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A Year of Stories

2017 ANNUAL REPORT





From the **Chairman of the Board**

Dear Donors and Members,

2017 was an exciting and eventful year at WTTW and WFMT, and once again, it is a privilege to serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for this vibrant organization. I express heartfelt thanks to our talented, dedicated, and generous members, viewers, listeners, visitors, and Trustees who support us in so many ways. I am honored to work alongside you.

I hope you'll take some time to look back on the year with us. WTTW was proud to premiere a comprehensive cross-platform initiative, *My Neighborhood: Pilsen*, which spotlighted one of Chicago's most diverse and innovative communities with a documentary, town halls and community discussions, and a digital platform where compelling neighborhood stories continue to be told. WTTW produced an engaging 16-part digital series, *Urban Nature*, which followed biologist Marcus Kronforst as he explored animal and plant life in the "urban jungles" of Chicago, New York, and San Francisco. Geoffrey Baer traced the surprising history of the city's premier tourist destination in *Navy Pier: A Century of Reinvention*. We also embarked on a new season of *Check, Please!* and welcomed Regina Spektor, Tom Jones, Blondie, Jon Secada, and more artists to Grainger Studio on *Soundstage*. *Chicago Tonight* covered the local, state, and federal elections with on-site coverage of the Democratic and Republican conventions, and presented regular candidate forums and immersive digital content. *Victoria On Masterpiece* made its debut, along with *Newton Minow: An American Story*; *The Durrells In Corfu*; *Architect Robert Adam: A Place At The Table*; a new animated kids' series, *Splash and Bubbles*; and more local teachers were honored with *Golden Apple Awards*. And to round out the year, we explored Havana – Cuba's vibrant, alluring, and rapidly changing capital city – with a whirlwind television tour and digital site featuring 360 video, a peek inside Geoffrey's travel journal, and discovered new possibilities.

WFMT welcomed its first-ever artist-in-residence as KAIA String Quartet took us – and our children – on a musical video journey through South America. We brought our audiences more broadcasts from The Grant Park Music Festival, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Chicago Symphony Orchestra, among many others, and welcomed numerous artists to *Impromptu*, *Folkstage*, and *Live From Wfmt*. The newly updated Levin Performance Studio served as the venue for many lively videos on wfmt.com and Facebook, and WFMT presented several installments of *Classical Cabaret* live from venues around the city. Finally, Chicago Tribune film critic Michael Phillips shared several themed incarnations of *The Film Score*.

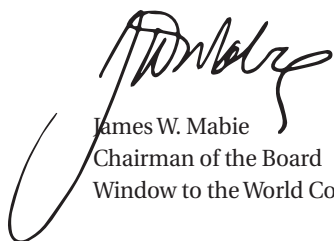
WTTW and WFMT is fortunate to serve large audiences throughout our region and beyond, across all of our media platforms. WTTW, as the primary PBS member station in Chicago, reaches 3.2 million viewers and our website generates more than one million pageviews per month. WFMT delivers a weekly listening audience of 300,000 and serves 600,000 audio streams. The WFMT Radio Network is a leading creator and distributor of arts and culture audio programs and services, including Exploring Music with Bill McLaughlin and the Beethoven Network, for radio stations and other platforms around the world.

We have been grateful to have the support of numerous individual donors, corporations, foundations, and production partners who have made our mission a reality, including those of you who have made gifts of vehicles and remembered us in your estate plans. In particular, I would like to thank those who have spearheaded, and contributed to, our successful capacity-building campaign, Imagining More. You can learn more about the special individuals involved and the aspects of our mission it has made possible on page 65.

Thank you for choosing to invest in a cultural organization that for more than 60 years has existed only to educate, inspire, enlighten, and entertain our diverse community here in Chicago and beyond. None of it would be possible without your support.

2017 was an outstanding year, and we're just getting started.

With appreciation,



James W. Mabie
Chairman of the Board
Window to the World Communications, Inc.



James W. Mabie



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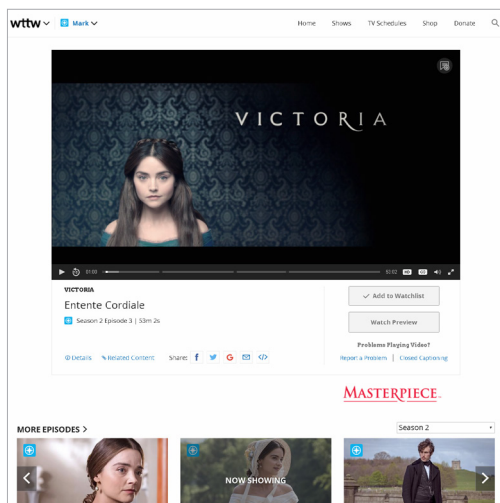
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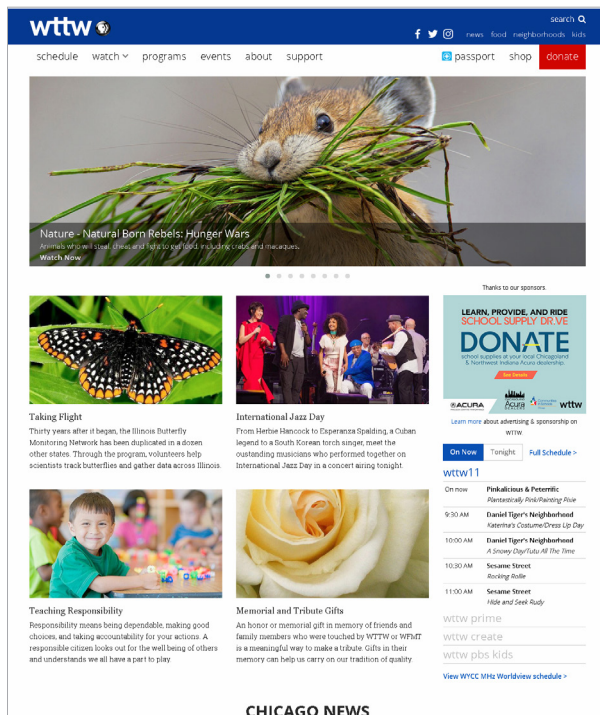
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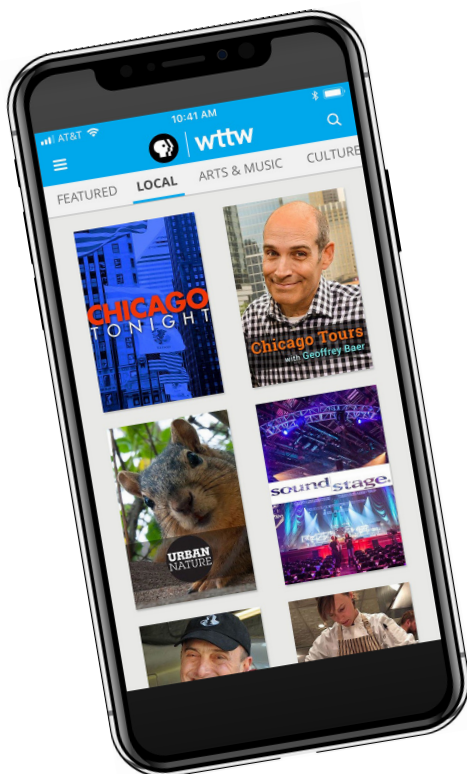
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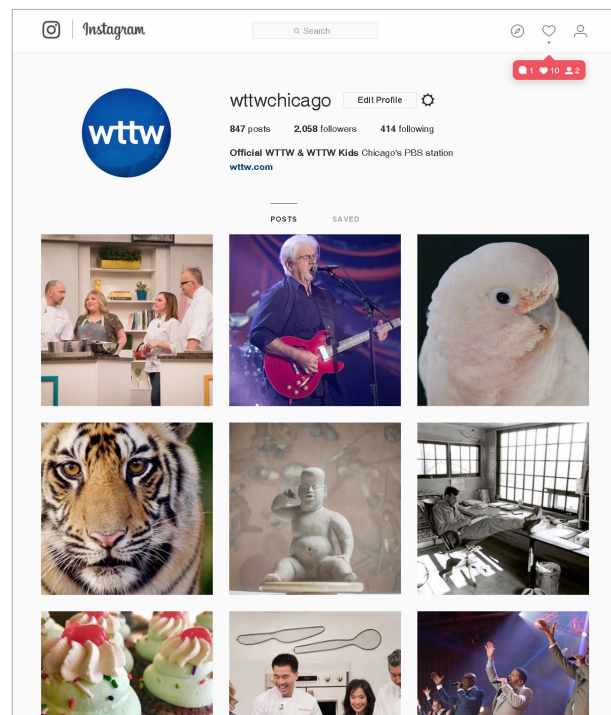
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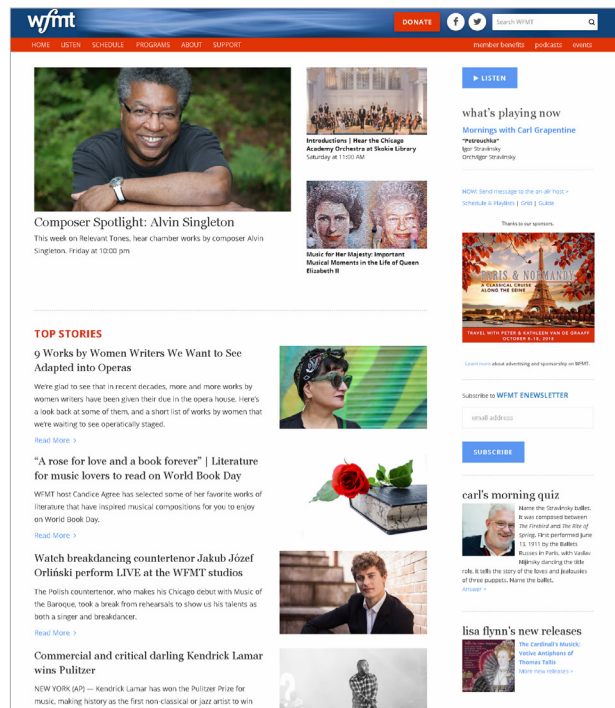
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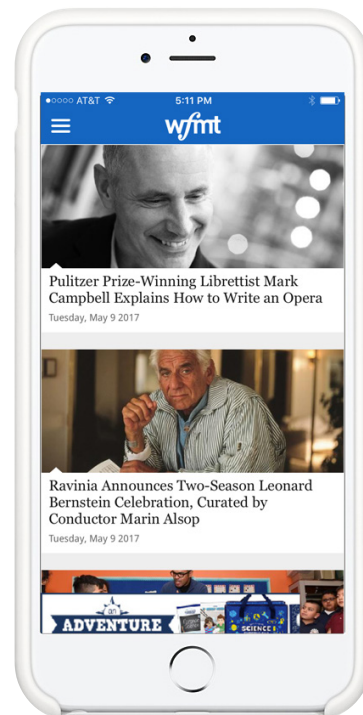
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July 2016

WTTW's *Chicago Tonight* started off the fiscal year by partnering with the *PBS NewsHour* and NPR on coverage of the Republican and Democratic National Conventions, where Paris Schutz and Evan Garcia were embedded with the Illinois delegation. Paris provided live updates during the nightly broadcast, along with live tweets and Facebook Live videos during the primetime coverage. In addition to the dozens of stories on the Conventions, site visitors learned more about Vice Presidential picks Mike Pence and Tim Kaine in their own words, explored the history and architecture of Philadelphia, watched live streams of the Conventions, and much more.

Other programming highlights on WTTW included *A Capitol Fourth*, the live Independence Day celebration from Washington, D.C.; new seasons of *Masterpiece Mystery: Inspector Lewis*, *The Great British Baking Show*, and *Wild Travels*; also, a *World Music Showcase* taped at the Old Town School of Folk Music, *Agatha Christie: Partners in Crime*, and *Unexpected Justice: The Rise of John Paul Stevens*. Digital stories included a reassessment of urban coyotes; enrollment decline at Chicago Public Schools; intersex fish in a Chicago-area river; a voyage aboard a Tall Ship on Lake Michigan; and how to create the perfect garden.



The Great British Baking Show



Chicago Tonight's Paris Schutz at the Democratic National Convention

The WTTW Great Food Fan Van, Grandparent Connection, and WTTW Readers Are Leaders Tour stopped off at many indoor and outdoor venues in some underserved areas around the city and suburbs to celebrate summer with young audiences. Kids and families participated in fun games and sing-alongs while being encouraged to practice good nutrition, stay active, and get ready for school.

WFMT presented more live broadcasts from the Grant Park Music Festival, both from Millennium Park and the South Shore Cultural Center, where Thomas Wilkins was the guest conductor. New seasons of *From Carnegie Hall* and *LA Opera on Air* commenced, along with a series of concerts by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra; and violinist Jennifer Koh was featured soloist with the CSO, led by visiting conductor Ludovic Morlot. WFMT's digital features included majestic Lipizzaner horses dancing to classical music at Tempel Farms in Old Creek Mill, Illinois; Dave Schwan's exclusive interview on Facebook Live with violinist Rachel Barton Pine backstage at Grant Park Music Festival; and program director David Polk's chat with the *Chicago Tribune's* longtime classical music critic John von Rhein at WFMT – their discussion covered the city's cultural season just passed, the work being presented at summer music festivals around the Chicago area, and much more.



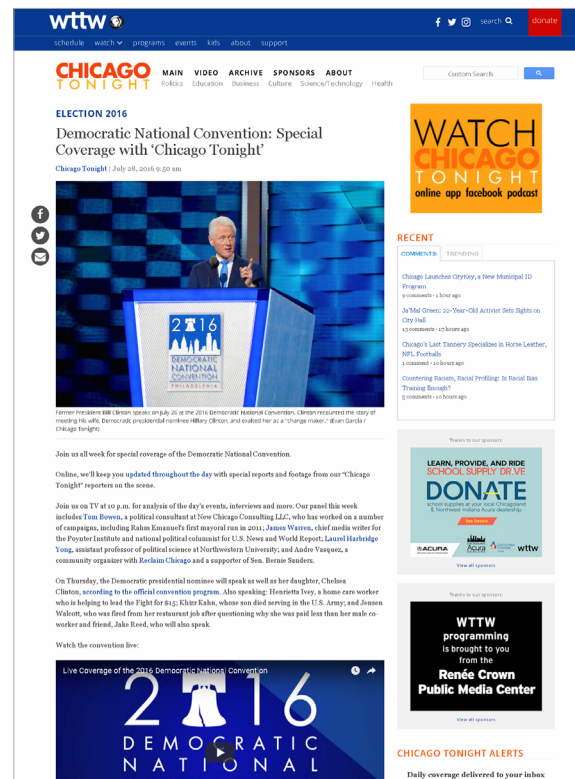
Will Clinger and friends, *Wild Travels*



Agatha Christie: *Partners in Crime*



Phil Ponce and Jeanne Nolan in WTTW's garden, *Homegrown*



wttw.com/chicagotonight



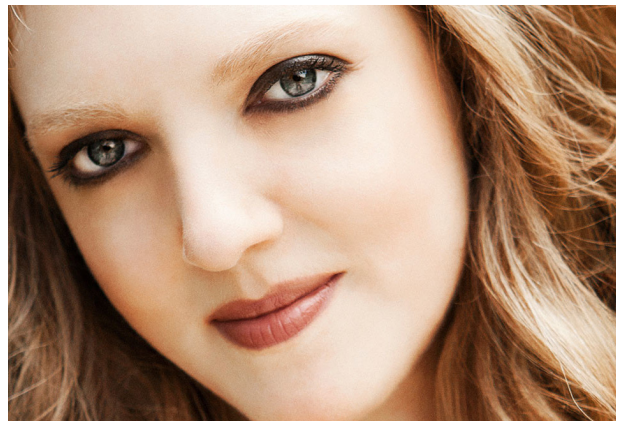
Conductor Thomas Wilkins, Grant Park Music Festival



Violinist Jennifer Koh



Mauritanian musician Noura Mint Seymali



Violinist Rachel Barton Pine, Grant Park Music Festival



August 2016

As the Summer Olympic Games got underway in Rio de Janeiro, WTTW audiences marked the 80th anniversary of a very different Games with *Boys of '36: American Experience*, the thrilling story of the scrappy American rowing team that captured gold under the gaze of Adolf Hitler. Also, *Nazi Games: Berlin 1936* examined how the Nazis and the IOC turned a relatively small sports event into a global and mass media spectacle.

Also, audiences met *Koko: The Gorilla that Talks*, recalled Chicago's civil rights movement in *King in Chicago*, watched as a new winner was crowned in *The Great British Baking Show*, revisited *American Experience* biographies of past presidents as citizens prepared to select a new one in the fall, celebrated the 75th birthday of folk icon Joan Baez, and looked back at *The Greatest Team in Pro Football History*: the Super Bowl champion 1985 Chicago Bears. WTTW.com introduced a new, in-depth education beat; followed Dr. Jane Goodall on a visit to Lincoln Park Zoo; delved further into police culpability in the Laquan McDonald case; got a rundown of a part-educational, part-culinary Asian Carp event organized by the environmental nonprofit group



Koko: The Gorilla Who Talks



Great Performances: Joan Baez's 75th Birthday Celebration

Friends of the Chicago River; and, in a thirst-quenching nod to the city's turbulent political history, offered recipes for original Chicago cocktails.

Throughout the month, WFMT too paid tribute to the Rio Olympics with a cornucopia of Brazilian music, and celebrated the very best from summer classical music festivals across the globe, with special features on Carl Grapentine's and Candice Agree's daily programs. Live broadcasts from the Grant Park Music Festival continued with pianist Stephen Hough (who also answered questions backstage on Facebook Live) playing Rachmaninoff, Carlos Kalmar conducting Mozart's *Great Mass* in C Minor, pianist Kirill Gerstein tackling the original 1879 version of Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto, and violinist Christian Tetzlaff in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor. Lisa Flynn also compiled a list of the top 10 violin concertos as selected by listeners. Audiences also heard a new work by Sean Shepherd performed by the Flux String Quartet as part of *the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival*.

On WFMT.com, audiences were introduced to three Latino composers often compared to Mozart; learned about a Lyric Opera production of *Jason and the Argonauts* targeted to young audiences; and took part in an online poll to assist WFMT in rating the innovative projects being considered for the future WFMT Residency initiative.

August 2016



King in Chicago



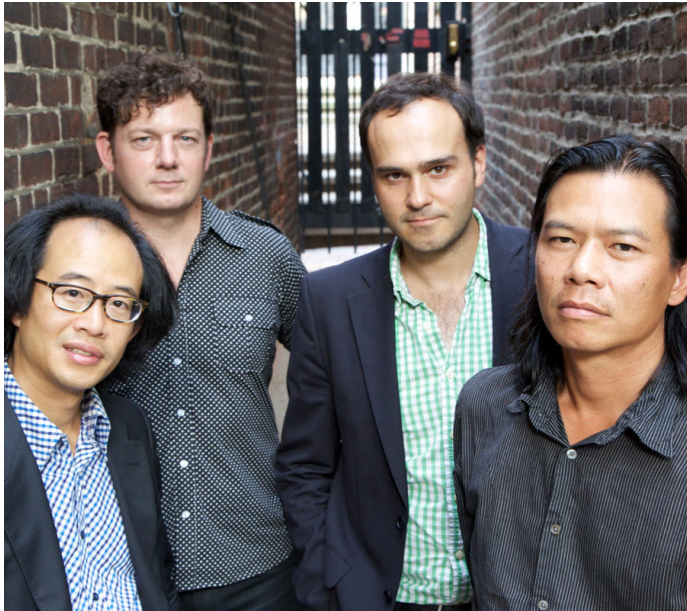
'85: The Greatest Team in Pro Football History



Dr. Jane Goodall segment, Chicago Tonight



Asian Carp story, Chicago Tonight



Flux String Quartet

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August 2016

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3 Brazilian Composers Who Aren't Heitor Villa-Lobos

Monday, August 1, 2016 by [Daniel Goldstein](#)



Brazilian musical titan Heitor Villa-Lobos created over 1,000 works in his lifetime and many consider him to be the greatest composer from Brazil. Along with his substantial work, Villa-Lobos also had a big personality that overshadowed many great composers from his country. But there are other Brazilian composers that deserve their moment in the sun, including the three below.

1. Edino Krieger



Born in 1928, Brazilian, Edino Krieger received a well-rounded education as a young man. Studying with Edith Reis and Hans-Joachim Koellreutter in Brazil, Aaron Copland at Tanglewood, and Peter Menrath at Juilliard. He became a major force in Brazilian contemporary music holding many leadership roles in music institutes and cultural programs in South America. Outside his native Brazil, Edino Krieger is mostly known for his substantial work for the piano. But he was also a very imaginative orchestrator, as you can hear in his 1955 piece Abertura Brasileira (Brazilian Overture).

wfmt.com/stories



Pianist Stephen Hough



Violinist Christian Tetzlaff



Pianist Kirill Gerstein

Poldark on Masterpiece

September 2016

This month, as students headed back to school, WTTW took part in a major primetime and digital initiative that has been central to our mission: Spotlight Education Week, which featured specials from *Frontline*, *NOVA*, *P.O.V.*, *Independent Lens*, *TED Talks*, *PBS NewsHour*, and more, culminating in the annual *American Graduate Day* celebration. And as always in the fall, there were blockbuster premieres, including new seasons of *Poldark* and *Indian Summers*; *PBS NewsHour*'s coverage and analysis of the first Presidential debate; *Frontline*'s acclaimed election-year series *The Choice* investigated the factors that shaped the Democrat and Republican candidates; and *Chicago Tonight* provided extensive coverage of local elections. A new special focused on the inspiring life story of WTTW's chairman emeritus Newton Minow, and two others marked the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

On WTTW.com, Jay Shefsky kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month with this profile of a talented Latino family reminiscent of the Von Trapps from *The Sound of Music*. Correspondent Paris Schutz investigated local power brokers possibly exerting undue influence in a local election. Education stories included the mystery behind the sudden departure of Chicago State University President Thomas

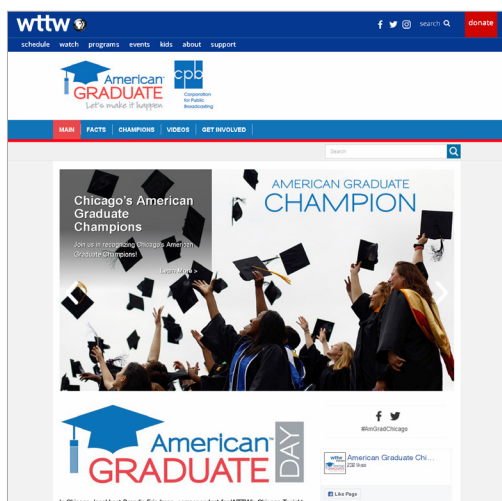


Newton Minow: An American Story

Calhoun, and the process of converting former Chicago Public School structures into residential apartment buildings. And as the World Series approached, there was a timely report on efforts to curb injuries to student baseball players.

WFMT presented four concerts from the 2016 BBC Promenade season, from London's Royal Albert Hall, including the annual season finale, *Last Night of the Proms*. Closer to home, audiences got a sneak preview of the upcoming Lyric Opera season with a live broadcast of *Stars of Lyric Opera* at Millennium Park. And WFMT welcomed a number of guests for live installments of *Impromptu*, including guitarist Jason Vieaux and harpist Yolanda Kondonassis, the Fifth House Ensemble, the Cavatina Duo, and more.

WFMT.com revealed how A 440 became the "standard pitch" to which all classical musicians tune their instruments. Other stories focused on transgender actress Laverne Cox (*Orange is the New Black*) as she paid tribute to iconic "women of color" who have inspired her; four surprising celebrities who play French horn; and a nostalgic review, from a 1968 WFMT program guide, of Greektown's Parthenon Restaurant, which had just closed. The Studs Terkel Radio Archive worked with Radio Diaries and Project& to provide audio content for a national NPR series that revisited people interviewed in Studs's book *Working*.



wttw.com/americangraduate

September 2016



Churchill's Secret on Masterpiece



Frontline: The Choice 2016



Cielito Lindo, Chicago Tonight



The Cavatina Duo




wfnt.com: Laverne Cox, *Orange is the New Black*



Stars of Lyric Opera at Millennium Park



Harpist Yolanda Kondonassis and guitarist Jason Vieaux

A man with a shaved head, wearing a dark blue button-down shirt, light grey trousers, and brown leather loafers, is sitting cross-legged in a glass-enclosed observation pod. He is smiling at the camera with his hands clasped in his lap. The pod has grey structural elements and black armrests. Through the glass, a panoramic view of Navy Pier in Chicago is visible, including its iconic white building with red-tiled roofs and twin towers, extending into Lake Michigan. The sky is overcast and the water is a deep blue. Below the pier, a green lawn and some people can be seen from above.

Geoffrey Baer, *Navy Pier: A Century of Reinvention*

October 2016

October ushered in new seasons of audience favorites on WTTW, and some exciting debut programming. Our popular restaurant review series *Check, Please!* and its essential website embarked on its 16th season as more guest-reviewers took their seats around the table to dish with host Catherine De Orio. *Chicago Tonight* once again provided wide-ranging coverage of the upcoming election with live candidate forums, cross-platform political reporting, and a comprehensive online voters' guide. Two specials premiered: an electrifying *Soundstage* concert featuring chart-topping singer/songwriter Regina Spektor that also aired around the country; and *Navy Pier: A Century of Reinvention*, the latest multi-platform initiative hosted by Geoffrey Baer that explored one of Chicago's most popular tourist destinations. Other October premieres included *The Durrells in Corfu*; *Do You Speak Chopin?*; *Nature's Super Hummingbirds* and *Africa's Gentle Giants*; *PBS NewsHour's* coverage of the Presidential and Vice Presidential debates; *Bill Murray: The Mark Twain Prize* and *Norman Lear: American Masters*; and a *Great Performances* look at the Broadway smash *Hamilton*.

On WTTW.com, in addition to the new Navy Pier site, audiences learned about a first-ever strike by charter school



Catherine De Orio, *Check, Please!*



Regina Spektor: *A Soundstage Special*

teachers and got some perspective from CTU President Karen Lewis. Other stories included an exciting fossil discovery by the Field Museum, a profile of new Nobel Prize winner Bob Dylan, and Phil Ponce's exclusive interview with actress Geraldine Chaplin. On the *Check, Please!* site, two weekly blogs were launched: *The World of Food* and *Cat's Corner*, along with a new season of David Manilow's digital conversation series *Chat, Please!*

WFMT again teamed up with Lyric Opera of Chicago as Lisa Flynn and Lyric's Roger Pines co-hosted live presentations of Wagner's *Das Rheingold* – opening night of the new Lyric season – and Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Baritone Eric Owens returned to WFMT with new editions of *Eric on Opera*, and singers from the Ryan Opera Center commenced a new season of studio recitals. Finally, two visiting ensembles joined host Kerry Frumkin for *Impromptu* this month: Calidore String Quartet and Danish String Quartet. Finally, Carl Grapentine presented his annual *Morning Show Halloween Extravaganza*.

On WFMT.com, audiences heard Sergei Rachmaninoff playing Chopin; got an inside look at the *Grammy Salute to Music Legends*; explored the politics of Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* to coincide with the Joffrey's production; received a *Postcard from Europe* from Kerry Frumkin; and were spooked by WFMT's special classical playlists in celebration of Halloween and Day of the Dead.

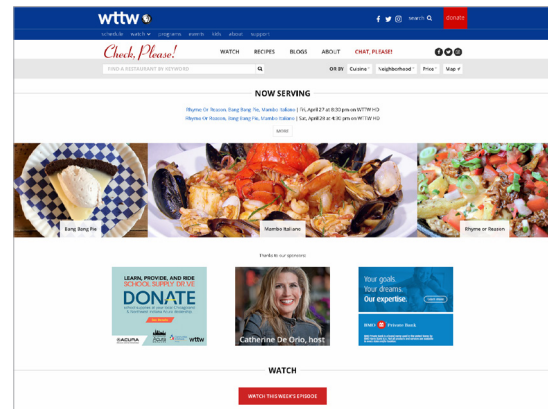
October 2016



Bill Murray: The Mark Twain Prize for American Humor



Nature: Africa's Gentle Giants



wttw.com/checkplease



Great Performances: Hamilton's America



The Durrells in Corfu on Masterpiece



The Danish String Quartet



Kerry Frumkin's *Postcard from Europe*



The Calidore String Quartet



Eric Owens in Lyric Opera of Chicago's *Das Rheingold*



November 2016

WTTW and WFMT marked Veterans Day with the local documentary *Heroes on Deck* and specials focusing on Pearl Harbor, the Vietnam War, the USO, military medical advances, American Indian veterans, and much more. On WFMT, Michael Phillips of the *Chicago Tribune* brought back *The Film Score* with a special focusing on war movies.

Throughout that crucial election month, the *PBS NewsHour* team provided in-depth coverage of the national scene and *Chicago Tonight* focused on the local races. On WTTW.com, related stories included the possible local effects of a Trump presidency; the reaction of the Chicago Teachers Union to Trump's pick for Education Secretary; the concerns of local DACA recipients; and more.

Also new and notable: four new specials in the PBS Fall Arts Festival. Audiences explored the *Secret Life of Babies* and heard *The Story of Cats*; and Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. traced *Black America since MLK*. A new kids' series, *Splash and Bubbles*, premiered, as did a new adaptation of *Anne of Green Gables*. And host and guidebook author Rick Steves paid WTTW an in-studio visit to share his invaluable travel expertise.



Ella Ballentine, *Anne of Green Gables*



Splash and Bubbles

In advance of the holiday, WTTW offered a Sunday afternoon marathon of relevant Thanksgiving-themed cooking programs – including episodes of *Pati's Mexican Table*, *Sara's Weeknight Meals*, *America's Test Kitchen*, *Steven Raichlen's Project Smoke*, *New Orleans Cooking with Kevin Belton*, and *Surviving Thanksgiving with Sara Moulton* – to take the stress out of meal preparation.

There were also digital stories on Chicago's new Cardinal, Blase Cupich; an interview with Robert Bathurst of *Downton Abbey*; a report on food allergy labels; and *PBS NewsHour* anchor and *Washington Week* host Gwen Ifill was remembered with a video compilation.

From Lyric Opera of Chicago, WFMT broadcast Berlioz's *The Trojans* and Massenet's *Don Quixote*. And a new season of *Live from WFMT* featured violinist Benny Kim, cellist Steven Honigberg, pianist Susan Merdinger, and the Dover String Quartet. Carl Grapentine hosted as eight classical music luminaries reflected on the profound value they have found in their art.

On WFMT.com, audiences enjoyed a fun quiz matching favorite foods to classical composers and a story detailing recipes composed by them; another story on the current political climate and its effects on the Chicago production of *Hamilton*; a timeline of the career of transgender composer Wendy Carlos; a performance of 12 Chopin mazurkas by WFMT favorite Vera Gornostaeva; and how choreographer Martha Graham named Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*.

November 2016



Heroes on Deck: World War II on Lake Michigan



Chicago Tonight candidate forum with Eddie Arruza



Nature: The Story of Cats



Black America since MLK



Composer Wendy Carlos



Chicago Tribune film critic Michael Phillips at WFMT



Christine Goerke in Lyric Opera's *Les Troyans* (Todd Rosenberg)



WFMT.com: *The Film Score for Veterans Day*

Benedict Cumberbatch, *The Hollow Crown*



December 2016

As 2016 drew to a close—a year when Chicago and the world marked the 400th anniversary of the passing of William Shakespeare—the distinguished *Hollow Crown* series presented three of the Bard's stirring history plays—*Henry VI, Parts I and II* and, on Christmas night, *Richard III* starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Dame Judi Dench, who also welcomed a very special royal guest on *Shakespeare Live! from the RSC*.

December on WTTW also ushered in a variety of music specials for every taste, whether it was Welsh crooner Tom Jones, in a new *Soundstage* concert recorded in WTTW's Grainger Studio; country legends Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, and Ray Price; waltz king André Rieu; pop superstars The Carpenters; opera icon Plácido Domingo; Broadway star Laura Osnes and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir; choruses from St. Olaf and Wheaton Colleges; the Boston Pops; and the New York Philharmonic. Also, *American Masters* profiled the architect Eero Saarinen; *Great British Baking Show* experts Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood offered several *Masterclasses*; and *Call the Midwife* returned with a new holiday special.



King's College Choir, *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*



Soundstage: Tom Jones

On WTTW.com, users got the inside scoop on Mayor Rahm Emanuel's newly released emails; read an excerpt from a new biography of Chicago novelist Nelson Algren; met the creative team behind the Joffrey Ballet's new production of *The Nutcracker*; traced the history of singer-songwriter Robbie Fulks on WTTW over the years; and enjoyed David Manilow's new interview with Thai restaurateur Arun Sampanthavivat on *Chat, Please!*

This month, WFMT heralded the return of Saturday broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera, including a Christmas Eve presentation of *Hansel and Gretel*. Audiences also heard the annual *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* live from King's College Chapel at Cambridge University, plus Handel's *Judas Maccabaeus* in honor of Hanukkah, sung by Music of the Baroque. And *Live from WFMT* featured Chicago's Bella Voce, plus Matthew Hagle playing Beethoven. Rich Warren and *The Midnight Special* ushered in 2017 with his annual live broadcast from Levin Studio.

On WFMT.com, Lisa Flynn shared her lists of the best new classical Christmas releases and her 10 best classical recordings of 2016; audiences could also stream the 10 best live performances of the year on WFMT. Also, via two fun quizzes, they discovered which *Nutcracker* character represented their holiday spirit, and determined how well they knew Handel's *Messiah*; revisited some vintage holiday ads from WFMT's program guide over the years; and learned how neuroscience can improve a singing voice.

December 2016



Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2016



Chat, Please!



Dame Judi Dench, Shakespeare Live! from the RSC



Great British Baking Show Masterclass



Eero Saarinen: American Masters



Reggie Harris, WFMT's *Midnight Special*



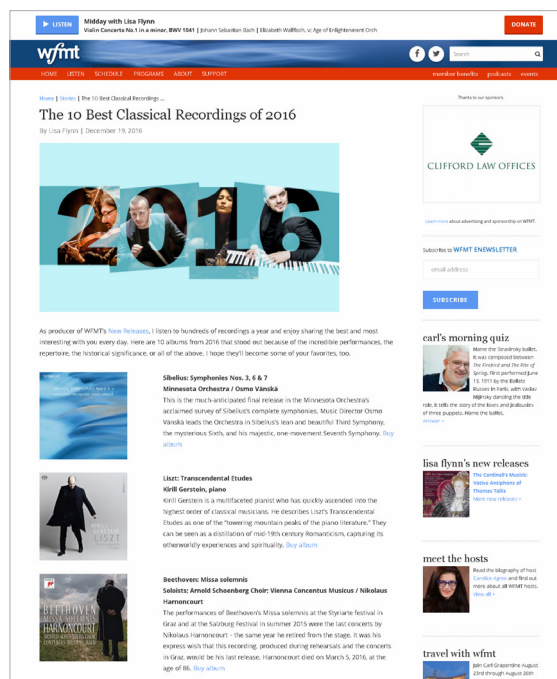
Pianist Matthew Hagle in Levin Studio



Live from the Metropolitan Opera: Hansel and Gretel



Bella Voce, *Live from WFMT*



WFMT.com: The Best Classical Recordings of 2016



January 2017

On WTTW, 2017 began with the premiere of a new series from the U.K., *Victoria on Masterpiece*, telling the sweeping story of the ascension to the British throne of the teenaged Victoria Regina, queen of England throughout most of the 19th century. Also, Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman reteamed for a new season of *Sherlock*, and PBS's addictive homegrown series *Mercy Street*, set during the Civil War, returned as well.

This month, there was great news for our youngest audiences: WTTW launched a new, free, and localized PBS KIDS 24/7 channel that included the best new and returning series for kids, accessible over the air, on cable and dish channels, and as a live stream viewable on mobile devices, tablets, and over-the-top platforms. Basically, great children's programming accessible anytime and anywhere.

Locally, audiences rocked out to another season of *Soundstage*; Mark Bazer launched a new website and hosted more episodes of *The Interview Show*; and *Check, Please!* and its digital companion *Chat, Please!* offered more new content. Also, *Great Performances* aired *Bel Canto* from *Chicago's Lyric Opera*.



Mercy Street



Benedict Cumberbatch, *Masterpiece Mystery!*
Sherlock

On WTTW.com, audiences watched *Chicago Tonight's* contentious interview with Mayor Emanuel; the Governor was quick to respond (on the eve of his annual State of the State Address), calling the exchange a "partisan rant from Madigan's mayor." Other stories included a new book examining the Holocaust and Chicago's status as a "sanctuary city." Also this month, the debut of a new section called The Playlist, featuring stories that connect our on-air and other content to local people, places, and history, including episode recaps ("Victoria Recap: The Romantic Age"; listicles ("The Costumes from Mercy Street"; quizzes ("Which Sherlock Episode Are You?"); recipes with show tie-ins, and local connections to our most popular shows.

WFMT aired the Vienna Philharmonic's New Year's Day concert. Lyric Opera's season continued with a live opening-night broadcast of Bellini's *Norma*, with superstar soprano Sondra Radvanovsky in the title role. And WFMT hosts commemorated Martin Luther King Day, Mozart's 261st birthday, Schubert's 220th, and the 80th birthday of composer Philip Glass with the special *Music and Conversation with Philip Glass*.

On WFMT.com, a new website was launched for the WFMT Radio Network. Stories included Chicago's impressive number of Grammy nominees; from *Relevant Tones*, six contemporary works and the full live broadcast from Brooklyn's National Sawdust; an interview with soprano Sondra Radvanofsky; and a fun quiz that answered the question, "Which Mozart Opera Are You?"



wttw.com/kids



Great Performances: Bel Canto from Chicago's Lyric Opera



The Interview Show with Mark Bazer



Soundstage: Jon Secada



wfmt.com/radionetwork



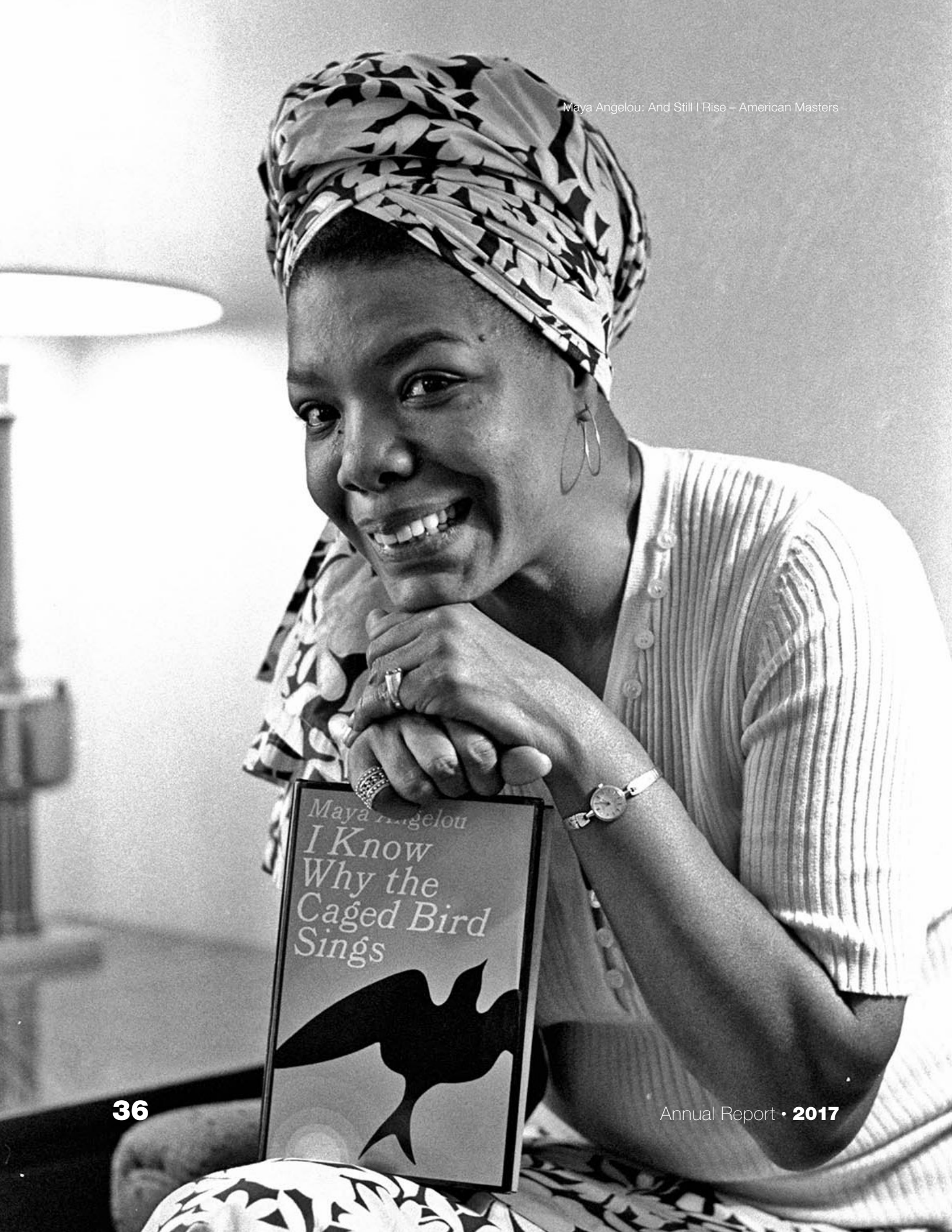
Gustavo Dudamel, *New Year's Celebration from Vienna*
(Adam Latham)



Music and Conversation with Philip Glass



Mozart's birthday celebration



February 2017

As is the case each February, WTTW and WFMT provided a wide and diverse array of content in observance of Black History Month, including new profiles of the activist/writer Maya Angelou, congressman and civil rights icon John Lewis, and singer Roberta Flack; a new miniseries from Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. exploring *Africa's Great Civilizations*; and *Race Underground: American Experience*, about the construction of the country's first subway system, plus a related local web story on the forgotten history of Chicago's cable cars. WFMT also shared several web stories on African American music and composers.

WTTW and WFMT offered front row seats for rollicking new music shows on *Soundstage*; at two gala opening nights at Lyric Opera (Bizet's *Carmen* and Tchaikovsky's *Yevgeny Onegin*); to New York City Ballet performances in Paris; to the Library of Congress as Smokey Robinson was honored with the Gershwin Prize; and more. WTTW presented new episodes of *Check, Please!*, its digital series *Chat, Please!*, and *The Interview Show with Mark Bazer*; and on Sunday nights, *Victoria on Masterpiece* and *Mercy Street* continued. In addition to weekly recaps of each, related web stories included a profile of Queen Victoria's real-life chef, Charles



New York City Ballet in Paris: *La Valse*



John Lewis: *Get in the Way*

Elmé Francatelli, who appears as a character in the series; a "Which Victoria Character Are You?" quiz; for *Mercy Street*, an interview with Chicago actor Gary Cole, one of the stars of the series; "Amazing Women of the Civil War"; and a Q&A with Chicago historian Pamela B. Toler. Also, a revealing story about the lucky man whose job it is to maintain The Great Train Story exhibit at the Museum of Science & Industry, and some recipes from *The Great British Baking Show*.

WFMT's Fay and Daniel Levin Performance Studio, having been updated and given a new "green" electrical system, welcomed *Carmen*'s Joseph Calleja for a live Valentine's Day installment of *Impromptu*. Back for a look at memorable movie musicals during the week leading up to the Oscars was *Chicago Tribune* film critic Michael Phillips. And *Live from WFMT* featured pianist Jenny Lin and singers from Chicago's Haymarket Opera Company. On WFMT.com, audiences learned why Stewart Copeland, co-founder of the Police, was inspired to compose an opera, *The Invention of Morel*; heard an interview with Maya Angelou from the Studs Terkel Archive; looked at Frédéric Chopin's favorite foods; and took Candice Agree's challenging quiz, "Match the Musical Quote to the Movie It's From."

February 2017



Smokey Robinson: The Gershwin Prize for American Music



Soundstage: Old Dominion



Playlist: Central Africa's Cross-cultural Conversation



Soundstage: Jason Isbell



Haymarket Opera on WFMT



Pianist Jenny Lin



[Home](#) | [Stories](#) | [Chopin-Inspired Dishes to Make ...](#)

Chopin-Inspired Dishes to Make Your Taste Buds Sing

By Angelica Lasala | February 20, 2017

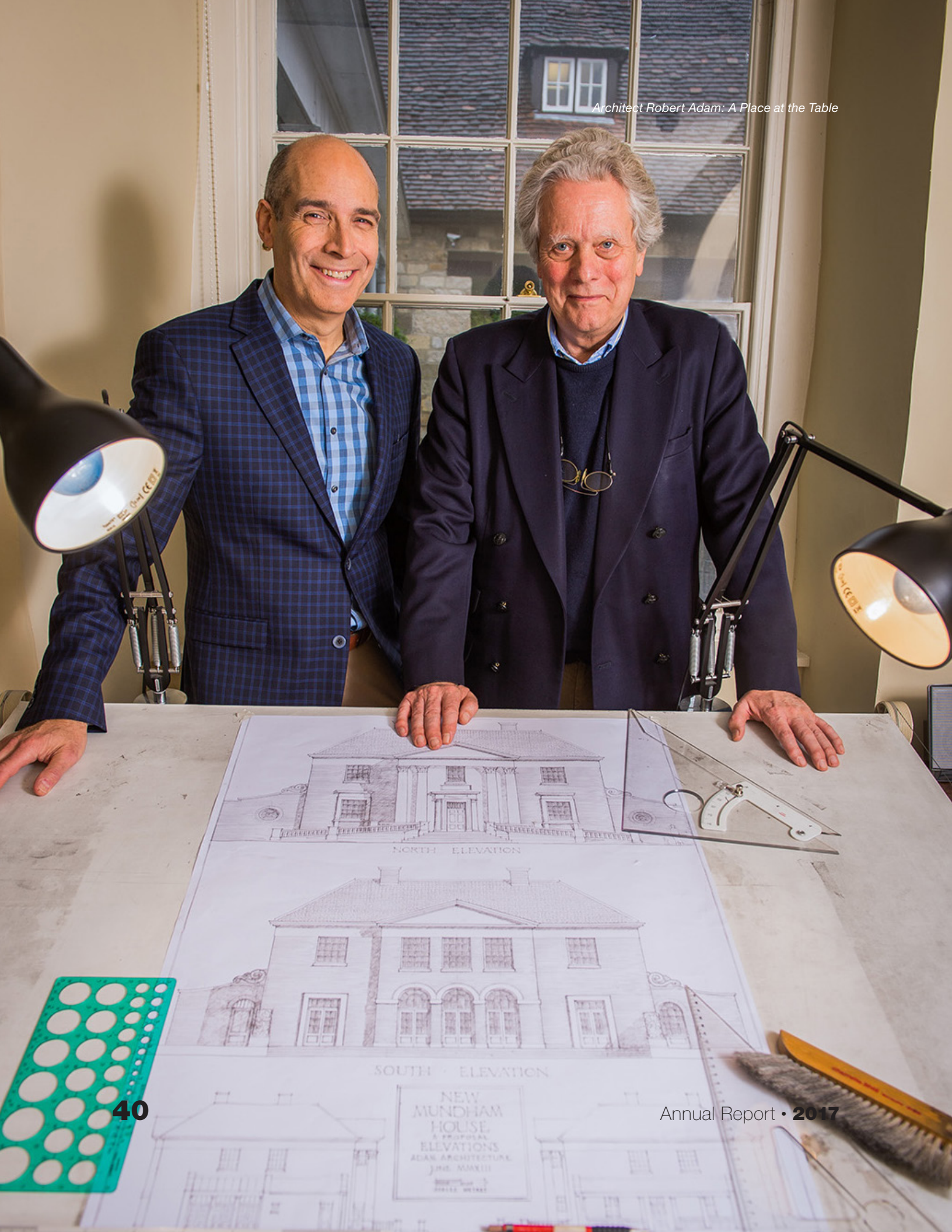


If you are what you eat, will eating some of Chopin's favorite foods help you at the piano? Maybe not. But you may find inspiration from these dishes from [Venti-tre Restaurant](#) created during the 17th International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition. The restaurant curated three, four-course menus, that combine cuisine from the composer's native Żelazowa Wola in Poland, as well as from his adopted city of Paris, France. Maybe one of the twelve dishes below will encourage you to compose some of your own Polish-French fusion recipes.

wfmt.com: "Chopin-Inspired Dishes"



Ekaterina Gubanova, Lyric Opera of Chicago's *Carmen*



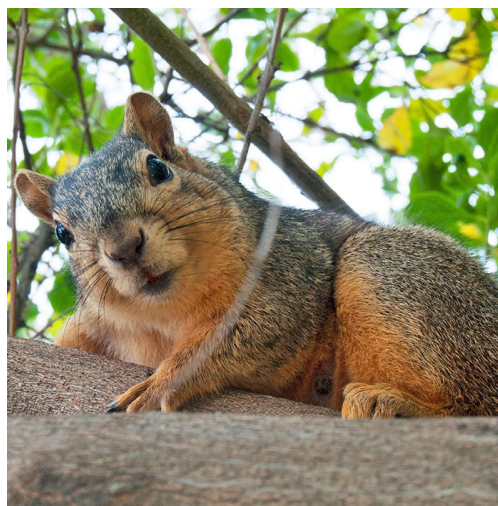
March 2017

As March (and spring!) arrived in Chicago, WTTW fittingly launched a new 16-part digital series *Urban Nature*, in which host and evolutionary biologist Marcus Kronforst told engaging stories about nature and wildlife thriving in Chicago, New York, and San Francisco. Also, Geoffrey Baer highlighted the newest recipient of the Richard H. Driehaus Prize at the University of Notre Dame, British architect Robert Adam. Geoffrey and his crew traveled to England and Scotland to create an engaging documentary and robust accompanying website.

Also this month, WTTW aired the dramatic season finales of *Mercy Street* and *Victoria on Masterpiece*; a new special celebrating *Ken Burns: America's Storyteller*; and two rousing installments of *Soundstage* featuring Tom Jones and Blondie. From the creator of *Last Tango in Halifax* came a new drama about the literary Brontë sisters, *To Walk Invisible*, one of several programs for Women's History Month. And there was a film that traced the history of Wisconsin's "old-fashioned" supper clubs. Finally, travel expert Rick Steves paid a visit to WTTW to explore the history and traditions of *European Easter*.



Rick Steves' *European Easter*



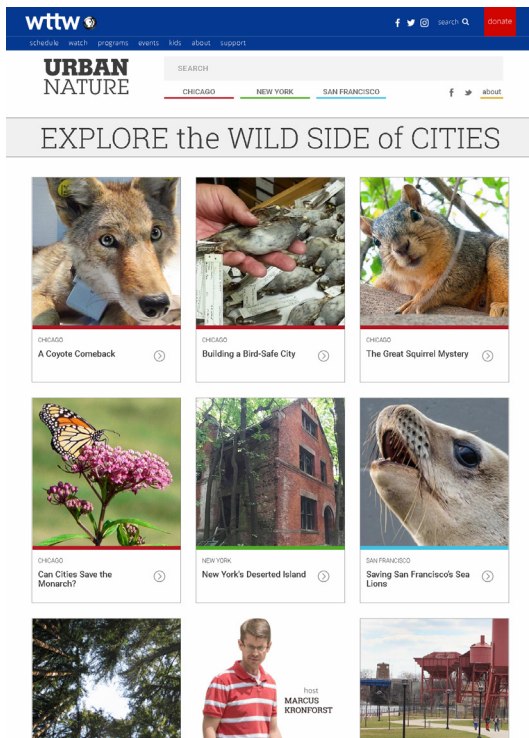
wtw.com/urbannature: *The Great Squirrel Mystery*

WTTW.com featured a story that connected a new exhibition at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center with the new film *Dead Reckoning: War & Justice*; shared a popular classic chewy oatmeal cookie recipe; and posted interviews with Rick Bayless about the past "30 Years of Frontera Grill"; Cécile Fromont, from the series *Africa's Great Civilizations*; and the Executive Producer of the *PBS NewsHour* on covering news in the age of Trump. And *Chicago Tonight* looked at how candy-flavored tobacco is hooking a new generation of smokers – kids.

On WFMT, the Saturday Metropolitan Opera broadcasts continued; highlights were Rossini's *William Tell* and Mozart's *Idomeneo*. Guests on *Impromptu* included the Valparaiso Chorale, members of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and winners of the Marilyn Horne Song Competition. And from the Chicago College of Performing Arts, there was a recital by pianist Vassily Primakov. WFMT.com shared the moving story of Holocaust survivor Joseph Feingold and how the donation of his prized violin changed the life of its 12-year-old recipient as well as his own, as he became the subject of the documentary *Joe's Violin*. Other features included a biographical opera that combined 100 melodies of Frédéric Chopin and, among several other stories for Women's History Month, a Q&A with Grammy-nominated sitarist and composer Anoushka Shankar (yes, daughter of Ravi Shankar and sister of Norah Jones).



To Walk Invisible on Masterpiece



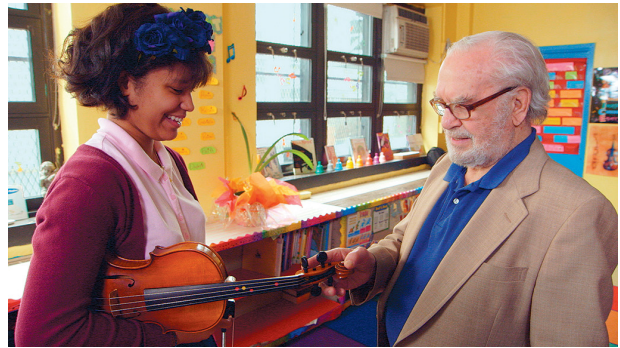
wttw.com/urbannature



Soundstage: Blondie



Pianist Vassily Primakov



Joe's Violin



Sitarist and composer Anoushka Shankar

My Neighborhood: Pilsen — mural

April 2017

April marked the premiere of an exciting cross-platform initiative – *My Neighborhood: Pilsen*, which utilized television, community engagement activities and events, a website, social media, and a public awareness campaign to shine a spotlight on a group of local residents working together to make their South Side neighborhood a better place to live. The premiere night was marked by a live *Chicago Tonight* town hall which also streamed live on WTTW.com and lives at wttw.com/myneighborhood, which also includes extensive web-exclusive video and other continually updated content that tells the stories of individuals who have risen to the challenge.

Also this month, several popular series returned: *Father Brown* and *Death in Paradise* on Saturdays (where they were joined by the quirky new Australian series *800 Words*); and *Call the Midwife* and *Home Fires* on Sundays. A searing installment of *Independent Lens*, *Newtown*, explored the mass killing at Sandy Hook Elementary School; a man learned *How to Find Love Online*; a three-part series marked the centenary of America's entrance into World War I; several moving programs recalled the Holocaust; *Frontline* followed a man who spent a year eating *only* fish; and a new special



800 Words



Raul Hernandez, *My Neighborhood: Pilsen*

told the exciting story of the *Space Race*.

On WTTW.com, audiences recapped *Call the Midwife* and *Home Fires*; met comedians featured in the *Independent Lens* film *The Last Laugh*; watched *Chicago Tonight's* interview with the newly minted Chicago Police Union president, Kevin Graham; viewed a gallery of "Forgotten Chicago" structures worth remembering; heard from citizens demanding benefits in connection with the upcoming Obama Presidential Center, and from an exhibit developer at the Museum of Science and Industry about the museum's "Science Storms."

WFMT presented its third Classical Cabaret, live from the Chopin Theater, with Robbie Ellis once again hosting. Also live: the Vermeer Quartet's annual performance of Haydn's cycle *The Seven Last Words*, a Holy Week presentation from LaSalle Street Church. Finally, WFMT presented more concerts from Carnegie Hall, beginning with Venezuela's Simon Bolivar Symphony.

On WFMT.com, the KAIA String Quartet took audiences on a musical journey through Latin America. Other new content included a special web feature that traced how the music of Prague and Mexico City came together in Pilsen; a story on how singers memorize the notoriously difficult opera scores of Philip Glass; and a nostalgic trip back in time to hear the Metropolitan Opera's first Black tenor, George Shirley, perform an aria from Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.



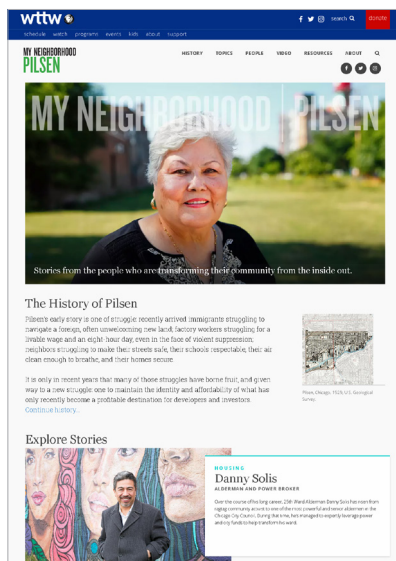
Independent Lens: Newtown



Frontline: The Fish on My Plate



My Neighborhood: Pilsen



wttw.com/myneighborhood



Death in Paradise




Robbie Ellis, *WFMT Classical Cabaret*



wfmt.com: George Shirley



The Vermeer Quartet

A full-page photograph of actress Joanne Froggatt. She is dressed in a Victorian-style costume, featuring a dark blue or black long-sleeved dress with a white lace collar and a white apron. She is holding a silver tray with a teapot and two cups of tea. The background is a wall with floral wallpaper. The lighting is soft and focused on her.

Joanne Froggatt, *Dark Angel* on *Masterpiece*

May 2017

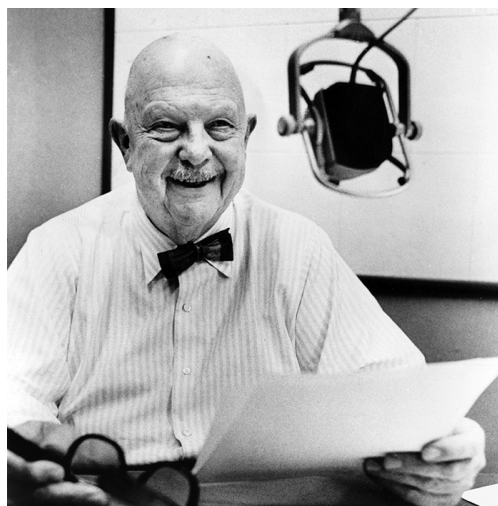
WTTW commenced the month on Facebook Live, covering the red carpet at the James Beard Awards. This was something of a theme for the month, as *American Masters* profiled Mr. Beard himself, along with French chef Jacques Pépin and television's original "French Chef," Julia Child. From *Masterpiece* came two new specials: *King Charles III*, which imagined Prince Charles's ascension to the British throne; and *Dark Angel*, in which Joanne Froggatt (*Downton Abbey*) played Britain's first female serial killer. *Victorian Slum House* followed modern-day adventurers experiencing life in poverty in the 19th century; *Nature* explored a dolphin community via *Spy in the Wild*, and audiences watched *Plants Behaving Badly*; several exposés of America's prison system; and finally, the *National Memorial Day Concert* and the *National Geographic Bee*.

As federal funding for public media once again came under threat, audiences were encouraged to share their own stories and check out resources at wttw.com/ILoveWTTW.

WTTW.com delved into royalty on television (*Victoria*, *The Crown*, and the upcoming *King Charles III*) and why Americans are so obsessed with it. Also, interviews with the filmmakers behind *NOVA: Poisoned Water* and *Frontline*:



King Charles III on Masterpiece



James Beard: American Masters

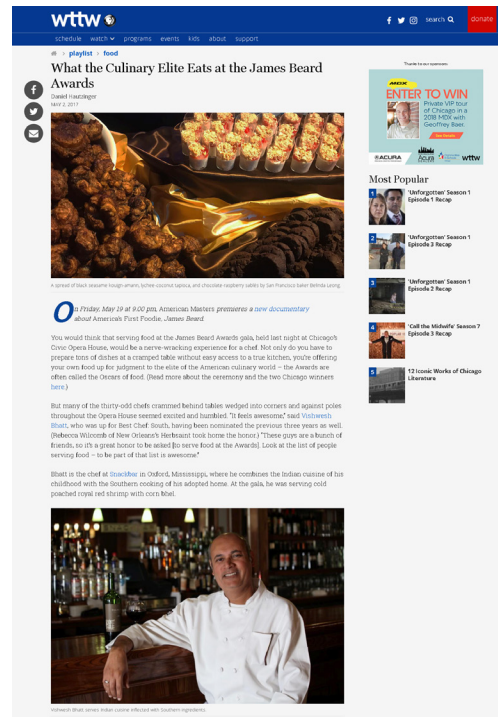
Bannon's War; chef Jacques Pépin's views on how the culinary scene has changed since the 1950s; and a story on notorious serial killers Mary Ann Cotton (subject of *Dark Angel*) and H.H. Holmes. *Chicago Tonight's* digital stories included a look at Lake Michigan's first floating water park; "Homegrown" gardener Jeanne Nolan's tips for growing terrific tomatoes; and the Chicago Public Schools' "Safe Passages" routes for students. The *My Neighborhood: Pilsen* website profiled the local muralist Hector Duarte.

On WFMT, the live Metropolitan Opera season concluded with Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*, starring Renée Fleming, followed by a weekly series of rebroadcasts of Lyric Opera productions from the past season. And for Memorial Day, *Chicago Tribune* film critic Michael Phillips' *The Film Score* looked at music from war movies.

On WFMT.com, as KAIA String Quartet began its WFMT residency, they explored musical traditions of Latin America through videos for all ages: audiences could groove out to candombe from Uruguay, play polyrhythms in joropo from Venezuela, and sing along to a mariachi song from Mexico. Also, there were tips on how to win music competitions, even if you lose; a look at the personal archive of Spanish pianist Alicia de Larrocha; and what some of some legendary composers might look like if they ever cracked a smile.



Nature: Spy in the Wild



wttw.com/playlist: James Beard Awards



Joe Mantegna and Gary Sinise, *National Memorial Day Concert*



Mo Rocca, *National Geographic Bee*



Victorian Slum House



Renée Fleming, *From the Metropolitan Opera: Der Rosenkavalier*




Paul Lewis (Molina Visuals)



Alicia de Larrocca



KAIA String Quartet

A full-page photograph of dancer Irene Rodriguez performing in a vibrant red, flowing dress. She is captured in a dynamic pose, with one leg raised and arms extended, looking back over her shoulder. The background features a wooden wall, a drum set with a 'BUDPEST' logo, and a large bouquet of red flowers. The lighting is warm and focused on the dancer.

Dancer Irene Rodriguez performs in Grainger Studio

Celebration 2017

On Wednesday, May 3, WTTW and WFMT held the organization's annual gala, the theme of which was *Evening in Havana* in anticipation of Geoffrey Baer's upcoming special and website, *Weekend in Havana*, set to premiere in July. The evening's dedicated and hard-working event chairs Renée and Lester Crown devised a magical and unforgettable experience that celebrated the unique beauty and vibrant culture of Cuba's capital city, for the more than 400 generous supporters who attended.

As they arrived, guests posed for photos in front of a large and colorful mural of Havana, and then moved on to mojitos and hors d'oeuvres in WTTW's exotically decorated Grainger Studio. There, they were entertained by some dazzling performers whom Geoffrey recruited during production in Cuba the previous December: Afro-Cuban jazz musician Roberto Fonseca and vibrant flamenco dancer Irene Rodriguez. Also featured in the film was young architect Daniel de la Regata, who made the trip to Chicago as well.

After the performance, guests headed outdoors, where they enjoyed an elegant dinner under the stars in a large transparent tent. Jewell Events Catering provided the cuisine, accompanied by libations from Terlato Wines. The dinner



Dan Schmidt, Virginia Bobins, Peter McNitt

commenced with remarks by WTTW Chairman James W. Mabie and President and CEO Dan Schmidt. After dinner, many in the crowd worked off some of the food and drink with an energetic salsa lesson led by Geoffrey's Cuban friends, and departed with smiles and some special gifts, including branded mojito glasses with recipes, chocolate cigars, and treats from Swirlz Cupcakes.

This lively and fun evening raised more than \$1 million in support of the organization's mission, thanks in part to lead sponsor BMO Harris Bank and trustee Peter McNitt, and a good time was had by all!



Norman Bobins, gala chair Renée Crown



Roberto Fonseca performs in Grainger Studio

Celebration 2017



Alexandra and John Nichols



Board chair Jim Mabie and Kay Mabie



Geoffrey Baer emceeing the celebration



Daniel Levin and group in Grainger Studio



Salsa lesson in Grainger Studio

Celebration 2017



Attendees in Grainger Studio




Director Henry Godinez and Geoffrey Baer



Newton Minow enjoying the evening



Applause for gala chair Renée Crown

A low-angle, upward-looking shot of three people standing on a modern, dark-colored staircase with a glass railing. The person on the left is a man with short brown hair, wearing a dark suit and tie, looking upwards. The person in the center is a woman with short blonde hair, wearing a dark blazer, also looking upwards. The person on the right is a man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a light blue shirt and dark vest, looking towards the camera. The background is a dark, industrial-looking interior with a bright yellow light source visible through a glass panel. The overall mood is dramatic and professional.

Prime Suspect: Tennison

June 2017

As the fiscal year came to a close, Anglophiles rejoiced as WTTW premiered some great content from “across the pond,” with new seasons of *The Great British Baking Show* and *Grantchester*, and welcomed three new series: *The Coroner*, *My Mother and Other Strangers*, and an incarnation of *Prime Suspect* that introduced us to a young Jane Tennison as she is just starting out as a detective in 1973.

Also on WTTW11 this month: the annual *Golden Apple Awards for Excellence in Teaching*, hosted by Brandis Friedman. We observed LGBTQ Pride Month and aired the *76th Annual Peabody Awards*, and shared the *JFK Inaugural Gala* from January 1961 – it never aired due to a massive snowstorm; and presented new concerts by Johnny Mathis, Paul Simon, and the band Journey. We revealed *The Story of China* and followed wildlife during *The Great Yellowstone Thaw*. Finally, audiences enjoyed *Free to Rock*, which explored how rock ‘n’ roll may have been instrumental in ending the Cold War.

On WTTW.com, audiences could read weekly recaps of *Grantchester* and *My Mother and Other Strangers*; interviews with David Rudman of Spiffy Pictures (creators of *Nature*



My Mother and Other Strangers

Cat) and with the makers of the three-part series *The Story of China*; and recipes from *The Great British Baking Show*. On the *My Neighborhood: Pilsen* website, there was a profile of Eleazar Delgado, proprietor of Pilsen’s Jumping Bean Café; a feature explaining how Chicago Mariachi Project helps attendance at Benito Juarez Community Academy. *Chicago Tonight* stories included Amanda Vinicky’s report from Springfield about the state budget stalemate; and Nick Blumberg’s story on *Exhibitionism*, a “rocking” Navy Pier retrospective of The Rolling Stones.

WFMT presented KAIA String Quartet as its first ensemble in residence, and they took audiences on a musical journey through Latin America via a succession of web stories and videos. The station also aired the 2017 Grant Park Music Festival from Pritzker Pavilion at Millennium Park, which commenced with Vadim Gluzman playing Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto. Later June concerts included Stravinsky’s complete *Firebird* ballet score, plus *Missa Latina* by Roberto Sierra. Finally, there was another *WFMT Classical Cabaret* live from the Chopin Theater.

On WFMT.com, featured included 6 Songs to Send You “Over the Rainbow”; four stories to celebrate LGBTQ Pride Month; a demonstration from *Norma* conductor Riccardo Frizza of how to make pasta alla Norma; and a treatise on the Puerto Rican folk music styles bomba and plena.



2017 Golden Apple Award winners at WTTW



Ava DuVernay, *Peabody Awards 2017*



The Great British Baking Show



The Great Yellowstone Thaw



The Story of China



Grantchester Season 3 on Masterpiece



Eleazar Delgado, *My Neighborhood: Pilsen*



Classical Cabaret host Robbie Ellis



Violinist Vadim Gluzman, Grant Park Music Festival

[LISTEN](#)

Midday with Lisa Flynn
 Violin Concerto No.1 in a minor, BWV 1041 | Johann Sebastian Bach | Elizabeth Wallfisch, vc, Age of Enlightenment Orchestra

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KAIA String Quartet – In Residence

KAIA String Quartet: Victoria Morera, violin | Naomi Culp, violin | Amanda Garmes, viola | Hope Shephard DeCelle, cello (Photo: Todd Rosenberg)

WFMU is proud to present KAIA String Quartet as its first ensemble in residence. Victoria Morera (violin), Naomi Culp (violin), Amanda Garmes (viola), and Hope Shephard DeCelle (cello) are devoted to capturing the essence of Latin American culture through the medium of the string quartet. From May - July 2017, KAIA takes you on a musical journey throughout Latin America with daily segments, live broadcasts, and exclusive digital content that is fun for all ages. Listen weekdays at 9:05 am and 6:00 pm to explore the music of Mexico, Venezuela, Uruguay, Brazil, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Cuba, Central America, and Argentina. Enjoy each segment again after it airs below, and discover more about the many kinds of music and culture in Latin America.

Music of Chicago's Latino Composers

★★★★★

Stream Music by Chicago's Latino and Latin-American Composers

KAIA String Quartet's journey exploring the music of Latin America ends in an unexpected place right here in Chicago. KAIA, WFMU's first ensemble-in-residence, will share the music of Chicago's Latino and Latin-American composers weekdays from July 24-28 through daily segments that air at 9:05 am and 6:00 pm on WFMU. Find each segment below after it airs, and ...

From Polka to Mariachi, Discover Why Pilsen Is One of Chicago's Most Diverse Musical Melting Pots

If there's any neighborhood in Chicago where a Czech swing orchestra and an Afro-Latin funk band can share a stage, it's Pilsen. The neighborhood has been home to diverse music and musicians since its early history and today it remains a musical melting pot of traditions from around the world.

Music of Argentina

★★★★★

Stream Music by Argentina's Greatest Composers

Explore the music of Argentina's greatest composers, past and present, as KAIA String Quartet takes you on a musical journey throughout Latin America. KAIA, WFMU's first ensemble in residence, will share the music of Argentinean weekdays from July 10-21 through daily segments that air at 9:05 am and 6:00 pm on WFMU. Find each segment below after it airs, and discover more Latin American music ...

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carl's morning quiz

Marine the Academy teacher, it was composed between the Revolution and the Rise of Spring. First performed June 13, 1811 for the Ballets Russes de Paris, with Vladimir Malayer dancing the title role. It tells the story of the loves and jealousies of three spouses. Name the ballet.

[ANSWER >](#)

lisa flynn's new releases

The Cardinal's Mask
 Various Arrangements of Thomas Tallis
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Read the biography of most popular vocalists and conductors. Hear more about all WFMU hosts.

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Join Carl Graff and Kathleen August 23rd through August 28th for an exciting 6-day Grand Circle tour to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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Join Peter and Kathleen from Jan Graff and fellow Montreal-based embassiers for an "Autumn break for the winter" party and Memorial!

[More >](#)

Join Peter and Kathleen from Jan Graff and celebrate the life of Freddie Chiquet!

[More >](#)

wfmt.com: "KAIA Kids Around the World"



Community Engagement

WTTW Kids BIG IDEA Tour

In March, WTTW Kids introduced the WTTW Kids BIG IDEA tour, created to encourage children between the ages of 2 and 7 to learn via live performances and excerpts from WTTW Kids' most popular shows, promoting the concept that a BIG IDEA is a solution to a problem, an answer to a question, or something that has opened a child's mind to a new understanding.

WTTW Kids Great Food Fan Van

In its 10th anniversary year, the WTTW Kids crew made healthy exercise and good nutrition a fun adventure for children, parents, grandparents, and caregivers. Each event included a live concert performance by Miss Lori of Miss Lori's CAMPUS, nutritional food and drink sampling, one-on-one interaction and education, and costumed characters.



Kids working out at the Fan Van



Family fun at the WTTW Kids Great Food Fan Van

WTTW Kids Grandparent Connection

The mission of the WTTW Kids Grandparent Connection program is to give seniors a deeper sense of fulfillment and children a greater understanding of their elders. Each event took place at a senior living facility, during which children aged 7-9 took part in minor physical activity and games with their new elderly friends.

Public Events

WTTW and WFMT hosted a wide variety of public events in connection with our content throughout the year. The costumed character Nature Cat engaged with kids and families, and there were also author luncheons at the Union League Club, and fun WTTW Trivia Nights.

Throughout the year, WFMT hosted live broadcasts in front of audiences around the city: from Lyric Opera of Chicago; at the Chicago Cultural Center (the weekly Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts), from the Grant Park Music Festival (which also included lively Facebook Live videos); and from various locations for WFMT's *Classical Cabaret* and other events. WFMT also welcomed guests to the Fay and Daniel Levin Performance Studio for live broadcasts in the *Impromptu*, *Ryan Opera Center Recitals*, *Folkstage*, and *Live from WFMT* series.

Community Engagement



The Grandparent Connection



The Grandparent Connection



Golden Apples winner announcement

Community Engagement



Do You Speak Chopin? screening at the Arts Club



My Neighborhood: Pilsen event at Benito Juarez Community Academy



Victoria screening at Chicago History Museum



WTTW Kids BIG IDEA TOUR



Imagining More

Imagining More is the boldest campaign in our history and is designed to ensure that our future is filled with everything our audience loves—and expects—from WTTW and WFMT. The campaign stems from the organization's strategic plan to harness the power of public media to strengthen our community and enrich the lives of our audience members. We seek to be a positive force by sharing programming that encourages the best of humanity. The Imagining More capacity-building campaign is centered around the following themes:

More Storytelling – supports the advancement of innovative, multimedia storytelling on local and national platforms that that people of all ages can enjoy. As our capacity for storytelling grows, so does our audience's access to high-quality content that inspires and empowers.

More Possibility – builds our infrastructure and ability to advance our expanded activities well into the future, and strengthen our flexibility to adapt to a continually evolving media landscape.



Nature Cat and friend

More Community – enhances our ability to bring our diverse community together via events and programming that spark meaningful dialogue, broaden horizons, and provide energizing learning experiences.

This year saw the start of the public phase of the Imagining More campaign, and the honor roll of Imagining More supporters continues to grow. We offer our deepest thanks and appreciation for our philanthropic partners' generosity, enthusiasm, and shared vision for the vibrant future of WTTW and WFMT.



WFMT's Carl Grapentine and Lisa Flynn



Studs Terkel Radio Archive

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Brandis Friedman on *Chicago Tonight*

Imagining More The campaign for wttw & wfmt

\$2,000,000 and above

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\$50,000 to \$99,999

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Peoples Gas
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Elizabeth Yntema and Mark Ferguson

\$25,000 to \$49,999

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Benedict Cumberbatch, *Masterpiece Mystery! Sherlock*



Fiscal 2017 Financial Information

July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017

(In thousands)

Assets

Cash and investments	\$46,708
Accounts and pledges receivable, net	6,820
Property and equipment, net	16,909
Other assets	2001
Total Assets	\$72,438

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$5,007
Long-term notes payable	18,800
Other liabilities	4,077
Total Liabilities	\$27,884

Net assets:

Unrestricted	\$22,518
Restricted	22,036
Total Net Assets	\$44,554
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$72,438

Revenue

Members and contributions	\$27,889
UMIGO and production sponsorship	6,790
Corporate underwriting and advertising	4,014
Federal grants	4,089
Other	712
Total Revenue	\$43,494

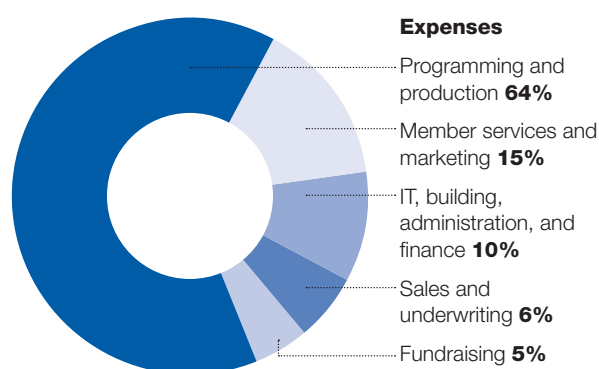
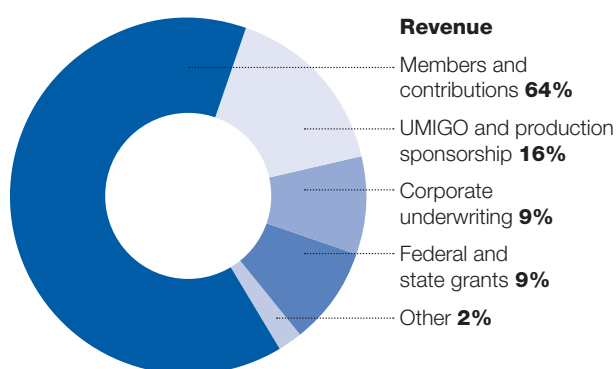
Expenses

Programming and production	\$27,856
Member services and marketing	6,546
Sales and underwriting	2,466
Fundraising	2,278
IT, building, administration, and finance	4,311
Total Expenses	\$43,457

Increase in Net Assets from Operating Activities 37

Statement of Activity* for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017

*Reflects \$2.5 million in non-cash depreciation expense



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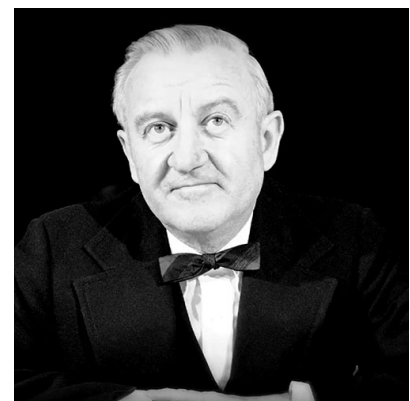


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