

NEWS RELEASE



Maryland Public Television

11767 Owings Mills Blvd. | Owings Mills, MD 21117 | mpt.org

October 7, 2026

For immediate release

Contacts:

Michael MacFee | mmacfee@mpt.org | 410-581-4262

Tess Harris | tharris@nevinspr.com | 443-909-9665

Maryland Public Television's *MPT Showcase* premieres October 15

Live studio production provides an exclusive sneak peek at PBS and MPT programs premiering this fall and into 2027

OWINGS MILLS, MD – [Maryland Public Television](http://MarylandPublicTelevision.org) will premiere its first-ever *MPT Showcase* program on Thursday, October 15 at 8 p.m. on MPT and the MPT livestream. Produced live before a studio audience in The Irene and Edward H. Kaplan Production Studio in Owings Mills, *MPT Showcase* will offer viewers an exciting and entertaining preview of PBS and MPT series, documentaries, and specials coming to the statewide public TV network this fall and into 2027. A preview is available at mpt.org/showcase.

The fast-paced, one-hour program will guide audiences through a star-studded lineup of new and returning public TV favorites. Throughout the show, audiences tuning in at home and [joining watch parties across the state](#) are encouraged to engage with the network and connect with one another using the hashtag #MPTShowcase on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



“With the *MPT Showcase*, we’ve taken TV networks’ classic ‘fall premiere preview’ concept and evolved it into a live, modern celebration for our audience to enjoy,” said MPT President and CEO Steven J. Schupak. “Our viewers have so much inspiring, enlightening, and entertaining programming to look forward to in the coming months, and we’re excited to share this exclusive sneak peek of exceptional content coming their way.”

The program will feature appearances from renowned PBS icons Ken Burns, Henry Louis Gates Jr., Pati Jinich, Rick Steves, and others. Beloved MPT personalities will also appear live from the studio to introduce exclusive previews of upcoming programming across a range of genres.

Live presentations include:

- *Maryland Farm & Harvest* host **Joanne Clendining**, previewing science and nature programs such as *NATURE*, *NOVA*, and *Outdoors Maryland*.
- *MotorWeek* host and creator **John Davis**, delivering a special behind-the-scenes look at TV's original and longest-running automotive magazine and introducing independent films such as *Christianity at a Crossroads* and *The Gettysburg Book: A Father, Son, and The Killer Angels*.
- MPT's "First Lady" **Rhea Feikin**, previewing arts and culture programs such as *Great Performances*, *To Dine For with Kate Sullivan*, and *Chesapeake Collectibles*.
- Pledge talent **Tony Hill**, presenting *The Gold*, *All Creatures Great & Small*, *Professor T*, and other *MASTERPIECE* dramas.
- Senior Vice President and Chief Content Officer **Travis E. Mitchell**, presenting history programs such as *In Pursuit: Lessons in Leadership with Lonnie Bunch*, *Crime and Punishment in America*, and the MPT production *A Nation Begins: The Maryland State House at 250*.
- Maryland Center for Media Literacy & Education's **Krista Respass**, senior managing director, Early Childhood Education Projects, presenting PBS KIDS series such as *Carl the Collector* and highlighting MPT's educational resources in living rooms, classrooms, and communities across the state and beyond.
- News Anchor **Jeff Salkin**, informing viewers about what's ahead for news and public affairs programs including *FRONTLINE*, *Direct Connection*, and *State Circle*.

Encore presentations of the *MPT Showcase* will air on MPT and the MPT livestream throughout October and November. The program will also be available to view live and on-demand using [MPT's online video player](#) and the [free PBS app](#). To find additional broadcasts, visit mpt.org/schedule.

#

About Maryland Public Television

Maryland Public Television is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service member offering entertaining and educational content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices via its [online video player](#) and the [free PBS app](#). A state agency operating under the auspices of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, MPT also produces local, regional, and national programming and frequently earns regional Emmy® awards for its work. MPT's commitment to educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through its [Maryland Center for Media Literacy & Education](#) and Thinkport.org. MPT's year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources covering a wide range of topics. More information is available at mpt.org.