



**For Immediate Release**

Contact:

Erin Callanan  
[Erin\\_callanan@wgbh.org](mailto:Erin_callanan@wgbh.org)  
(617) 300-3270

JP Shields  
[jpsields@linktv.org](mailto:jpsields@linktv.org)  
(747) 201-5886

## **WORLD Channel and Link TV Content Partnership Will Bring Award-Winning Programming to 100 Million+ Homes**

January 22, 2020 -- **WORLD Channel**, a national public media broadcast and web-based platform that shares news and documentaries humanizing complex issues from across the globe, and **Link TV**, the independent non-commercial satellite TV network that connects U.S. viewers to the world, today announced a content-sharing partnership beginning in February. With a shared commitment to bringing the best in news, documentaries and fact-based information programming from around the world, the collaboration will launch with several titles including WORLD's multicultural storytelling show *Stories from the Stage*, the duPont-Columbia Award-winning documentary series *America ReFramed*, Link TV's acclaimed original environmental program *Earth Focus* co-produced with the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the award-winning series *The Migrant Kitchen* co-produced with Life & Thyme, and daily international newscasts from *France 24*.

The content sharing will allow viewers of both networks to better understand perspectives and cultures around the globe while examining issues too often ignored by mainstream media. WORLD is a growing public media broadcast channel carried by 165 partner public media stations in markets representing more than 66% of US TV households and also is available via [WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org) and on social media platforms. Link TV reaches 30 million U.S. satellite households nationally on DIRECTV channel 375 and DISH Network channel 9410, and many of its programs are available for streaming on [linktv.org](http://linktv.org) as well as on Apple TV, YouTube and Roku platforms.

"This new relationship with Link TV allows us to bring new and acclaimed content to our audience who is hungry for daily international news as well as an outside perspective on events in the U.S.," said **Liz Cheng**, general manager of WGBH Television and WORLD Channel. "As our relationship evolves, we look forward to adding more exceptional content from Link TV, which closely aligns with our public media mission to inform, educate and engage our audiences with stories about difference."

"When you combine WORLD's local broadcast coverage of 79 million households with Link TV's availability via satellite in 30 million U.S. homes, this content-sharing partnership will bring these programs to the vast majority of the American viewers," said **Andrew Russell**, President and CEO of the Public Media Group of Southern California, formed by the merger of PBS SoCal and KCETLink Media Group. "This is important, compelling programming that tells the stories of our global community, focusing on what makes us different and what brings us together. We look forward to growing this exciting alliance."

Starting in early February, Link TV will be adding *Stories from the Stage* to the satellite broadcaster's primetime lineup. The award-winning WORLD-original weekly series showcases the extraordinary stories of ordinary people, illuminating many different facets of the human condition. Hosted by **Theresa Okokon** and **Wes Hazard**, each episode features multicultural storytellers who step onto the stage to fascinate audiences with stories that range from tales of joy and disaster to illustrating the challenging issues of the day.

The WORLD Channel will add Link TV's award-winning series *Earth Focus* later this winter. The longest-running investigative environmental news program on U.S. television, the series provides audiences with urgent local and global environmental coverage that spotlights issues such as endangered species, climate change, environmental health and sustainable practices. Produced in partnership with the **Thomson Reuters Foundation**, the series features investigative reports and in-depth stories about our changing environment and how it affects people around the world.

Later this spring, Link TV will start broadcasting *America ReFramed*, a WORLD-original social-issues documentary series that presents personal voices and experiences on topics – from health care, immigration and the environment to violence, injustice and LGBTQ issues – that depict a transforming America. This series has won a Peabody award, a duPont-Columbia award and many other honors in recognition of the diversity of both its subject matter and filmmakers.

Later this spring, Link TV viewers can look forward to the debut of another WORLD-original series when *LOCAL, USA* is added to the lineup. The series is curated from local public media markets around a single theme as told from people from every walk of life.

Joining *Earth Focus* on WORLD will be the Emmy<sup>®</sup>-winning series *The Migrant Kitchen*, dedicated to documenting global food culture by spotlighting chefs who are combining traditional and ethnic cuisines with new ideas, flavors and fresh techniques that are transforming the culinary landscape of America. Produced in partnership with award-winning culinary publication **Life & Thyme**, the series explores the booming food scene through the eyes of a new generation of chefs and culinary artisans whose cuisine is inspired by the immigrant experience.

WORLD Channel will kick off the alliance in February by adding the leading 24/7 international news channel *France 24* to its existing line-up of international daily news. Long a mainstay of Link TV's afternoon global news block, *France 24* joins a two-hour block of respected daily international newscasts on WORLD that includes *BBC World News America*, *NHK Newsline* from Japan and *DW News* from German broadcaster Deutsche Welle.

Additional programs in the content-sharing partnership are expected to be announced later this year.

#### **About WORLD Channel**

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries, and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content examines issues too often ignored by mainstream media by telling stories for and with a diversity of voices. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award and numerous national honors—including 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place Native Media Awards, an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, and an Asian American Journalists Award. WORLD is a growing platform

carried by 165 partner stations in markets representing more than 66% of US TV households. It is also available on [WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org) and social media platforms. Funding for World Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the MacArthur Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. WORLD Channel is produced by WGBH with the support of WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT).

### **About Link TV**

Founded in 1999, [Link TV](http://LinkTV.org) is an independent viewer-supported media organization dedicated to providing programs that engage and inform its audiences with unique perspectives, and empowers them to become involved in the world. Reaching 30 million U.S. satellite households nationally (on DirecTV channel 375 and DISH Network channel 9410) with a unique mix of documentaries, current affairs and drama series, international newscasts and diverse cultural programs, Link TV connects American viewers with people at the heart of breaking events, organizations at the forefront of social change and the vibrant cultures of an increasingly global community. The channel has received a Peabody Award for its unique international news programs. Select programming from Link TV is also available for streaming on Apple TV, YouTube and Roku platforms. For additional information about Link TV productions, web-exclusive content and program schedules, visit [linktv.org](http://linktv.org). Funding for Link TV is provided by viewer contributions and generous grants from the NoVo Foundation, the Orange County Community Foundation, the Farvue Foundation, and by Explore.org, a division of the Annenberg Foundation.

### **About Public Media Group of Southern California**

The Public Media Group of Southern California (PMGSC) tells stories that matter through original programs that reflect the diversity of our region, and through the full schedule of trusted PBS programs. Our Southern California content channels **PBS SoCal** and **KCET** are available for free on internet-connected screens via the PBS Video App, and seen on seven local broadcast channels. Our **Link TV** channel is available nationally via satellite on DirecTV and DISH Network. A donor-supported community institution, PMGSC sparks the sharing of ideas at in-person cultural events and community conversations and delivers social impact through a variety of services including those that prepare our most vulnerable children for school.

### **About WGBH**

WGBH Boston is America's preeminent public broadcaster and the largest producer of PBS content for TV and the Web, including *Masterpiece*, *Antiques Roadshow*, *Frontline*, *Nova*, *American Experience*, *Arthur* and more than a dozen other primetime, lifestyle and children's series. WGBH's television channels include WGBH 2, WGBX 44, and the digital channels World and Create. WGBH TV productions focusing on the region's diverse community include *Greater Boston*, *Basic Black* and *High School Quiz Show*. WGBH Radio serves listeners across New England with 89.7 WGBH, Boston's Local NPR®; 99.5 WCRB Classical Radio Boston; and WCAI, the Cape and Islands NPR® Station. WGBH also is a major source of digital content and programs for public radio through PRX, including *The World* and *Innovation Hub*, a leader in educational multimedia with PBS LearningMedia™, providing the nation's educators with free, curriculum-based digital content, and a pioneer in services that make media accessible to deaf, hard of hearing, blind and visually impaired audiences. WGBH has been recognized with hundreds of honors: Emmys, Peabodys, duPont-Columbia Awards and Oscars. Find more information at [wgbh.org](http://wgbh.org).