



2022 Local Content and Service Report



Sunday night Masterpiece, capped by Nova. Incredibly entertaining programming: it just does not get any better! You have stepped up your programming that educates and inspires in the area of racism and social justice. If we have a trace of humanitarianism in our heart and conscience, we should be moved to abhor man's inhumanity to man—and vow not to commit such ourselves nor tolerate it from others. Please keep up the great work. I respect it and value it so very much. Where would NE Indiana be without you? – Larry Lee, Fort Wayne

Enriching community through engaging content.



PBS FW is a valued service in northeast Indiana:

PBS FW is a free educational, cultural, and civic broadcast service, available to any home or classroom, regardless of income, education, gender, ethnic background, or age.

For every dollar of federal funding received, PBS FW raises nearly three additional dollars locally, providing a 265% return on the federal investment for a most successful and effective public-private partnership.

With community governance, an area advisory board, local management and regional support, PBS FW is responsive, relational and relevant to its service area.

PBS FW educates, engages across northeast Indiana:

PBS FW reaches more than 800,000 persons in northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio with children's educational programming 24-hours a day on air, online and over the PBS FW mobile app - plus local and national arts, sciences, humanities, local public affairs and national/international news.

For more than 45 years, PBS FW remains the only public television station in northeast Indiana and the region's only locally owned and operated full-power television service.

As a trusted community partner, PBS FW is a primary focal point for the advancement of arts and culture, history, education, and quality of life in our community.

In 2022, PBS FW provided a variety of key local services:

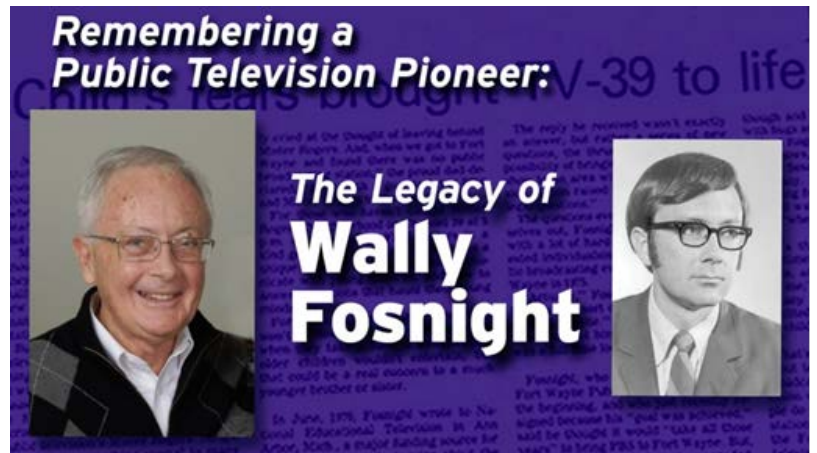
Produced programs of local interest Mon.- Fri. at 7:30 pm, covering community developments, health and wellness, regional arts, state government, and public affairs.

Expanded local livestreaming on PBS.org, YouTube TV, DIRECTV Stream, the PBS App, the PBS FW App, and PBSFortWayne.org.

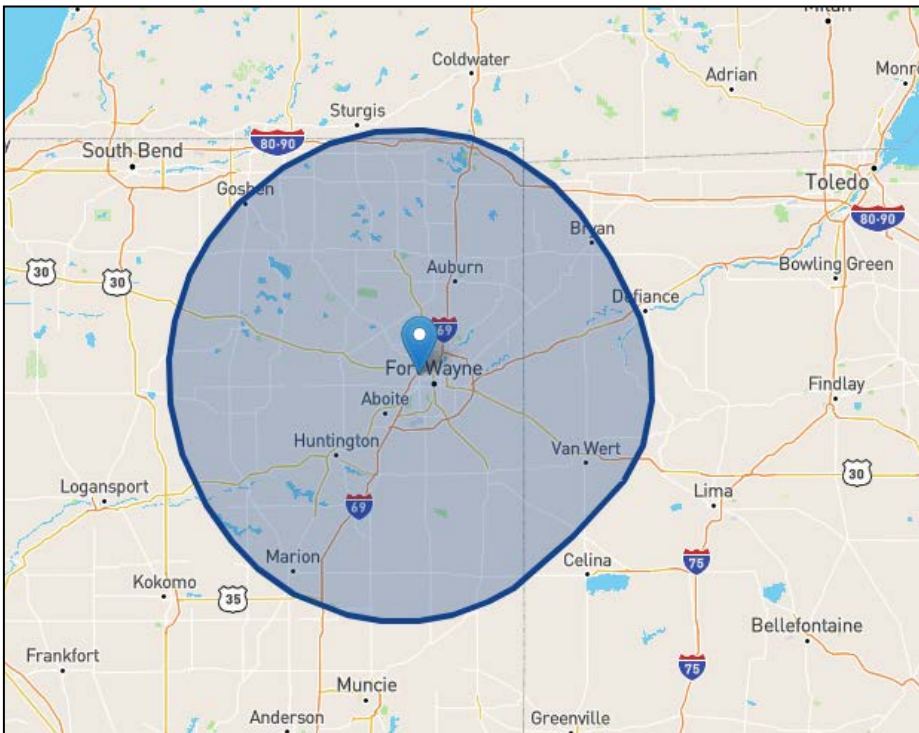
Implemented closed captioning that allows the station the capacity to provide closed captions for all locally produced programs, documentaries, and special broadcasts.

In a partnership with Allen County Public Library, PBS FW live streams programming from the Audio Reading Service on a secondary audio channel of 39.4 to serve those with visual difficulties.

PBS Fort Wayne exists thanks to a visionary father's commitment to fulfill the educational needs of his little girl. When Wally Fosnight moved to Fort Wayne from Pittsburgh in 1969, he soon discovered that his young daughter's favorite program, *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, could not be seen locally. Motivated to address this void, Mr. Fosnight networked, wrote letters, and made calls - and the more he researched, the more he was convinced that public television was not only possible here, but needed here. Mr. Fosnight and others guided the efforts and the engineering to bring public television to the region in 1975. Wally Fosnight would serve as the first chairman of the station's Board of Directors.



For more than 45 years, PBS FW has been the only public television station in northeast Indiana and is today the only locally owned and operated full power television service in the region. Digital technology provides PBS FW the ability to align its mission with programming across five broadcast channels that reach more than 800,000 persons in 11 northeast Indiana and three northwest Ohio counties. This highly rural area includes 6.8% of persons who live below the poverty level.



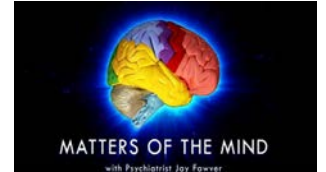
In addition to PBS FW's main channel (39-1), viewers can receive PBS FW Kids (39-2), a 24-hour free service dedicated to quality, non-commercial, educational children's programming. Beyond broadcast, PBS FW Kids streams live online for children and families to watch on a variety of devices over the free PBS FW mobile app. PBS FW Create (39-3) offers a national schedule of "How To..." and travel programs. PBS FW Explore (39-4) airs local and Indiana-centric programs, international news, public affairs, and the best of PBS. PBS FW WX (39.5) provides continuous near real-time (within 30-seconds) National Weather Service Doppler radar, weather warnings and NWS audio. With a broadcast signal of more than 350,000-watts, and the expansion of program delivery via livestreaming on digital platforms, PBS FW is well positioned to serve its region more than ever before.

Fort Wayne Public Television, Inc. (PBS Fort Wayne) is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, tax-exempt organization chartered by the state of Indiana and licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to operate as a non-commercial, educational, public television station. The station operates as a community licensee and is governed by a 20-member board of directors. A 12-member community advisory board meets quarterly. PBS FW is staffed by 18 full time and 15 part-time employees. PBS FW is a member of the Public Broadcasting Service, the Indiana Broadcasters Association, Greater Fort Wayne, and Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations. To its varied audiences, PBS FW is a free, over the air broadcast service, including closed captioning broadcasts for the hearing impaired, descriptive video service for the sight impaired, and carriage of Allen County Public Library's Audio Reading service on a secondary channel of PBS FW Explore (39-4).

Empowering Local Connections

Meeting the broad range of needs and interests of the community is the heart of PBS FW's mission - *enriching community through engaging content*. The organization's vision statement carries that mission to an anticipated future: *a curious, inspired, and engaged community*. PBS FW provides a schedule of locally produced public affairs, health, cultural, and community information programs Monday-Friday at 7:30 pm. Nearly all of these are live studio broadcasts allowing viewers to call in with questions for the guests:

Matters of the Mind - hosted by Dr. Jay Fawver, Mondays at 7:30pm. This program offers viewers the chance to interact with one of this area's most respected mental health experts.



HealthLine - since January 1996, this informative half-hour has featured local experts from diverse resources and backgrounds to put these developments and trends into a local perspective. *HealthLine* keeps viewers informed of the latest developments in the worlds of medicine, health and wellness.

LIFE Ahead - on Wednesdays at 7:30pm, serves as a weekly call-in resource devoted to offering an interactive news and discussion forum for adults. Hosted by veteran broadcaster Sandy Thomson.



arts IN focus - the region's only locally produced weekly regional arts magazine airs Thursdays at 7:30 pm. The program introduces viewers to area artists, and cultural organizations. The show is the one of the most watched offerings online.

PrimeTime - a live weekly news, analysis, and cultural update forum, *PrimeTime* airs Fridays at 7:30pm. The show provides viewers access to the region's state lawmakers during sessions of the Indiana General Assembly.

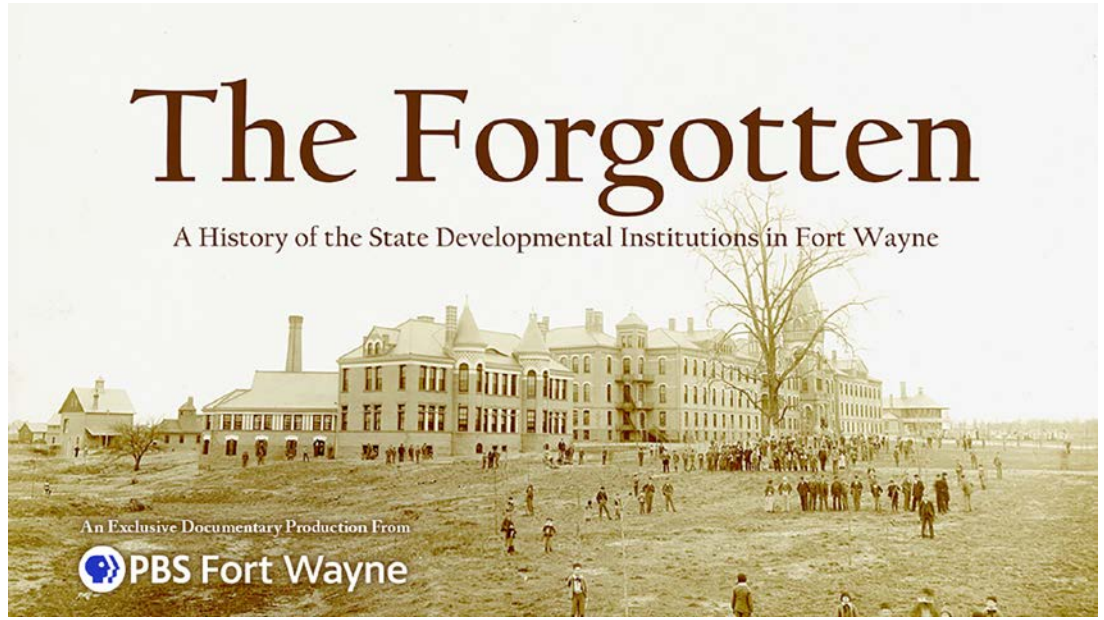


Beyond this weekly lineup are initiatives that arise from area partnerships that are realized through the production of local educational, informational, and cultural programs. In 2022, this work included:

- In 2022, the station partnered with nonprofit and civic leaders for the first *Bill Blass Blast*, celebrating the life and work of the Fort Wayne clothing designer. The station utilized *Primetime* (Friday, 7:30 pm) to feature exhibits at the FW Museum of Art and The History Center, as well as interview the filmmaker of *The Ghost Army*, a PBS documentary that noted Blass' service in WWII.
- In December, the station produced its ninth annual live broadcast of the Purdue Fort Wayne School of Music's *Home for the Holidays* concert.
- In August, PBS Fort Wayne received a grant to work with area non-profits as hosts for free public screenings of *The US and the Holocaust*, a film by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein, exploring America's response to one of the greatest humanitarian crises of the 20th century. Each of the four regional screenings was followed by a discussion on the issues of refugees, genocide, and how we can take what we have learned and apply it to issues of today
- Now in its 23rd year, the annual PBS FW KIDS Writers Contest took place in 2022. The contest engages students from kindergarten through third grade to celebrate the power of creativity and artistic expression. Community libraries and schools administer the contest and collect entries for judging at PBS FW with awards given for each grade level at a ceremony in May. The first-place winners have their stories produced for broadcast.

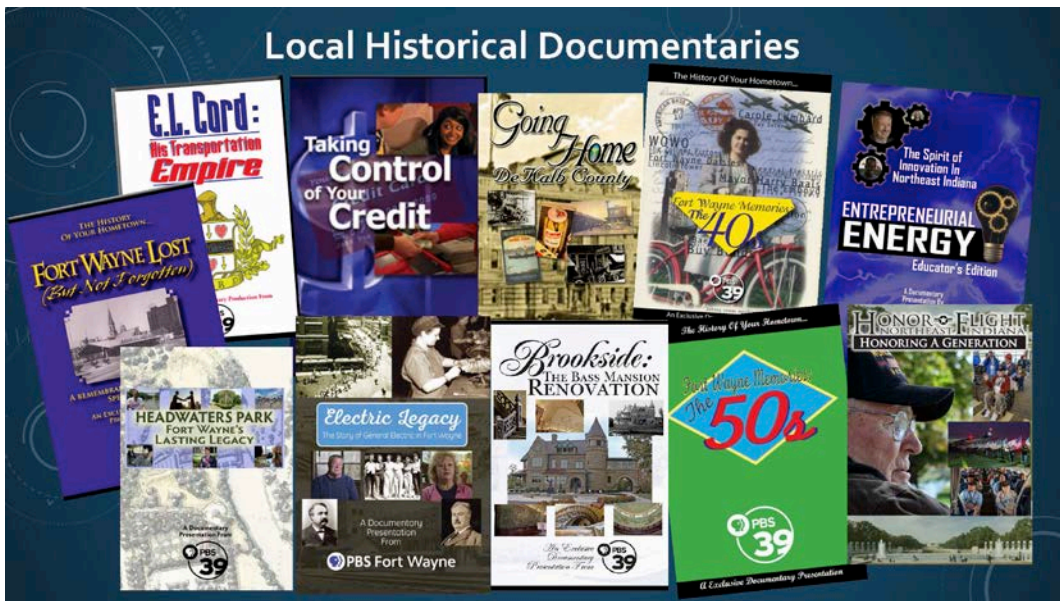
Sharing Our Region’s Stories, Preserving Local History

Since its inception, PBS FW has produced nearly 40 documentaries, historical and biographical. All these programs have been uploaded recently to the station’s Passport service for viewer access. This includes the station’s latest program, *The Forgotten: A History of the State Developmental Institutions in Fort Wayne*, which premiered in September 2022.



In 1879, Indiana decided to create an institution for children with mental disabilities. In 1890 a brand-new facility dedicated to this cause was opened. It was located just northeast of the city of Fort Wayne, on what would later become East State Boulevard. Advances in medical and behavioral treatments, as well as overcrowding partly due to an aging population, led to a new modern complex being built by Saint Joe and Stellhorn roads in northeast Fort Wayne.

PBS Fort Wayne acquired more than 2,000 images from various sources, most of which have never been published or publicly viewed. The station transferred and reviewed over 150 video tapes from the State Developmental Center. These resources, as well as interviews, newspaper accounts, and archival material from the facilities tell the story of these forgotten places and those that inhabited them.



Other recent productions include *Electric Legacy: The Story of General Electric in Fort Wayne*, *Entrepreneurial Energy* detailing entrepreneurship in northeast Indiana, and *Honor Flight* profiling area veterans traveling to Washington, DC. In 2023, PBS FW is producing a documentary on the history of International Harvester in Fort Wayne. This will be the 100th anniversary of IH’s launch of truck production in the city. The Fort Wayne plant was a heavy producer of trucks and war-time vehicles during World War II.

Exploring a Summer of Possibilities

PBS Fort Wayne partnered with local schools for end of year celebrations, introducing more than 1,200 families to PBS KIDS' Summer of Possibilities with activities and resources for children pre-K through third grade. The station also distributed information about its virtual Be My Neighbor Day summer camp series with Daniel Tiger and free PBS education resources (pbskids.org, PBS LearningMedia and the free PBS KIDS App). PBS FW participated in local events such as the Home School Expo, Fort Wayne's Three Rivers Festival and Taste of the Arts Festival, and collaborated with area non-profits like Head Start, Brightpoint and Early Childhood Alliance. PBS Fort Wayne outreach events featured Ryder, the station's mascot and crowd favorite! Collectively, it was an opportunity to engage children in the kind of hands-on, connected, everyday fun and learning that will help them realize their own, unique possibilities.



Regional Arts & Culture On Air and Online

PBS FW continued production of *arts IN focus* (Thursday, 7:30 pm on 39-1), northeast Indiana's locally produced weekly regional arts magazine. The program introduces viewers to area artists, artisans, and cultural organizations. All segments are produced on location. More than 200 artists and arts groups have been featured since the show's premiere in 2015. The program is the one of the most watched local offerings online. *arts IN focus* highlights this region's artistic diversity and creativity. To expand access to these programs, PBS FW will initiate the use of a station-based YouTube channel featuring the region's arts and culture. The effort is part of the station's new three-year strategic framework to engage area communities through the creation, curation, and multiplatform distribution of trusted, meaningful, and enriching content.

A Community Celebration with *PBS NewsHour's* Judy Woodruff

After more than two years, three rescheduled dates, and a pandemic, Judy Woodruff's Fort Wayne visit finally took place September 14. The retiring anchor and managing editor of *The PBS NewsHour* spoke with honors students at Purdue Fort Wayne, recorded a *Primetime* program, and was the featured guest at a station reception. More than 1,000 persons attended the free public event, "A Conversation with Judy Woodruff," at Auer Performance Hall. The occasion was first planned in 2020 as a way for PBS FW to thank the community for its support of the station over its 45 (now 47) year history.





Eighth Annual Explorer Day a Family Favorite

Explorer Day (June 18, 10a-2p at Parkview Field) is PBS Fort Wayne's annual event for kids and their parents/caregivers to enjoy a FREE day of fun and hands-on learning!

PBS FW provided PBS KIDS materials to parents and children to help bridge the summer learning loss that occurs beginning the first day of summer vacation until the first day of school in August.

In 2022, more than 1,100 persons attended, and more than 30 local businesses and non-profits brought free educational activities.

Paint Along with Bob!

More than 130 persons took part in two sessions April 30 at Indiana Tech. The groups were led by Nora Gossiaux, a certified Bob Ross instructor. She guided attendees in painting "Purple Splendor," a winter landscape as participants watched Bob Ross paint the original work during an episode of "The Joy of Painting" that first aired Sept. 5, 1984.

May what we do together continue to educate, inspire, inform, and entertain in ways that provide PBS Fort Wayne the opportunity to empower community connections!

