NEWS RELEASE

mpt (9) **Maryland Public Television**

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NOTE: Series Executive Producer Patrick Keegan is available for interviews. In addition, season 12 episode photos and the series logo are available to download from MPT's Dropbox HERE.

Chesapeake Collectibles taping event registration closes September 22

Limited slots remain for memorabilia and antiques evaluations by expert appraisers for possible appearances on MPT's popular series

OWINGS MILLS, MD - Maryland Public Television (MPT) is in the final days of finding collectors who want to share stories about their prized possessions at the two-day taping event for its popular series

Chesapeake Collectibles. The event takes place on Saturday and Sunday, October 4 and 5, at the statewide public TV network's Owings Mills studios.

The recording of segments during the event, featuring appraisers and collectors discussing their treasured items, will provide MPT producers with the content needed to develop 13 episodes for the series' 13th season, which will premiere in June 2026.



Paid registration is required to attend. The cost is \$135 and includes verbal evaluations of up to three items by a team of experienced appraisers and a chance to be selected to appear on the show. It also includes a one-year membership to MPT. Registration information and attendance details are available at chesapeakecollectibles.com. Walk-ins cannot be accommodated because of occupancy limits.



Appraiser Lisa Jones examines a collector's washbowl and pitcher

Hundreds of collectors from across the Chesapeake region have already registered to attend the event. Several taping slots on Saturday, October 4, are sold out, and several others are near capacity.

"Whether someone collects Chinese porcelain, fine art, sports memorabilia, or vintage vinyl, we want to give everyone an opportunity to possibly share the stories of their treasures with our viewers," said Patrick Keegan, Chesapeake Collectibles series executive producer.

Among the high-value items featured during the past season of *Chesapeake Collectibles* are a ceremonial sword presented for heroism during the War of 1812, valued at \$250,000; a hand-annotated speech by President John F. Kennedy, valued at \$125,000; a set of Revolutionary War-era medical field manuals, valued at \$50,000; rare first editions of The Lord of the Rings trilogy, valued at \$40,000; and original copies of telegrams sent by Teddy Roosevelt, also valued at \$40,000.

Other season 12 highlights are a hand-annotated Lawrence of Arabia movie script, a sketch of the Baltimore skyline by legendary singer Tony Bennett, a letter from Fort McHenry's commander requesting the very flag that would inspire The Star-Spangled Banner, and a pair of exquisitely crafted silver seahorses by renowned Baltimore jeweler Carl Schon.

Past episodes of *Chesapeake Collectibles* can be viewed online at <u>video.mpt.tv/show/chesapeake-collectibles/</u>, pbs.org/show/chesapeake-collectibles/, and on the <u>free PBS app.</u>

The MPT website features the *Talkin' Collectibles* blog, an insider's look at the series found at *mpt.org/blogs/chesapeake-collectibles/*.

Major funding for season 13 of *Chesapeake Collectibles* is provided by <u>Alex Cooper Auctioneers</u> and <u>Second Story Books</u>.

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About Maryland Public Television

Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) member offering entertaining and educational content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices via its <u>online video player</u> and the <u>free PBS app</u>. A state agency operating under the auspices of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission, MPT also produces local, regional, and national programming and frequently earns regional Emmy® awards for its work. MPT's commitment to educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through its <u>Maryland Center for Media Literacy & Education</u> and <u>Thinkport.org</u>. MPT's year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources covering a wide range of topics. More information is available at <u>mpt.org</u>.