



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 16, 2020

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## WQED Offers PBS KIDS Resources for Families and National News through PBS NewsHour During National Emergency

PITTSBURGH – In response to the Covid-19 crisis, WQED is joining a growing number of organizations locally and worldwide in instituting a work-from-home directive. WQED’s top priority is the safety of its staff and partners while maintaining business continuity.

“During this uncertain time, WQED is still the ‘school of the air,’ which can be traced to its beginnings. It is the place the community can turn to for trusted educational content and accurate news and information from PBS programming,” said Deborah L. Acklin, President and CEO of WQED.

“WQED is the education station and we are here for you. We have been here for quality programming for kids and families for 65 years, and with messaging to parents on how to talk to their children about difficult topics.”

WQED’s broadcast operations will continue uninterrupted: WQED-TV (PBS); WQED World; WQED Create; WQED Showcase; WQED PBS KIDS Channel; Classical WQED-FM 89.3/Pittsburgh; Classical WQED-FM 89.7/Johnstown; the Pittsburgh Concert Channel at WQED-HD2 (89.3-2FM) [www.wqed.org/fm](http://www.wqed.org/fm); WQED Interactive ([www.wqed.org](http://www.wqed.org)) and WQED Education ([www.wqed.org/edu](http://www.wqed.org/edu)).

### Educational Resources for Kids and Families

WQED Education will be supporting teachers, parents and students through all of our social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - while schools are closed. We will be sharing activities, resources, content and health and wellness information across all platforms.

WQED Education’s in-person programs and events at schools and libraries are curtailed until further notice.

The WQED PBS KIDS channel is your 24/7 home for trusted children's programming, and also available online at <https://pbskids.org>

WQED's Education Department provides resources for K-2 educators at [www.wqed.org/edu](http://www.wqed.org/edu). WQED has been tapped by PBS to curate content for teachers and parents in those learning areas at <https://wqed.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/kindergarten-readiness-resources/kindergarten-readiness-resources/>

An at-home activity that children could take advantage of is the WQED Writers Contest until March 31 at <https://www.wqed.org/education/writers-contest/>

The links below may answer important questions or provide advice.

WQED is committed to providing the community with helpful resources during the coronavirus pandemic at <https://www.wqed.org/covid19>.

WQED's website at [www.wqed.org](http://www.wqed.org) is the central hub for resources for children's education and for news and information from PBS NewsHour.

WQED Education <https://wqed.org/edu> is specifically focused for parents, caregivers, children and families. The page will update as new information and resources become available.

#### Upcoming PBS Programming on the Coronavirus

In addition to ongoing coverage by PBS NEWSHOUR, (weeknights at 6:00pm on WQED) PBS will present special programming around the virus, including:

- "PBS NEWSHOUR Presents: Confronting Coronavirus" on Thursday, March 19 at 8:00 pm, which will focus on public and personal health, as well as economic impact. The program will feature a virtual townhall with curated questions from people across America.
- Also on Thursday, March 19 (9:00 pm ET), we will encore "Spillover," a film from Tangled Bank Studios and HHMI, about how diseases such as Ebola, Zika and Nipah are a rising threat.
- "Coronavirus Pandemic" will air Tuesday, April 21 AT 9:00pm on WQED. This FRONTLINE episode, airing as part of the PBS Health Initiative, will feature two special reports: one that examines the very different responses to the virus in the U.S. by the federal government and the government in Washington State -- the epicenter of the outbreak; and another that focuses on the impact of the outbreak on the poor, especially children.

- On April 21 at 9:00pm, FRONTLINE will present a film that tells the story of coronavirus, its impact and the response through the lens of two Washingtons — the state of Washington and the federal government in Washington, D.C.

Follow the **NewsHour** for national and international information on the pandemic, including travel advisories, media updates and related advisories.

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/>

**Additional resources:**

**The Pennsylvania Department of Health** regularly updates its coronavirus webpage. You will find answers to many of your questions here.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** has guidelines for **those who feel sick**.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/sick-with-2019-nCoV-fact-sheet.pdf>

The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** provides **pandemic status updates**.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

The **Allegheny County Health Department** has information for people in specific industries.

<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/Information-for-Specific-Groups.aspx>

Helpful advice on keeping **older family members** safe:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/12/health/what-60-older-need-to-know-coronavirus-wellness-trnd/index.html>

**Pittsburgh Public Schools** updates:

<https://www.pghschools.org/>

**Contact Your Local School District** for information on closings and remote learning.

### About WQED

WQED was an experiment in educational community-supported television that was the forerunner to PBS. Today, WQED is a multimedia powerhouse that is as much a part of Pittsburgh as the three rivers. WQED is WQED-TV (PBS); WQED World; WQED Create; WQED Showcase; WQED PBS KIDS Channel; Classical WQED-FM 89.3/Pittsburgh; Classical WQED-FM 89.7/Johnstown; the Pittsburgh Concert Channel at WQED-HD2 (89.3-2FM) and online at

[www.wqed.org/fm](http://www.wqed.org/fm); local and national television and radio productions; WQED Interactive ([www.wqed.org](http://www.wqed.org)) and WQED Education ([www.wqed.org/edu](http://www.wqed.org/edu)).

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