A Timeline Of Country Music
From The Public Media Archives

To accompany episodes of the newly released documentary Country Music: a film by Ken Burns, programs from the American Archive of Public Broadcasting (AAPB) are featured in an interactive timeline on WGBH.org. Created by WGBH Archives Engagement Intern, Christopher Brown, each program provides a deeper look at the influential people and places behind the genre's history.

WGBH Awarded $750,000 Grant by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to Support the American Archive of Public Broadcasting

AAPB to work with Brandeis University’s Lab for Linguistics and Computation to use artificial intelligence to enhance accessibility and discoverability of content

Remembering the Summer of 1969

This summer marked the 50th anniversary of historic events such as the Apollo 11 moon landing, riots at the Stonewall Inn, and the Woodstock music festival - to name only a few. In some cases, these events marked the end or continuation of a much longer historical process, and we invite you to explore ways that public radio and television covered this history through programs created by organizations across the nation over the past 70+ years. Selected programs are available online at americananarchive.org!
The Great Depression Interviews (1991-1992)
Produced by Blackside Productions and contributed by the Film & Media Archive at Washington University in St. Louis

Iowa Public Television (IPTV)

LGBT+ Collection (1950s-2018)
Collection of public radio and television programs contributed by stations and original producers

University of North Carolina Television (UNC-TV)

To the Moon Interviews (1998)
WGBH

UPCOMING Exhibits

- **On the Right: NET and Modern Conservatism** curated by Allison Perlman, Assistant Professor of Film & Media Studies, and History at the University of California, Irvine.

- **Freedom Song: Interviews from Eyes on the Prize: America’s Civil Rights Years, 1954 – 1965,** a new AAPB exhibit curated by historian Michelle Kelley.

- **Latino Empowerment through Public Broadcasting** curated by Library of Congress HNIP (Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program) intern Alexandra C. Garcia Aponte, a student at the University of Puerto Rico.
AAPB Updates

Grant Collaborations

AAPB is currently collaborating with the University of Georgia on a digitization grant funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project is digitizing and preserving every public television and radio program ever nominated for a Peabody award between 1941 and 1999, totaling approximately 4,000 hours. Digitization is currently underway, and the team is beginning to focus on making the collection available in the Online Reading Room.

AAPB is also collaborating with The Riverside Church in the City of New York to digitize, preserve and make publicly available the WRVR-FM radio collection from 1961-1971, through a Digitizing Hidden Collections Grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources. Digitization of more than 3,500 1/4" audio reels is underway, and project staff and interns are currently cataloging the material with the goal of making it discoverable as possible on the AAPB website.

National Educational Television (NET)

Over the past year, the Library of Congress (LOC) has worked with George Blood to digitize 504 tapes from its NET and PBS collections. This material is on 2-inch tape, an increasingly difficult format to work with due to its age and obsolescence of the playback machines. This digitization project will be completed by Spring 2020 or earlier.

Building off this project, the LOC is working on a plan to have a vendor digitize around 500 tapes per year over the next five years. This initiative will result in the digitization of much of the Library’s NET and PBS collection held on 2-inch tape. The majority of the NET collection is on film and the Library’s in-house film lab continues to digitize those titles. All NET titles digitized through these projects will be made available on the AAPB website.

Explore the NET Collection

Featured items in the NET Special Collection
The Transcribe to Digitize Challenge

Public radio and television organizations are at risk of losing their archival materials due to deterioration and the high costs associated with digitization. In an effort to engage the public in preservation, the AAPB is collaborating with George Blood L.P., a digitization service provider, in the Transcribe to Digitize Challenge!

- Number of transcripts
  - KOPN
  - LPB
  - Rocky Mountain PBS
  - WGBH
  - WPT
  - WXXI

- Months left in the challenge: 3
- Total number of transcripts included in the challenge: 700
- Total number of transcripts completed: 311

Start transcribing!

Public Broadcasting Preservation Fellowship

Four Graduate Students from the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies to Work with Public Media Organizations Across the Country

From August 5-8, four Fellows attended Immersion Week in Tuscaloosa, Alabama where they learned how to digitize U-Matic and Betacam tapes, catalog materials in PBCore, and create access copies for the AAPB website using command line tools. Over the next few weeks, the Fellows will begin their work at the three partner public media organizations for the project:

- WSRE in Pensacola, Florida
- WCVE in Richmond, Virginia
- The Center for Public Television and Radio in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Each Fellow will work with station staff to digitize 30-60 hours of unique, at-risk local content and ingest it into the AAPB for long-term preservation.

More about PBPF
New AAPB Stats!

1,705 programs and original materials added to the Online Reading Room (ORR) since May 2019

49,720 items now discoverable online, including links to the digital archives of participating stations

98,300 items preserved on-site at the Library of Congress

What's popular on AAPB?

Speaking and Protesting Exhibit
Protesting in the 1960s and 1970s

“Gavel-to-Gavel”: The Watergate Scandal and Public Television

Climate Change Conversations: Causes, Impacts, Solutions

Waves of Wisdom Series from KYUK

Contact Us

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About the American Archive of Public Broadcasting

The American Archive of Public Broadcasting (AAPB) is a collaboration between the Library of Congress and the WGBH Educational Foundation to coordinate a national effort to preserve at-risk public media before its content is lost to posterity and provide a central web portal for access to the unique programming that public stations have aired over the past 70 years. To date, over 98,000 television and radio programs contributed by more than 120 public media organizations and archives across the United States have been digitized for long-term preservation and access.

The entire collection is available on location at WGBH and the Library of Congress, and more than 48,000 programs are available online at americanarchive.org.