Some 21 history productions are represented on the cover of this report. Not pictured - but nonetheless important parts of MPT's history repertoire - are the following films and series, still only a portion of our history productions over the past five decades:

A City Celebrates: The Opening of Harborplace (1980)
Anne Arundel’s Legacy (1999)
A-rab Summer (1972)
Baltimore Clipper: The Ship That Launched a Port (1977)
Baltimore Sun: 150 Years (1987)
Baseball: Birds on 33rd (1991)
Battle of Antietam (1971)
Calvert County: Once Upon a Time (2004)
Camp David (1987)
Chesapeake Planter: A Dialogue on Early American Farming (1977)
Christmas 1783 (1972)
Dundalk: WWII at Home (1986)
FS. Key After the Song (2017)
Folk Way (1976)
Frederick County: A Crossroads of History (1998)
Gone But Not Forgotten I & II (1994)

Headlines & History: The Afro Turns 100 (1992)
Highland Beach: A Douglass Legacy (2000)
Johns Hopkins: 100 Years of Caring (1989)
Life & Times of Louis L. Goldstein (1989)
Lives That Shaped a City (1997)
Maryland Generations: Then and Now (2008)
Maryland in the Great War: Over There, Over Here (1996)
Maryland ... (Maryland Indians episode) (1990)
Maryland’s Government House (1985)
Maryland’s Natural Symbols (1979)
Mountain Steam: The Alleghany Central Railroad (1991)
On the Trail of Captain John Smith: Rediscovering the Chesapeake Bay (2008)
Pathways to Freedom: Maryland and the Underground Railroad (2002)
Port Baltimore (1993)
Prange & Pearl Harbor: A Magnificent Obsession (2001)
Prince George’s County: A 300-Year Journey (1996)
Private Yankee Doodle: A Dialogue on Early American Military (1977)
Remembering 9/11 Ten Years Later (2012)
Stories of Maryland: Nightmare’s Child (1969)
Stories of Maryland: Once to Every Man (1976)
Stories of Maryland: The Inventory (1970)
The Civil War: A Region Divided (1991)
The Dig: Maryland Mystery Lady (2020)
The Skipjacks (2011)
The Tall Ship “Guayas” (2013)
The War: Struggle & Sacrifice (2008)
Vid Kid: Lost in Maryland History (1997)

On the cover ...

Before the fiscal year 2023 drew to a close, Maryland Public Television formally launched its Center for Maryland History Films, a content initiative designed as a platform for the continuation and growth of history-related productions.

Building on the success of national films about Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass (see page 4) – documentaries made possible by a generous State of Maryland appropriation – The Center for Maryland History Films is the springboard for upcoming short- and long-form content, telling stories of people, places, and events dating back to the Free State’s original 1632 colonial charter.

For 54 years, MPT has been covering history as the cover graphics illustrate. Now, with the debut of the Center for Maryland History Films, we’re making some of our own.
That impressive list of Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting and Maryland Public Television history productions on the foregoing page merely hints at what is to come as our organization turns its attention to capturing and telling the stories of yesteryear — and yesteryear’s people.

This is not a new preoccupation — the dates on those productions testify to our longtime prowess in covering the history of our state and beyond — but instead is a new commitment to the genre of history productions. You’ll learn more about this commitment in the following pages.

Annual reports of necessity chronicle the events of a 12-month period, and so, indeed, the one you’re reading does report on a remarkable year of achievement. The accomplishments we document result from the hard work of our talented staff and the vision and support of our governing body, the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, and of our MPT Foundation, Inc., our fund- and friend-raising body. We are indebted, too, to the State of Maryland for the funding that is the bedrock of our state-licensed public broadcasting network.

And, finally, we thank you for the role you play as a friend, supporter, or viewer of Maryland Public Television. You are an important part of all we accomplish throughout the year. We are proud to serve you and eager to make even more history with you in the months and years ahead.

Larry D. Unger
President
& Chief Executive Officer

Steven J. Schupak
Executive Vice President
& Station Manager
Delivering trusted local & national content

Once again in FY23, MPT delivered a wide range of entertaining, educational, and inspiring content viewed by local, regional, and national public TV audiences. In total, the talented team at MPT was responsible for 199 separate local and national productions in addition to bringing to screens acquired programs and national series and specials. What follows is a look at the content enjoyed by our viewers this past year.

Local productions

MPT produced and aired 142 original productions, totaling nearly 81 hours of content. Here’s a rundown of these programs:

**Arts / culture**
- Artworks
- Artworks Special: 2022 Baker Artist Awards
- Artworks Special: Christmas with Choral Arts
- Artworks Special: Dreamer
- Artworks Special: Nutcracker
- Dion Parson and 21st Century Band in Concert
- Eatin’ Blue Catfish: Chesapeake Style
- Sounds of the Game

**News / public affairs**
- Direct Connection
- Direct Connection: Intro to HBCU Week Special
- Governor Larry Hogan’s Farewell Address
- 2022 Democratic Gubernatorial Candidates Debate

**Educational / historic**
- Braddock’s Road: A Legacy Unearthed
- Conversations for Change: HBCU Awakenings and Revival
- Discovering The Dove
- Kent County’s Storied Landscape: Place – Past and Present
- Maryland Teacher of the Year
- Unpacking Cambridge: A Story of Rebirth and Reconciliation
- Ways to Pay For College 2022

Plus 2 digital programs, .63 hours of content
- HBCU Week – HBCU President Interviews
- Maryland Underground: Thompson Farm

National productions

During the past fiscal year, MPT production teams — in some cases in collaboration with partners — made these five films and series for national and international distribution.

- 2022 Gubernatorial Debate
- Inauguration of Governor Wes Moore
- Maryland State of the State
- MPT Sports Desk
- Social Security & You with Mary Beth Franklin
- State Circle
- State Circle: HBCU Week Special

**Natural history**
- Maryland Farm & Harvest, Season 10
- Outdoors Maryland, Season 34

Plus 26 digital programs, 13 hours of content
- MotorWeek Podcast
Local acquisitions

These 29 productions from independent producers and distributors were secured by MPT’s Programming & Acquisitions Department for our viewers’ enjoyment.

- 12th Grade: From West Baltimore
- A Legacy of Opportunity: The History of Delaware State University
- A Time for Burning
- All the Difference
- Back in Time: Langston University
- Bayou City
- Blue and Gold Marching Machine (part of Sounds of the Game)
- Breaking Ground: A Story of HBCU Football and the NFL
- Buttons: A Christmas Tale
- Come Find Me
- Foot Soldiers: Class of 1964
- Forest Her: The Next Wave of Conservation
- Headwaters Down
- Island Empire
- John - Living with Mental Illness
- Local 1196: A Steelworkers Strike
- Maryland 5 Star
- Our Blues Make Us Gold
- Out to Vote
- Pop’s Old Place
- Search for the Cooper: A River Hidden in Plain View
- The Battle for Greater Baltimore: Bowie State University vs. Towson University (football)

National presentations

MPT was honored to serve as “presenting station” for these five programs and series, distributed nationwide to public TV stations by American Public Television (APT).

- The Calvin Tyler Story
- Upstream, Downriver
- Walter P. Carter: Champion for Change
- Wetlands of Wonder: The Hidden World of Vernal Pools

Plus 3 digital programs, 1.25 hours of content

- A Short History of Sweet Potato Pie and How It Became a Flying Saucer
- Out to Vote (extended version)
- Parables of War
Tubman & Douglass history films have national impact

MPT delivered two original history films to national audiences that shed new light on the lives of a pair of iconic Marylanders – both towering figures in the struggle to end slavery – Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. Produced by MPT in association with Firelight Films and directed by Oscar®-nominated filmmaker Stanley Nelson and Nicole London, the films premiered in primetime on PBS in October 2022.

*Harriet Tubman: Visions of Freedom* offers a rich and nuanced portrait of the woman known as a conductor of the Underground Railroad, who repeatedly risked her own life and freedom to liberate others from slavery. Tubman was born in Dorchester County, Maryland, some 200 years ago. She escaped north to Philadelphia in 1849. Once there, Tubman became involved in the abolitionist movement and through the Underground Railroad guided more than 70 enslaved people to freedom. She would go on to serve as a Civil War scout, nurse and spy, never wavering in her pursuit of equality. The film goes beyond the legend of Tubman to explore what motivated her – including divine inspiration – to become one of the greatest freedom fighters in our nation’s history.

*Becoming Frederick Douglass* is the inspiring story of a man born into slavery in Maryland who became one of the most prominent statesmen and influential voices for democracy in American history. Born in 1818, he escaped from slavery in 1838 and went on to become many things, including diplomat, essayist, political theorist, newspaper editor and publisher, social reformer, and leader of the abolitionist movement. He was also a gifted writer and charismatic orator. It is estimated that more Americans heard Douglass speak than any other 19th-century figure, Black or white. The film explores how Douglass controlled his own image and narrative, embracing photography as a tool for social justice, and the role he played in securing the right to freedom and equality for African Americans.

Oscar-nominated and Emmy® Award-winning actor Alfre Woodard is the narrator of *Harriet Tubman: Visions of Freedom*, and acclaimed actor Wendell Pierce is the voice of Frederick Douglass in both films.

These landmark one-hour documentaries were made possible with an appropriation from the State of Maryland. Both programs were also sponsored by Bowie State University, DIRECTV and Pfizer, Inc. Bowie State is the oldest historically Black college or university (HBCU) in Maryland and the first to become a premier sponsor of a national PBS film.

"There are no two people more important to our country’s history than Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman. Their remarkable lives and contributions were a critical part of the 19th century, and their legacies help us understand who we are as a nation.”

– Stanley Nelson, executive producer/director, speaking to Deadline Hollywood
MPT’s Tubman & Douglass films (through May 2023)

- Broadcasts in all top 100 U.S. markets; 186 markets in total
- 5.1+ million viewers for Harriet Tubman: Visions of Freedom
- 4.5+ million viewers for Becoming Frederick Douglass
- More than 3,340 broadcasts for each of the two films
- Films screened at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, a Smithsonian Institution museum
- Film screenings conducted for students and faculty at 25 historically Black colleges and universities
- Film screenings conducted for students and faculty at 11 other colleges and universities
- 6,603 people on campuses nationwide viewed the two films
- 26 media interviews conducted by spokespersons for the films
- Total reach of more than 1,000,000 achieved via social media engagement
MPT was founded upon the principles of lifelong learning, and education is woven deeply into the fabric of our efforts. A trusted partner in education, MPT’s Education Division brings high-quality instructional content, programs, and media to PreK-12 educators, schools, families, and communities in Maryland and beyond.

The team provides interactive resources for the classroom, quality educational videos, engaging online courses to support local educators and child care providers, and rewarding professional development opportunities to inspire teaching.

The Education Division’s FY23 highlights include:

**Thinkport**

Thinkport is the centerpiece of MPT’s digital learning content. In FY23, student instructional resources, online courses for professional learning, and early learning content for families were accessed by thousands of people throughout Maryland’s education communities.

**Tubman / Douglass classroom resources**

With the debut of national documentaries Harriet Tubman: Visions of Freedom and Becoming Frederick Douglass, MPT’s Education Division launched a companion website, TubmanDouglassFilms.org, and a suite of multimedia instructional resources for classrooms.

These resources included interactives and self-paced lessons exploring themes such as freedom, civil rights, and social justice and how to build connections between the past and present. Developed under the guidance of an advisory board of educators, school administrators, Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) leaders, researchers, and educational media developers, the resources help deepen middle and high school students’ understanding of media literacy, historical empathy, and primary source analysis.

A variety of teacher resources, including inquiry modules, a facilitated dialogue toolkit, and webinars supported instructional content. MPT also partnered with National History Day to create a collection of filmmaking tips from documentarian Stanley Nelson, and several History in the Making videos shared current news stories about Tubman and Douglass.

These classroom resources were found at TubmanDouglassFilms.org, with additional access through Thinkport.org and PBS LearningMedia.

**Early Learning Social**

Early Learning Social is a free, virtual space for early childhood educators to learn together, network in interactive discussions, and share resources.

Each month, MPT brought together early educators for facilitated trainings on Zoom. During FY23, 450 providers completed Early Learning Social sessions to earn up to 24 hours of state-approved training for child care licensing requirements and high-quality early education instruction.

Early educators from more than half of Maryland’s 24 jurisdictions participated in the sessions, as did individuals from other states plus Canada, Philippines, and the United Kingdom.

**Media Literacy for Early Childhood Professionals**

This professional development course uses self-paced lessons and synchronous workshops to teach educators how to plan developmentally appropriate ways to use media and technology to foster active learning with young children. Participants earn six MSDE-approved Core of Knowledge clock hours.

After an Early Learning Social, a family care provider reflected, “My ideas have expanded with what I learned about empathy. It can be used to help me work with a child and with parents who can use the same empathy at home.”

A PreK-2 teacher shared, “It was fun learning how to use screen time for whole group active learning and select developmentally appropriate media to enhance learning skills.”
hours required for licensure as well as valuable skills to help create state-required screen time plans.

**Early Learning Media Ambassadors (ELMA)**

The ELMA initiative recruits and trains early childhood educators in partnership with Maryland libraries to model best practices for teaching with educational media in early childhood programs and to support school readiness.

**Ready To Learn**

MPT and its partners including Judy Centers, public libraries, and community organizations coordinate multigenerational learning experiences for children and families as well as professional learning opportunities for educators. Ready To Learn “Learning Neighborhoods” feature PBS KIDS resources focused on learning needs of young children, especially as they relate to functional literacy, computational thinking, and social emotional development. In FY23, Ready To Learn and other grant funding enabled MPT to connect with targeted communities, providing learning activities and materials to more than 500 children, families, and educators.

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**Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) Collection**

In FY23, the Education team unveiled 16 new TPS Inquiry Kits for learners in grades 1-2. The theme-based research kits feature thinking questions, primary and secondary sources, and tools to analyze historical materials. They were developed in partnership with Maryland Humanities as part of MPT’s long-running participation in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources program, which offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources.

MPT first unveiled TPS Inquiry Kits in 2016, and the collection has grown to more than 200 kits and 1,000 primary source materials organized into curriculum units and topics. Elementary students explore social studies themes, while middle and high schools choose from a collection of U.S. government, U.S. history, and world history topics.

In addition, the TPS collection on Thinkport includes civics resources funded by the Library of Congress, including Research Learning Modules, Case Maker, and Civics! An American Musical. Each of these inquiry-based interactives takes students on a learning investigation using primary sources to lead the way.

**Professional learning**

The Education Division serves the learning needs of Maryland early childhood educators and K-12 teachers by offering credit-bearing online courses and professional development trainings. In FY23, more than 1,000 educators participated in professional development trainings to earn Continuing Professional Development credits or Core of Knowledge clock hours.

MPT completed a multi-year project with MSDE to develop a series of full-year online student courses.

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A still from an animated social studies unit introduction video produced by MPT’s Education Division for the Maryland State Department of Education.

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At a Ready To Learn “Learning Neighborhoods” event held in partnership with the Frederick County Judy Center at Waverley Elementary School, students and families took advantage of photo opportunities with characters and elements of their favorite PBS KIDS programs and completed STEM-based activities that encouraged using the engineering design process.

Family members engage in hands-on learning activities during MPT’s Ready To Learn “Learning Neighborhoods” series at the Judy Center in Somerset County. Families participated in four sessions to use the free PBS KIDS Scratch Jr app and engage in activities to sharpen critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Each was developed by teams of subject matter and instructional content experts, along with a variety of rich media developed to enhance the learning experience. Courses are in elementary-level social studies and science as well as secondary-level algebra I, geometry, data science, and Chinese language.
A banner year for MPT's development team

MPT’s Development Division experienced one of its most successful years ever in FY23. When viewed by metrics including fundraising milestones, membership program expansion, the impact of audience engagement activities, and local pledge productions, the team met and exceeded its objectives.

**Fundraising success**
On the fundraising and donor front, MPT raised more than $8 million as the result of its strategic on-air and online fundraising activities, its expanded membership program, and individuals who generously donated 84 vehicles to MPT during the fiscal year.

On-air fundraising achieved its objectives while reducing the number of pledge days in FY23 to 83. This compares with the 116 days of on-air pledge activity back in FY15.

In addition to these successes, the division’s Major & Planned Giving unit raised nearly $3 million from restricted and unrestricted gifts, bequests, and grants, while its Corporate Support team generated more than $700,000 in revenue from 100 clients who chose to align their brands with MPT and support public television.

**Membership growth**
MPT’s membership list totaled approximately 66,500 by the end of FY23, bolstered by continued growth in the number of sustaining members — those donors who make a commitment to give monthly to the statewide public television network. The number of sustainers at the end of the year stood at an all-time high of 24,668.

On top of that, the team added several new membership levels, each with an expanded menu of benefits and engagement opportunities. Among these new offerings is MPT’s first family membership, which features creative and enjoyable ways for families to experience MPT and PBS KIDS content and attend family-oriented events. Information is available at mpt.org/support/familymembership/

**Audience engagement**
At MPT, community engagement activities seek to further strengthen the bonds between the network and its viewers and supporters across the region. That’s exactly what the Special Events & Community Engagement (SECE) team accomplished in FY23 when it conducted 131 events, film screenings, station tours, and other functions, enjoyed by more than 10,000 live audience members. Another 6,700 people streamed virtual events following live programs.

As part of its slate of audience engagement activities, SECE staff orchestrated several large-scale events featuring screenings of MPT’s Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman documentaries (see pages 2-3), including an exclusive screening for 250 guests at the National Museum of African American History and Culture and another for more than 100 guests at MPT’s Irene and Edward H. Kaplan Production Studio. The team also staged non-screening events including several of its popular genealogy workshops, along with two duck decoy workshops, a yoga and meditation event, and poetry writing contest and open mic reading programs.
This past year, the team’s popular MPT Travel Club took more than 65 guests on several excursions, including a Maryland lighthouses tour and a trip to New England for the club’s Call of the Wild adventure tour. As the new fiscal year started, MPT travelers prepared to go out of the country for the club’s week-long Iceland Explorer Tour.

The SECE team also brought back its popular MPT Flea Market & Bazaar after a pandemic hiatus. The event, conducted on the MPT campus, brings together more than 1,000 community members and dozens of vendors and crafters to sell, mix, mingle, and shop. Finally, two seasonal auctions and the team’s most successful MPT Raffle together raised more than $110,000 for the network.

New on-air productions
The On-Air Fundraising & Development Productions staff delivered two FY23 pledge productions that aired on MPT.

The first show, Social Security & You, features certified financial planner and award-winning journalist Mary Beth Franklin, one of the country’s leading experts on Social Security and Medicare. She offers insights on navigating complex choices facing adults in the years leading up to retirement and provides valuable information for viewers to use in making benefits decisions. The program is slated for national public TV distribution in 2024.

The second program, Dion Parson & 21st Century Band in Concert, filmed in MPT’s Kaplan Studio during the February 2023 filming of the pledge special Dion Parson & 21st Century Band in Concert for a June premiere.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski (in purple), Rhea Feikin (in blue) and the MPT crew gather in Studio B during production of a Maryland Oral History Project interview in March 2023.

The second program, Dion Parson & 21st Century Band in Concert, filmed in MPT’s Kaplan Studio, fuses the rich traditions of jazz music with the rhythms of the Caribbean. Grammy® Award-winning drummer and composer Dion Parson leads a seven-member ensemble that delivers a high-energy performance of sophisticated “Jazzibbean” jazz to a live studio audience. It, too, will be distributed nationally next year as a standard program.

The team also finished up production on another show for early FY24 featuring a distinctly Maryland flavor, Jewish Delis: Something to Kvell About!

Center for Maryland History Films give rise to oral history initiative
Under the umbrella of the new Center for Maryland History Films, in FY23 MPT launched The Maryland Oral History Project, an initiative proposed by MPT Foundation director Alfred Berkeley and realized by the Development Division’s productions arm. The project’s purpose is to capture and maintain a digital archive of short interviews with important and influential Marylanders, men and women from the fields of literature, the arts, business, education, sports, and philanthropy. To achieve a more intimate tone, participants select their own interviewers who have ranged from friends and family members to professional colleagues.

Work on the series began in November 2022 with an interview featuring American journalist Marvin Kalb. Other interviewees include former U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski; the Librarian of Congress, Carla Hayden; and sculptor Toby Mendez, creator of nearly two dozen prominent public monuments. The interviews all reside on the project website, mpt.org/mdoralhistory/.
After the death of George Floyd in May 2020, reverberations were felt nationally and internationally as societies came to grips with the criminal nature of his murder at the hands of police. In early 2021, MPT itself launched a formal effort to make a public stand against racism in all its ugly manifestations. To that end, the project called Standing Against Racism: Fostering Unity Through Dialogue got underway with the convening of an external Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Council and the establishment of an internal DEI working group. Chaired by two members of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, the DEI Advisory Council recommitted MPT to pursue and advocate for racial justice. The council’s members continue to serve as champions for diversity and inclusion in MPT content, programming, community engagement, and staffing.

Accomplishments during FY23 included a nine percent increase in minority individuals in the MPT workforce, staff training sessions focused on DEI themes, and the naming of two staff members as participants in the Public Media Diversity Leaders Initiative sponsored by the Riley Institute at Furman University. MPT hosted a 50-person “Conversations for Change” event for Hispanic Heritage Month, bringing members of the state’s Hispanic community to the Owings Mills campus, and devoted Monday night primetime hours to productions based on DEI topics, some 15 hours in all during the fiscal year, complemented by 22 hours of airtime devoted to the network’s third annual HBCU Week of programming in September 2022.

MPT is grateful for the active involvement of its DEI council members (as of 10/1/23):
Debra Bright (co-chair), Patrick Butler, Rebecca Hanson, Joy Thomas-Moore, Maggie Linton-Petza, Stanley Rodbell (co-chair), Donald Thoms, Ellie Wang, John Wolf, Sharon Pinder, and Tyrone Taborn.
Marking its sixth anniversary as a service to State of Maryland agencies and governmental units, the Maryland State Ad Agency (MSAA) served 11 different clients in FY23, several returning with new assignments or with ongoing campaigns.

As a division of Maryland Public Television, MSAA and its staff of four full-time professionals plus support from MPT at large, welcomed the Maryland departments of Transportation, Education, and Agriculture for first-time work in FY23. Other returning mainstay clients – the departments of Health and of Housing and Community Development – conducted several campaigns apiece during the 12-month period.

All told, MSAA’s work in FY23 garnered six prestigious advertising/marketing industry awards (see pages 16-17) and even a regional Emmy® Award nomination. More important, all the campaigns together gained more than 650 million audience impressions within the Free State, contributing to important civic messaging about such issues as opioid addiction, problem gambling, vaccines, homeowner assistance, foreclosure prevention, the 988 suicide and crisis lifeline, Chesapeake Bay health, and veteran benefits.

“As a resource for state agencies, MSAA continues to help our colleagues communicate critical messages to their target audiences,” notes Steven Schupak, executive vice president and station manager and founder of MSAA. “We are honored to have earned the trust of our fellow agency clients to perform such important work, which directly and positively impacts the health and safety of all Marylanders.”

MSAA enlisted the help of Baltimore Ravens players for an ad campaign on behalf of the Maryland Department of Health to increase awareness and use of the state’s 988 crisis lifeline.

A Spanish-language advertisement created by MSAA as part of an awareness campaign on behalf of The Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling.

An MPT display, installed in summer 2023, highlights the award-winning work of MSAA on behalf of clients throughout the State of Maryland.

650,000,000 total audience impressions

MSAA FY23 clients

- Maryland Department of Aging
- Maryland Department of Agriculture
- Maryland Department of Health
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
- Maryland Department of Transportation
- Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs
- Maryland Healthcare Commission
- Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Maryland State Department of Education
- Maryland State Police
In its new Kaplan Studio, MPT hosted in October the only 2022 general election gubernatorial debate. The debate between Republican Party candidate Dan Cox and Democratic Party candidate Wes Moore was moderated by WBAL-TV news anchor Jason Newton and featured questions from journalists including MPT news anchor Jeff Salkin.

MPT videographer Michael Estrabillo introduces young students to the tools of his trade during STEAM Day at The Goddard School of Towson in August 2022.

Bill Clarke, coordinating supervisor, Production Services, operates the control station at the State House in Annapolis that enables livestream coverage of the 2023 Maryland General Assembly session.

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) representatives check out a car parked in the Kaplan Studio during an October 2022 visit with the MotorWeek team. MPT and the DOE have collaborated for more than 20 years under the auspices of the federal agency’s Clean Cities Program to advance the nation’s economic, environmental, and energy security by supporting local actions to cut petroleum use in transportation.

Hosts Joanne Clendining and Al Spoler (seated at left) hold an on-camera discussion with members of the Maryland Farm & Harvest crew for the series’ 10th anniversary special. Producers and videographers reminisced with the hosts about their farm shoots.

Governor Wes Moore (right) is interviewed in Annapolis by MPT’s Jeff Salkin at the conclusion of the 2023 Maryland General Assembly session in April. (photo courtesy of Patrick Siebert, Executive Office of the Governor)
Crew members capture footage of a hawk perched in front of a green screen outside MPT’s Owings Mills headquarters during production of a new Outdoors Maryland opening sequence that made its debut in November 2022.

MPT’s plaza was illuminated in green during the week of November 7-13, 2022, in observance of Operation Green Light. MPT and landmarks throughout the state were lit green to raise awareness of the resources available for veterans and their families.

MPT staffers Judi and Sam Mann display their State of Maryland service recognition plaques in MPT’s lobby, received during MPT’s 2022 Employee Appreciation Luncheon in May. The couple has worked at MPT for a combined 75 years.

Michael MacFee, director, Communications Services, unveils a new flag bearing the MPT seal during the June 2022 joint dinner of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission and the MPT Foundation Board of Directors in The Great Room at Historic Savage Mill.

During the 2023 Public Media Summit hosted by America’s Public Television Stations, MPT President and CEO Larry D. Unger (right) delivered a tribute to Cynthia Fenneman, an honorary MPT alumna and the longtime president and CEO of program distributor American Public Television, upon her retirement. Fenneman also received the MPT Champion Award in 2023 along with Patrick Butler (see photo on page 21).

Chesapeake Collectibles crew members gathered during a busy taping weekend on June 24-25.
Technology enhancements boost production capabilities

During the past year, a major focus of MPT’s Technology Division has been adding equipment and systems to enhance the content the network produces for its viewers.

After obtaining and installing new transmitters, antennas, and microwave radio systems in recent years at MPT facilities across the state, the division’s engineers were busy again in FY23 procuring and preparing new technology assets used by MPT’s production and post-production teams.

For the first time in some 20 years, MPT secured new Hitachi studio cameras. After being assembled and outfitted with studio configuration equipment, the eight cameras were available by late summer for use in MPT’s three studios. The new cameras can record in 4K to provide better optics and have the latest computer chips to deliver improved imagery and resolution.

All 14 of MPT’s editing suites were also updated with 4K monitors, increased shared data storage, and new, robust hardware enabling easier use of editing software products. Notably, each suite now has the same technology and capabilities, alleviating the need for staffers to switch rooms at different stages of the editing process.

The Technology Division also purchased equipment for MPT videographers to use on location, including new Sony hand-held cameras, GoPro action cameras, and Mavic drones. In addition, production staff has new LiveU bonded cellular equipment. During live, on-location productions, these portable units can send four separate camera signals simultaneously, in sync, back to MPT for programs such as the governor’s annual State of the State address. LiveU also enables MPT to share its live feed with other TV stations or networks that have the same system.

Six transmitters serving Maryland
The Maryland Department of Budget and Management (DBM) approved MPT’s FY23 budget covering the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Revenues and expenses are shown below. Dollar amounts are in millions.

**Government investment in MPT**

$1.40 a year
The federal investment in public television represents an investment of about $1.40 per American each year. Government funding, accomplished through the Corporation for Public Technology enhancements boost production capabilities.

Broadcasting in the form of Community Service Grants to public TV stations across the nation, is truly essential to the survival and success of noncommercial, educational public service media. Independent studies continue to validate that, in considering the use of their tax dollars, Americans judge PBS to provide an excellent value that’s second only to that of military defense.

$1.79 a year
The State of Maryland investment in MPT represents spending of $1.79 per Marylander each year.

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**MPT's financial picture**

Broadcast TV
MPT-HD & MPT2 Create*

1.0 million monthly viewers

9th in revenue among 151 PBS stations

196 regional Emmys* (4 national Emmys)

885+ productions over 53+ years

(as of August 2023)

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**REVENUE $32.9**

- Corporate Support & Production Funding $8.8 - 27%
- MD State Ad Agency $1.4 - 4%
- State of Maryland Appropriation $10.4 - 32%
- Grants $0.6 - 2%
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting $3.1 - 9%
- Membership $8.6 - 26%
- Fundraising & Outreach $5.6 - 17%
- Transmission & Facilities $8.4 - 26%
- Production & Program Acquisition $11.9 - 36%
- Education Services $1.6 - 5%
- Administration $3.9 - 12%
- MD State Ad Agency $1.4 - 4%

**EXPENSES $32.9**

- Corporate Support & Production Funding $8.8 - 27%
- MD State Ad Agency $1.4 - 4%
- State of Maryland Appropriation $10.4 - 32%
- Grants $0.6 - 2%
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting $3.1 - 9%
- Membership $8.6 - 26%
- Fundraising & Outreach $5.6 - 17%
- Transmission & Facilities $8.4 - 26%
- Production & Program Acquisition $11.9 - 36%
- Education Services $1.6 - 5%
- Administration $3.9 - 12%
- MD State Ad Agency $1.4 - 4%

*as approved by DBM and in effect 7/1/22 for the fiscal year ending 6/30/23
Honors & awards

Awards earned by MPT productions & personnel

**National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences 65th Emmy® Awards**

INFORMATIONAL/INSTRUCTIONAL - SHORT-FORM CONTENT (UP TO 10 MINUTES)
- Maryland Farm & Harvest: Carnivorous Plant Nursery
  - Megan Bryant, segment producer

MAGAZINE PROGRAM (SINGLE PROGRAM)
- Outdoors Maryland: Episode 3405
  - Sarah Sampson, series producer
  - Jack Harris, segment producer

DIVERSITY/EQUITY/INCLUSION - LONG-FORM CONTENT (LONGER THAN 10 MINUTES)
- Artworks: Dreamer (co-production with Baltimore Choral Arts Society)
  - Travis Mitchell, executive producer
  - T.L. Benton, producer
  - Anthony Clark, artistic director/conductor

**TECHNOLOGY - SHORT-FORM CONTENT (UP TO 10 MINUTES)**
- Outdoors Maryland: The Long Flight
  - Stefanie Robey, producer

16th Annual Chesapeake Film Festival

- Official Selection - Live Festival
  - Outdoors Maryland

- Official Selection - Virtual Festival
  - Kent County’s Storied Landscape: Place - Past and Present

**2022 Chesapeake Associated Press Broadcasters Association Awards**

SECOND PLACE
- Category: Outstanding Public Affairs
  - State Circle: Classroom Crossroads
  - Mark Keefer, Jeff Salkin, Sue Kopen Katcef

**2023 Telly Awards**

SILVER
- Category: General - Health & Safety
  - 988 Crisis Hotline
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

BRONZE
- Category: General - Health & Safety
  - Problem Gambling
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

**2023 MUSE Creative Awards**

PLATINUM
- Category: Branded Content - Public Service & Activism
  - 988 Crisis Hotline PSA
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

**GOLD**
- Category: Branded Content - Public Service & Activism
  - Problem Gambling PSA
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

**Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School**

Cornerstone Celebration honoree
- Al Berkeley

**Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts (AIVA) 2023 Communicator Awards**

EXCELLENCE
- Category: Commercials - Health & Wellness
  - Problem Gambling
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

DISTINCTION
- Category: Commercials - Health & Wellness
  - 988 Crisis Hotline
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

**National Educational Telecommunications Association 2023 Communicator Awards**

SILVER
- Category: General - Health & Safety
  - 988 Crisis Hotline
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

BRONZE
- Category: General - Health & Safety
  - Problem Gambling
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

**2023 MUSE Creative Awards**

PLATINUM
- Category: Branded Content - Public Service & Activism
  - 988 Crisis Hotline PSA
  - Maryland State Ad Agency

**National Educational Telecommunications Association**

Excellence in Community Engagement
- Standing Against Racism: Fostering Unity Through Dialogue

Image from Artworks: Dreamer featuring the Baltimore Choral Arts Society and composer Jasmine Barnes.
Maryland Society of Professional Journalists Awards

FIRST PLACE
Category: Features Video
State Circle: Preserving African American & Maritime Traditions in a Small Maryland Town
Sue Kopen Katcef

SECOND PLACE
Category: Features Video
State Circle: Historic Church continues to honor its past and links to Maryland native Frederick Douglass
Sue Kopen Katcef

University of Maryland College of Agriculture & Natural Resources Cornerstone Award
Maryland Farm & Harvest
Joanne Clendining, host
Robert Ferrier, series producer
Al Spoler, contributing editor

Jewish Community Center of Greater Baltimore
Baltimore Jewish Hall of Fame, 2023 inductee
Rhea Feikin

Maryland International Film Festival Hagerstown
2023 Mendez Award
Steven J. Schupak, executive vice president and station manager

National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences
Silver Circle induction
Steven J. Schupak, executive vice president and station manager
Harry Vaughn, senior managing director, Production Services

PBS C. Scott Elliot Development Professional of the Year Award
Linda Taggart, vice president, Development

Maryland Outward Bound School’s 20th anniversary Cornerstone Celebration held in May 2023 in Baltimore’s Fells Point (photo by Dick Bodorff).

MPT Foundation director Al Berkeley was recognized for his commitment to ensuring equitable opportunities for students and veterans during the Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School’s 20th anniversary Cornerstone Celebration held in May 2023 in Baltimore’s Fells Point (photo by Dick Bodorff).

National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences 65th Emmy® Awards

DOCUMENTARY – CULTURAL/TOPICAL
Mom & M
Lux Daze Media
Jena Burchick, producer/director

CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE – LONG-FORM CONTENT
The Long Shore
Trey Terpeluk, executive producer

New York Festivals® Television & Film Awards/Radio Awards 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award
The Kalb Report
Marvin Kalb, host

Awards earned by MPT-presented productions

MPT’s Standing Against Racism: Fostering Unity Through Dialogue initiative earned the “Excellence in Community Engagement” award during the 54th annual Public Media Awards sponsored by the industry group the National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA). Hannah Gibbons (right), coordinator, Special Events & Community Engagement, accepts the award from NETA President Eric Hyyppa during a September 2022 ceremony in Charlotte, NC.
MEMBERS OF MARYLAND PUBLIC TELEVISION

More than 66,400 persons support MPT as voluntary contributing members. Although space prevents us from listing each member by name, we thankfully acknowledge their endorsement of our work. We send special thanks to the more than 24,600 donors who’ve chosen to be sustaining members. Their ongoing monthly contributions provide a steady, reliable stream of income that enables MPT to both purchase and produce first-rate dramas, world-class musical performances, in-depth public affairs reporting, and local productions that capture the stories of Maryland’s history, arts and culture, natural resources, and attractions. Thank you!
$100,000+
The Fetzer Institute
Irene & Edward H. Kaplan
Morris A. Mechanic Foundation, Inc.
Estate of Anita Lee Steele
Estate of Nell V. Weidenhammer
Joan M. Wolle

$50,000 – $99,999
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Baltimore County Commission on Arts & Sciences
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Estate of George Mirchuk
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Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance
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Anna Peloso Moore
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Reiter Family Trust

$10,000 – $24,999
Anonymous
Richard J. & Ellen G. Bodorff Charitable Foundation Inc.
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$5,000 – $9,999
Anonymous (5)
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The Lord Baltimore Capital Corporation
Kendall C. Valentine
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$2,500 – $4,999
Anonymous (5)
Terry Albertson & Kathleen Blackburn
Fay Armstrong
Lillian Bauder
Beth Bishop
Marti Carvell
Wayne Coleman - In memory of Gina Coleman
W. Keith Felts
Julie Finley
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Marjorie Givarz
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Estate of Blanche & Richard J. Mills, Jr.
C. Frederick & Lois C. Muhl Charitable Fund
Katherine E. Nardone

* deceased

Co-producer Ethan Staple (second from left) with program hosts (from left) Ilan Kaplan, Rhea Feikin, and Marcellus Shepard at Attman's Delicatessen during filming of Jewish Delis: Something to Kvell About! The pledge special was produced during FY23 and made its MPT debut in August 2023.

Assistant producer Katie Brader (left) and Senior Producer Barbie Jenkins in the Kaplan Studio during the June taping for Season 11 of Chesapeake Collectibles.

Naval Air Station Patuxent River natural resources specialist Rebecca Stump surveys diamondback eggs before installing a device to protect the eggs from predators during an Outdoor Maryland episode taping.
Series host Joanne Clendining during filming of Maryland Farm & Harvest. The series celebrated its 10th anniversary season during FY23.
Patrick Butler (left), MPT Foundation chair emeritus and president of America’s Public Television Stations, accepts the MPT Champion Award from President and CEO Larry D. Unger during a June ceremony. The award recognizes the recipients’ extraordinary advice, support, or advocacy afforded to Maryland’s statewide public TV network.

* deceased

REGIONAL PRODUCTION FUNDERS

CFG Bank
Chesapeake Employers’ Insurance Company
Eastern Shore Higher Education Center
Kaiser Permanente
Mar-Del Watermelon Association
Maryland Agricultural & Resource Based Industry Development Corporation
Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation
Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts
Maryland’s Best
Maryland Department of Commerce
Maryland Economic Development Corporation

Maryland Farm Bureau
Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board
Maryland Million Day
Maryland Nursery Landscape & Greenhouse Association
Maryland Soybean Board
MidAtlantic Farm Credit
Rural Maryland Council
Seafood Marketing Advisory Commission
The Keith Campbell Foundation
Wegmans Food Markets

CO-PRODUCTION PARTNERS

Maryland Department of Agriculture
Maryland Office of Tourism Development
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CORPORATE SPONSORS

AARP Maryland
Academy Art Museum
Annapolis Opera
Archdiocese of Baltimore
Art League of Ocean City
B&O Railroad Museum
Baltimore Area Chick Fil A Restaurants
Baltimore County Department of Health
IN-KIND DONORS

Abbi Marchesani
Aberdeen Ironbirds
Adventure Park at Sandy Spring
American Helicopter Museum
Annapolis Symphony Orchestra
Annmarie Sculpture Garden
Antique Auto (AACA) Museum in Hershey
Art With A Heart
Ava’s Hospitality Group
Ayers Creek Adventures
B&O Railroad Museum
Ballet Theatre of Maryland
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Beans in the Belfry Meeting Place and Cafe
Black Walnut Point Inn
Blue Henry Spirits
Boordy Vineyards
Bowensville Farm & Nursery
Bowie Baysox
Briar Patch Bed & Breakfast Inn
Butler’s Orchard
Cabot
Calvert Marine Museum

The Visitors Center was transformed into a press room during two gubernatorial debates hosted by MPT in FY23. More than 40 journalists utilized the space during the October 2022 general election debate.
In-kind donors include individuals and representatives of organizations who generously donated their time to serve as speakers for numerous MPT-sponsored events. In FY23, these donors were:

Preservation Maryland
Maryland Women's Heritage Center
Maryland Center for History and Culture

MPT aired highlights from the inaugural Maryland Cycling Classic in September 2022. The annual event is recognized as the top-ranked U.S. road cycling competition.
The team in MPT’s Major & Planned Giving unit raised more than $1.6 million in FY23 in grants and bequests. MPT is grateful for grants from the following organizations:

Baltimore County Commission on Arts & Sciences
Delaplaine Foundation, Inc.
E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation
The Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment
Maryland Agriculture Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund
The Richard Eaton Foundation

MPT expresses its appreciation to donors in Maryland, northern Virginia, and Washington, D.C. who generously donated vehicles to us in FY23. All told, 84 vehicles of different types were donated and yielded $153,188 in revenue when they were sold by our vendor, D.C.-based Capital Auto Auction (CAA). MPT received the proceeds of these sales from CAA and used the income to support programs and services provided to the community.

MPT is grateful to have the on-air help of a variety of organizations that pitched in to assist with our televised fundraising appeals or pledge drives. For FY23, our pledge phones were staffed by 12 groups. They are:

Beth El Synagogue
BGE
Brightview Senior Living
Buckingham’s Choice
Columbia Orchestra
The Coordinating Center
Friends of MPT

In FY23, many MPT employees went above and beyond to contribute to important community causes and exhibit good citizenship. This recap not only showcases their commitment to being good citizens but also highlights MPT’s positive impact on the community.

CPR/AED Training - 10 staff members participated
Towson University Career Day Visit - 3 staff members attended
MPT Career Day Station Tours (4) - 19 staff members attended
Junior Achievement BizTown - 1 staff member attended
Forward Women’s Leadership Forum (WLF) Pitch Competition - 3 staff members attended

In addition to those named here, there are 140 past members of the MPT Foundation Legacy Society whose estates have provided an enduring investment in Maryland Public Television.

If you have included a gift to the MPT Foundation in your estate plans, kindly contact Kalisha Colbert at 410-581-4361 or kcolbert@mpt.org so that we may include you in the Legacy Society.
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission
(as of 7/1/23)
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Beth E. Suarez, Director, Development, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society
Bruce A. Wahl, Senior Solutions Architect (retired), National Public Radio
Ellie K. Wang, Contracting physical therapist; freelance actor

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(as of 7/1/23)
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Ellie K. Wang, Contracting physical therapist; freelance actor
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Patrick Butler, Chair Emeritus, President & CEO, America’s Public Television Stations (APTS)

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(as of 8/1/23)
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Steven J. Schupak, Executive Vice President, Station Manager

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Eric Neumann, Fundraising & Development Productions
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Krista Respass, Early Childhood Education Services
Vera Turner, Membership
Jennifer White, Digital Fundraising

Others
Andrew H. Levine, General Counsel
Fran Minakowski, Senior Advisor to the President
With our appreciation

Simply put, the activities and accomplishments noted on these pages are possible only with your support. MPT is able to produce its roster of history films, develop education resources for teachers and students, and offer other productions and community engagement activities because members and donors, corporate partners, production funders, the State of Maryland, and the federal government provide the necessary resources. Because of you, MPT is able to enrich lives and strengthen communities through the power of media.

Thank you.