LOCAL CONTENT AND SERVICE
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2023

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PBS Kansas plays a pivotal role in shaping the vibrant tapestry of Central Kansas’ life and culture.

Operating as a community-backed, autonomous nonprofit organization, PBS Kansas upholds its allegiance not to advertisers, shareholders, or corporate agendas, but rather to the collective community whose support fuels the essence of public television.

By catering to the entire spectrum of local demographics, PBS Kansas fosters inclusivity and unity through its array of programs that explore and celebrate the shared human narrative.

In 2023, PBS Kansas delivered essential local services, including:

- Engaging discussions and insightful analyses of community and state news through programs like Kansas Week.
- Timely dissemination of life-saving weather updates
- Eight locally-produced shows featuring uplifting news, crucial information tailored for individuals aged 55 and above, and content addressing the needs of seniors.
- The creation of two brand-new documentaries focusing on various aspects of Kansas showcasing the rich tapestry of the state’s stories and heritage.

PBS Kansas’ local services made a profound impact in the Wichita area.

Viewers in the region are equipped with a deeper understanding of governmental affairs, courtesy of the in-depth reporting and analysis provided exclusively by PBS Kansas.

Enhanced voter awareness is fostered through comprehensive and impartial political coverage, along with live broadcasts of Sedgwick County Commission meetings every week.

Moreover, viewers gain invaluable insights into the historical context surrounding current events, thanks to PBS Kansas’ engaging and thorough exploration of local history.
PBS Kansas stands as a beacon of value for supporters and taxpayers in Central Kansas, offering an unparalleled return on their investment. As a nonprofit entity and the sole independently-operated television station in the Wichita/Hutchinson market, PBS Kansas ensures viewers receive local information and entertainment untainted by external influences. Free from the pressures of profit maximization or advertiser appeasement, viewers can trust that programs are conceived and executed with the community’s best interests at heart.

In 2023, PBS Kansas unveiled two compelling documentaries shedding light on various aspects of Kansas’ rich heritage: *Historic Buildings of Kansas Part III* and *Kansas Ghost Towns Part II*. These documentaries have captivated and enlightened audiences, offering profound insights into the state’s history and cultural landscape.

*Historic Buildings of Kansas Part III* invites viewers on a journey through some of the state’s most significant architectural landmarks, showcasing their resilience against the test of time and exploring the lessons they impart about our collective identity. Learn about the architecture; discover how they survived the wrecking ball; and what they can teach us about ourselves and our state.

Building on the success of *Kansas Ghost Towns Part I* (2002), PBS Kansas proudly presents the sequel, *Kansas Ghost Towns Part II*. This historic exploration delves into the stories of vanished communities, weaving together narratives of county disputes, technological advancements, and the enduring legacies left behind. Visit the counties of Grant, Chase, Sumner, Cowley, and Garfield, along with a special focus on the dramatic battle between Park City and the Wichita region. Through interviews and storytelling, the documentary illuminates the trials and triumphs of these forgotten towns, offering a poignant glimpse into Kansas’ past.
PBS Kansas Antiques Fair:
The annual PBS Kansas Antiques Fair is a cherished event held at the PBS Kansas Headquarters. Much like the beloved show *Antiques Roadshow*, this gathering connects the community with local experts who offer insights into treasured family heirlooms and garage sale finds. Beyond its entertainment value, this fundraising event plays a crucial role in supporting PBS Kansas, ensuring that *Antiques Roadshow* continues to grace our screens.

The Senior Expo:
The pinnacle of senior-focused events in the local community. Drawing a record-breaking attendance of nearly 750 seniors, and held at PBS Kansas, this event brought together seniors, caregivers, and health-conscious individuals in a vibrant atmosphere ripe for exploration. Featuring over 80 vendor booths offering an array of products and services tailored to the senior community, the Expo served as a comprehensive resource hub. Attendees also had the opportunity to participate in engaging workshops led by experts in senior health and wellness. Beyond its educational offerings, the Expo fostered connections and camaraderie, solidifying its place as a cherished annual gathering.
**PBS Kansas Veterans Coming Home 2023:**
Honoring the extraordinary contributions of our local veterans at the Veterans Coming Home event. Led by Victor Hogstrom, president and CEO of PBS Kansas, this evening served as a tribute to veterans who continue their legacy of service within our community. Through a blend of awards presentations and filmed interviews, attendees are inspired by the remarkable stories of veterans who have excelled in various fields post-military service, underscoring their unwavering commitment to making a difference.

We congratulate the award recipients:

- **Lt. Col. Michael George (USAF - RET)**
  Senator Robert J. Dole Distinguished Veteran Service Award

- **CPL John Mock (USA)**
  Herb Duncan “Can Do Attitude” Award Recipient

- **MSG Dana McCall (USA - RET)**
  Distinguished Veteran Award Recipient

- **SFC Julius C. Williams (USA - RET)**
  Distinguished Veteran History Maker Award Recipient

- **DeVaughn James Injury Lawyers**
  Business Award Recipient

**The High Tea:**
Step into a world of refined elegance at the remarkable High Tea event, a celebration of fine tea, culinary delights, cultural exploration, and a shared love for British television. Hosted amidst the enchanting surroundings of Botanica, this annual affair captivates attendees with its exquisite offerings and warm ambiance, leaving a lasting impression on every palate and heart.
PBS Kansas is a vital force in Central Kansas, offering diverse programs that celebrate community and culture. In 2023, PBS Kansas provided essential local services and produced insightful documentaries. The station's impact extended to the Wichita area, where it provided in-depth reporting and enhanced voter awareness. Additionally, PBS Kansas hosted impactful events, including the Antiques Fair, High Tea, Veterans Coming Home, and the inaugural Senior Expo. These events brought the community together, fostered connections, and showcased PBS Kansas’ commitment to serving its audience. As our programs, events and resources grow, PBS Kansas remains a committed community partner to all our viewership and audiences.
SUMMARY

PBS Kansas High Tea 2023

PBS Kansas Kids Club Big Bash 2023

PBS KANSAS CHANNEL 8 SERIOUSLY GOOD TV
LOCAL CONTENT AND SERVICE REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
PBS Kansas is on a relentless mission to be a good steward of the public’s airwaves, resources and trust. It the state’s leader in local programming and a driving force for community betterment. Through compelling truth-telling and quality entertainment, PBS Kansas brings diverse groups together to demonstrate the commonality we all share as members of an ever-evolving, ever-learning society.