues to our Great Lakes community and the lakes you love**

Great Lakes Now (GLN), Detroit Public TV's regional environment initiative, offers in-depth coverage of recreational, economic, scientific, political, and environmental issues related to the Great Lakes and the quality of the drinking water they provide, presented through its website, a monthly show, virtual watch parties, and educational resources. The show reached more than 2 million viewers during the year.

## **Educational Resources**

GLN provides digital educational resources to help teachers and parents encourage students to evolve into active stewards of our planet. Interactive learning resources are available each month, linked to topics in the latest episode of the Great Lakes Now monthly show.

Aligned with national education standards, the curriculum-based activities are available for download and can be paired with a video segment from Great Lakes Now. The website also features educational content from around the region.

### **U.S. Water Alliance Award**

The Great Lakes Now team and its news collaborative partners – Bridge Michigan, Circle of Blue, and Michigan Radio – used a robust multiplatform approach to produce the environmental reporting project, “Water’s True Cost,” which earned this prestigious award in the Outstanding One Water Communications category. Other outstanding projects from Great Lakes Now include:

#### **Watch Parties**

GLN held 11 watch parties this past year with topics ranging from shipwrecks, climate issues, and solutions to freighters, citizen science and recovering and preserving WWII aircraft. Last year, roughly 32,000 people viewed these virtual events.

#### **The Erie Situation**

DPTV joined five other PBS stations in airing The Erie Situation, a special documentary by filmmaker and Great Lakes Now contributor David J. Ruck. The film examined toxic algal blooms invading Lake Erie and waterways throughout the country. DPTV, in concert with the other PBS stations, shared additional resources about this environmental topic.

#### **Celebrating Earth Month**

In honor of Earth Month in April, DPTV presented a powerful lineup of programs to inspire us to be better caregivers of our planet. From a global to a hyper-local perspective, GLN provided viewers with a robust collection of programs and educational resources designed to elevate the conversation around climate change and sustainability.

## **PBS Books**

### **Supporting libraries and PBS stations nationwide to cultivate communities of learning, culture, and conservation**

PBS Books is DPTV's national content service. It is a multiplatform initiative that connects audiences to books and fosters a community of people engaged in unique literary experiences. The program sparks their curiosity, promotes dialogue, and inspires learning.

This past year, PBS Books hosted 58 author talks and virtual events with a diverse roster of guests. These popular writers included Mitch Albom, Julie Andrews, Paula Yoo, Anna Quindlen, Sandra Cisneros and Ken Burns. PBS Books also provided resources to more than 1,800 libraries.

Other highlights include:

#### **Institute of Museum and Library Services Partnership**

PBS Books joined the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to produce Visions of America: All Stories, All People, All Places, a digital-first series of videos and conversations that explores our nation with a renewed interest in the places, people and stories that have contributed to the America we live in today. In June, the first virtual conversation debuted; it featured IMLS Director Crosby Kemper, who discussed America 250, a multiyear effort to commemorate the Semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary of the U.S., and the importance of museums and libraries as places for the free exchange of ideas and elevating American citizenry.

#### **2022 Library of Congress National Book Festival**

The past year, PBS Books marked its ninth collaboration with the Library of Congress National Book Festival. PBS Books hosted a series of 10 virtual interviews featuring 11 of the National Book Festival's featured authors.





# SERVICE

DPTV Projects that serve the health, policy and welfare of our communities







### **2023 Mackinac Policy Conference**

For the 13th consecutive year, DPTV live-streamed full coverage of this annual conference that convenes national and statewide critical thinkers tasked with developing a cohesive plan to drive economic growth and ensure our state's future prosperity. Some of the speakers this year included Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Mayor Mike Duggan, renowned urbanist Richard Florida, Mark Cuban and Executive Chair of Ford Motor Company, Bill Ford. The conference reached 153,352 on social media, 9,327 on broadcast and was viewed 39,246 times.

### **LGBTQIA+ Youth: Finding Wellbeing and Community — a Town Hall**

DPTV was invited by WETA and the national Wellbeings initiative to host an in-person, in-depth panel discussion led by youth for youth to raise awareness about mental health challenges the LGBTQIA+ community faces. It addressed stigma and discrimination that can prevent care and support and served as a forum for dialogue to create pathways of resilience. This crucial conversation was streamed digitally across the country by PBS Books, which generated 69,453 views on Facebook and had 628 engagements.

### **Kevin's Song 7th Annual Conference**

DPTV is firmly committed to our mental health initiative. This past year, DPTV produced Michigan's largest conference on suicide awareness and prevention, which explored innovative and evidence-based approaches to stop the scourge of suicide and featured a prestigious roster of leading experts in mental health and suicide prevention.

### **U.S. and the Holocaust Coverage**

Detroit Public TV and PBS aired *The U.S. and the Holocaust*, a film by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein. The film examined what the U.S. government and the American people knew and did as the catastrophe unfolded in Europe. It places the rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany in the context of antisemitism and racism while also tackling a range of questions that remain essential to our society today. In conjunction with the documentary, we produced companion pieces to explore the insights, lessons and perspectives cited in the film.

### **The Zekelman Holocaust Center**

DPTV and The Zekelman Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills presented a live panel discussion probing the issues raised by the documentary through a local lens. The conversation was moderated by Eli Newman, reporter and producer for WDET-FM, with panelists including historians, a second-generation survivor and a leading voice of the interfaith community.

### **The U.S. and the Holocaust Building Bridges**

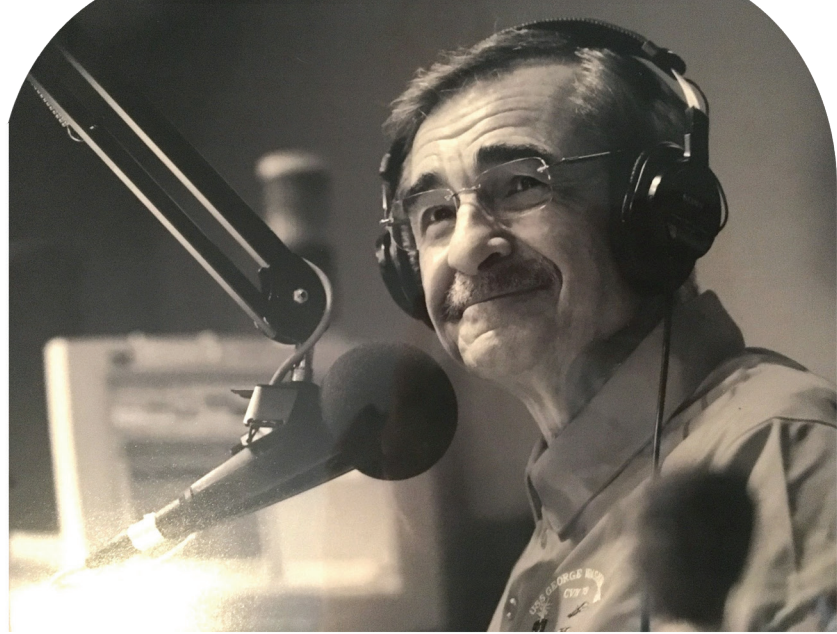
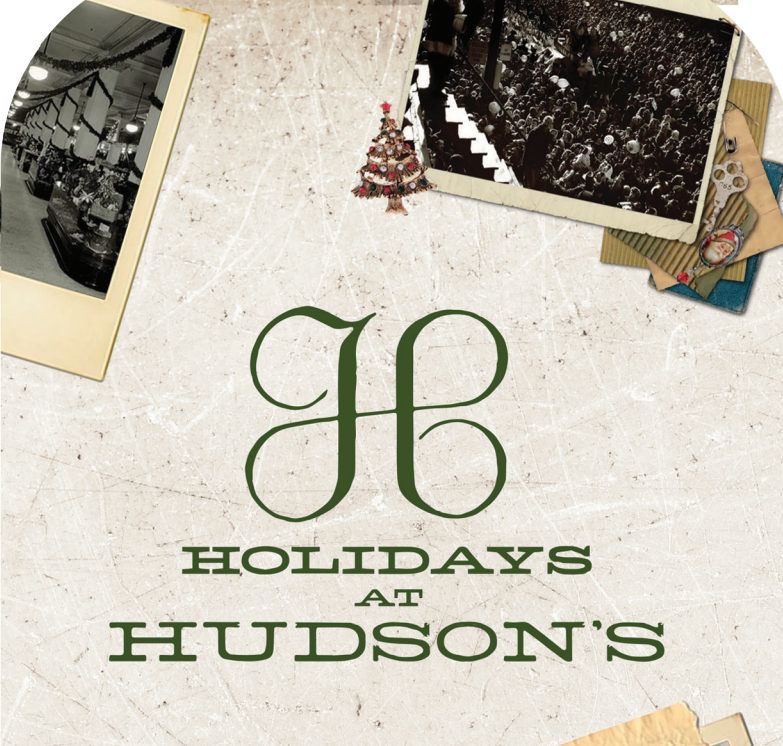
PBS Books interviewed Interfaith America's Founder and President Eboo Patel, author of "We Need to Build: Fieldnotes for Diverse Democracy," to discuss social infrastructures within today's society as we build our diverse democracy to ensure there is never a repeat of the Holocaust.

### **Ford School Talks**

DPTV partnered again this past year with the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy to present meaningful and timely talks with myriad political, social and economic authorities on a wide range of topics: the crisis in Ukraine, judicial reform, the threat to our democratic systems, trust in the media today, human rights and climate change.

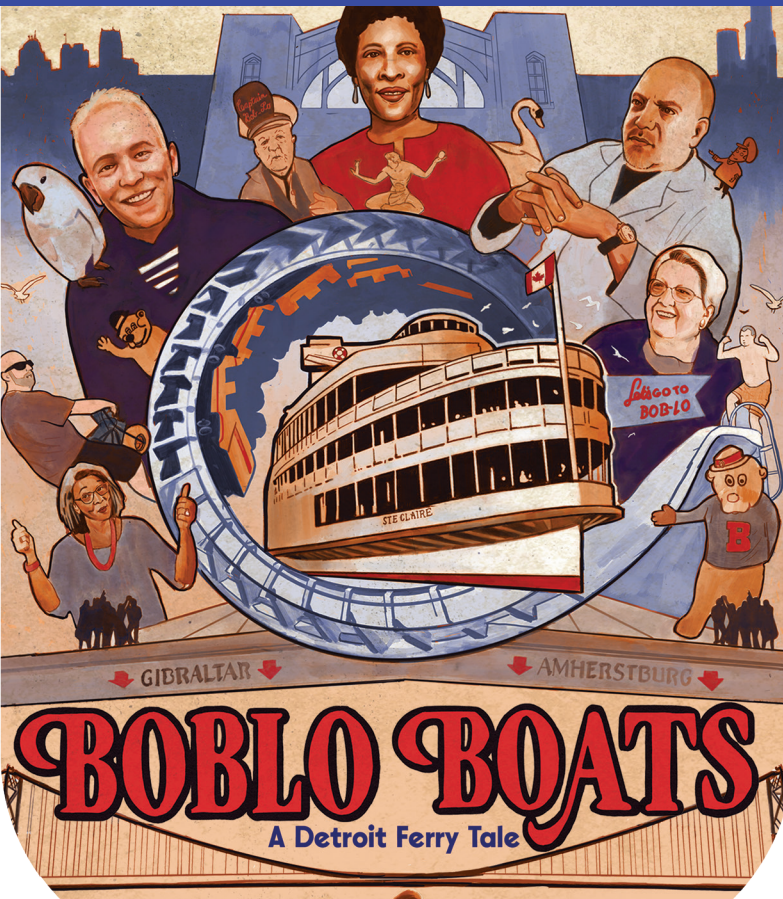
The roster of notable speakers included such luminaries as NATO ambassador Julianne Smith, Dean of Columbia's Journalism School and staff writer at the New Yorker, Jelani Cobb; former Michigan Representative Peter Meijer (R) and Andy Levin (D), Gov. Gretchen Whitmer with CNN anchor Chris Wallace; former presidential candidate and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and TIME political correspondent Molly Ball.





# DPTV DOCUMENTARIES

Detroit-focused films that explore our nostalgia and celebrate the most important city in America





**DPTV airs educational and human-interest documentaries that cover a wide range of topics:**

**Detroit City of Churches**

This in-depth documentary explores Detroit's history from the perspective of 17 of Detroit's most iconic houses of worship. Produced and directed by Keith Famie, the film captures the city's early settlers, the Underground Railroad, the automotive boom, and the civil rights movement to frame how Detroit's spiritual leaders, their places of worship and congregations helped guide the city as it is known today.

**Detroit: City of Hot Rods and Muscle Cars**

An ode to the Motor City capital of the world – this documentary, produced by Keith Famie, depicts how the love of steel and speed transcends generations while defying the constraints of gender and background. It explores the diversity that has seeded the hobby since the glory days, celebrating the unique Detroit muscle car community and how Motor City iron has circumnavigated the globe and shaped world culture.

**Detroit Remember When – A Tribute to Long-time Detroit Personality and Philanthropist Dick Purtan**

This DPTV-produced documentary celebrates the life and extraordinary career of Dick Purtan in remembrance of his legendary journey as a radio personality and community philanthropist.

**Boblo Boats: A Detroit Ferry Tale**

A documentary that explores the rich history of the two oldest surviving passenger steamboats in America. Narrated from the perspective of the SS Columbia ferry boat by Motown legend Martha Reeves, the film follows preservationists' efforts to save her sister ship, the St. Claire, from the scrapyards. The film also chronicles the storied history of Boblo Island Amusement Park.

**Holidays at Hudson's**

This film is a return to Detroit's bygone holidays in a tribute to the famous Hudson's Department store and its lasting holiday legacy. Its elegant yearly displays, parades and devotion to making festivities memorable for the children of Michigan established Detroit as one of the holiday capitals of America.

**National Productions Programs produced by DPTV for PBS stations nationwide**

DPTV produced the national 60-minute Finance for the People with Paco De Leon program. The program will air on PBS starting in November 2023 and features financial rockstar Paco de Leon. De Leon empowers viewers by delivering pragmatic money advice in a straightforward way, accompanied by practical tools so they can begin taking immediate corrective action, no matter their current state of finances. Through the use of QR codes within the broadcast, viewers can engage with financial tools beyond what they see on-air — providing a unique, interactive experience that helps viewers maintain or evaluate their financial health.

DPTV also presented a new PBS concert special featuring beloved Irish crooner Daniel O'Donnell, Live from Castlebar, along with a series of national pledge breaks for PBS fundraising programs – Katy Perry: The Prismatic Tour, Celine Dion: Taking Chances World Tour, and Lawrence Welk: From the Heart.

Additionally, the station presented season three of the national travel series Ireland with Michael, which achieved 96% broadcast coverage on public television stations. Combining glorious video footage from the Emerald Isle, fascinating travel destinations, exciting cultural experiences, and performances from popular Irish artists and rising stars, Ireland with Michael explores this breathtaking country's hidden treasures and majestic beauty – all from the comfort of home.



**84%**

**OF VIEWERS OF LOCAL PROGRAMS AGREE THAT DPTV TELLS STORIES THAT MATTER**



2022-2023

# Awards [View all our awards at DPTV.org/Awards](https://www.dptv.org/Awards)

## Society of Professional Journalists Detroit Chapter Excellence in Journalism Awards

### Broadcast:

*Community/Local News Reporting:*

#### **Detroit Home Repairs First Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Catherine Kelly, Malachi Barrett, Bill Kubota

#### **The Black Church in Detroit Third Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Bill Allesee, AJ Walker, Orlando Bailey

*Consumer/Watchdog/Investigative Reporting:*

#### **Communities and Coal Ash First Place**

Rob Green, Jordan Wingrove, Sarah Aie, Diana Leane

#### **Unpaid Bills Second Place**

Rob Green, Jordan Wingrove, David Ruck, Ryan Busch, Kelly House

*Environment Reporting:*

#### **Shrinking Water First Place**

Rob Green, Jacob Carah, Jordan Wingrove

*Feature Reporting:*

#### **The Black Church in Detroit: Gospel Music and the Black Church Fourth Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Bill Allesee, AJ Walker, Kevin Lesser

*General News Reporting:*

#### **Future of Work Second Place**

Will Glover, Zach Allen, Jonathan Shead

*Health Reporting:*

#### **The Black Church in Detroit: Black Church Worship During the COVID-19 Pandemic Third Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Bill Allesee, AJ Walker, Doug Susella

*News Editing:*

#### **Vampires of the Great Lakes First Place**

Jordan Wingrove

*News/Public Affairs  
(Regularly Scheduled  
Program):*

#### **One Detroit Marygrove First Place**

Zosette Guir, Bill Kubota, Will Glover, Daphne Hughes, Chris Jordan

#### **American Black Journal Second Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Bill Allesee

*News Special and  
Documentary:*

#### **Water's True Cost First Place**

Rob Green, AJ Walker, Sandy McPhee, Anna Sysling

#### **Beyond the Ballot Box: A One Detroit Election Special with the Detroit Free Press Second Place**

Bill Kubota, Emily Lawler, Paul Egan, Clara Hendrickson, Zosette Guir

*Racial Justice Reporting:*

#### **The 30th Anniversary of Malice Green's Murder Second Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Christian Gibbons

*Videography:*

#### **Ice Boating First Place**

Noah Mendez, Will Hughes

### Digital:

*Collaborative Coverage:*

#### **Water's True Cost Fourth Place**

Great Lakes Now, Bridge Michigan, Circle of Blue, Michigan Radio, Great Lakes News Collaborative

*Racial Justice Reporting:*

#### **Reparations: What Is Owed to Black Americans? Second Place**

Daphne Hughes, Stephen Henderson, Catherine Kelly, Zosette Guir

*Social Media Strategy:*

#### **Black Church in Detroit Watch Parties Third Place**

Daphne Hughes, Colleen O'Donnell, Marty Fischhoff, Orlando Bailey

#### **Sojourner Truth Award in Topical Reporting Second Place**

Bill Kubota, Zosette Guir, Chien-An Yuan

## Michigan Association of Broadcasters Broadcast Excellence Awards

*Community Involvement:*

#### **Detroit Public Television's Commitment to Communities Best**

*Station Excellence:  
Detroit Public TV  
Merit*

*Continuing Coverage:  
The Future of Work  
(One Detroit)  
Best*

*Cultural and Performing Arts:  
The Doo Wop Project  
Merit*

*Independent Producer:  
The Erie Situation  
Best*

*News or Public Affairs Special:  
Great Lakes Now  
Best*

*News Special or Documentary:  
Reducing Gun Violence  
In Communities of Color  
(American Black Journal)  
Best*

*News Special or Documentary:  
Detroit Home Repairs  
(American Black Journal)  
Merit*

*Sports - Outdoor or Recreation:  
Great Lakes Now  
Recreation Coverage  
Best*

## Public Radio

*Membership Appeal:  
Bachtoberfest  
Merit*

*Special Interest and  
Cultural Programming:  
Honoring Black Composers  
Merit*

## National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Michigan Chapter Emmy Awards

*Cultural Documentary:  
Detroit Remember When:  
A Tribute to Dick Purtan  
Winner*

*Historical Documentary:  
Detroit:  
The City of Churches  
Nominated*

*Arts/Entertainment:  
Common Chords  
Nominated*

*Environment/Science:  
Vampires of  
the Great Lakes  
Nominated*

*Environment/Science:  
Poisonous Ponds:  
Tackling Toxic Coal Ash  
Nominated*

*Historical/Cultural:  
Love for a Lighthouse  
Nominated*

*Politics/Government:  
Beyond the Ballot Box  
Nominated*

*Religion:  
The Black Church in  
Detroit: One Year  
Anniversary Special  
Nominated*

*Photographer  
Long Form Content:  
Detroit: The City  
of Churches  
Nominated*

## Public Media Awards (NETA)

*Content Education:  
The Career Center  
Finalist*

*Content News &  
Public Affairs:  
Poisonous Ponds:  
Battling Toxic Coal Ash  
Finalist*

*Content Performing Arts:  
Detroit Performs:  
LIVE from Marygrove  
Finalist*

*Content Marketing:  
Integrated Media  
Campaign:  
Making Black America  
Marketing  
Finalist*

*Content Marketing:  
Making Black Detroit  
Finalist*





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