



LPB strives to connect the citizens of Louisiana by creating content that showcases Louisiana’s unique history, people, places, and events. **MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!** With a multi-award-winning documentary premiere, even more programs showcasing our French language heritage, along with events and content that put our state and its culture in the national and international spotlight, LPB made great strides in not just connecting Louisianans to Louisiana; we helped connect our state to the rest of the world!



Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB) isn’t just one station, but a network of public television stations covering Louisiana from Shreveport and Monroe, to Lake Charles and Baton Rouge. It is through this powerful network that we address the needs and explore the stories of an entire state.

LPB also owns 50% of WLAE-TV, a hyper local public television station in New Orleans, thereby effectively covering the entire state.

LPB provides three channels of programming. These channels are free and available to anyone with a TV and an antenna.

LPB also streams our HD channel through our website, lpb.org, and through our free mobile app, as well as several live linear streaming services, increasing accessibility.

Additionally, much of our locally produced content is available to stream free and on demand through our website and YouTube channel.

LPB reaches over 1,500,000 Persons 2+ monthly, providing more than 26,000 hours of free educational and entertaining content across three broadcast channels. This is a key factor in a state where an estimated 1.7 million people have no access to broadband. With nearly 150,000 unique users via our website and app, LPB continues to expand accessibility to our content. Additionally, more than 2-million hours of video has been watched by viewers on our YouTube channel.

No matter how you watch or when, LPB offers locally produced content that is as enriching as it is entertaining. LPB takes a multi-platform approach in our efforts to provide viewers with options both broadcast and digital, so we can serve them no matter where they watch.

BROADCAST PRODUCTIONS



THE PRECIPICE

This documentary exploring the erosion and resilience of Louisiana’s Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe was two years in the making. A historically underserved population, the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe is a community on the brink, fighting to save their homes, their culture, their language, and their very way of life against two immense forces: the government and climate change. The documentary would go on to win multiple awards including a Suncoast Emmy Award and the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Documentary Film of the Year (2024). The production featured an original score by award-winning Louisiana composer Michael Esneault. Key partners included the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area, the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program, and the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.

A TALL ORDER

This new documentary shows viewers the Louisiana State Capitol building in a way likely never seen before. From the architects that designed the soaring tower to the commissioned artists who provided the sculptures, reliefs and other adornments, this documentary explores the story of former Governor Huey P. Long’s efforts to erect the tallest capitol building in the United States. State-of-the-art drone footage provided viewers with perspectives and close-up views of the building like never before. The East Baton Rouge Parish Library was a key partner.



GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE 2023



LPB teamed up with the Council for A Better Louisiana (CABL) to host a one-hour debate featuring the candidates running in the Louisiana governor’s race. “One of the hallmarks of our debates with LPB is that we always try to focus on the issues that are the most important for moving our state forward,” said CABL President Barry Erwin. “It is critical that voters know where candidates stand on these matters, and

we appreciate the opportunity to provide this service to citizens in every area of the state.” The debate was broadcast statewide and streamed. LPB also offered media outlets across the state the opportunity to simulcast the debate via broadcast or streaming. Seven outlets from New Orleans to Shreveport took advantage of these options, ensuring access to all Louisiana voters.

THE WAY FORWARD



LPB took a multi-platform approach in our commitment to providing voters with the information they needed to make an informed choice at the polls. Along with the debate, LPB developed the mini-series “Coffee With The Candidates” as an informal yet authentic way to discuss the issues. LPB teamed with the Public Affairs Research Council and the Council for a Better Louisiana using their 55 non-partisan issue recommendations to help voters make informed decisions. The series was broadcast in our weekly news program **Louisiana: The State We’re In** and streamed via a web micro-site and a playlist on the LPB’s YouTube channel.

LOUISIANA: THE STATE WE'RE IN



As Louisiana’s only statewide news magazine, this weekly program has been covering the news of interest to Louisiana for 47 years, making it one of the longest-running television programs in the nation. Along with robust election coverage, the series includes stories as wide ranging as Louisiana’s continuing redistricting battle to fears of saltwater intrusion in Southern Louisiana.

LOUISIANA SPOTLIGHT

Now in its second year, this quarterly public affairs documentary style format explores complex issues facing our state in a deeper, more personal way. The series also allows LPB to respond to timely topics of statewide interest, engage in civil discussion, and search for solutions. Each episode premieres simultaneously on both broadcast and digital.



THE COST OF COASTAL RESTORATION

With Louisiana in the midst of a land loss crisis, this program provided a detailed look at the controversial Coastal Master Plan.



BRIDGING THE GAP IN HEALTH EQUITY

An exploration of the causes of Louisiana’s health inequities and a search for lasting solutions.



HIGH TIMES

An exploration of the changing landscape of cannabis in Louisiana



BIRTHRIGHT

An exploration of Louisiana’s high maternal mortality rates, particularly for Black women.

LOUISIANA SPORTS HALL OF FAME: 2023 CELEBRATION



LPB partnered with the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame (a part of the Louisiana State Museum system) to share sports stories beyond the play-by-play and headlines. This two-hour program celebrated the induction of a 12-member group of honorees into the HOF.

“A walk through the Sports Hall of Fame Museum will show you that our state’s contributions to the world of sports is another story worth telling! We are excited to expand our sports programming efforts and what better opportunity than this.”

- Clarence “C.C” Copeland, LPB President & CEO.

BEHIND THE GLORY

LPB continued the sports momentum with this unique broadcast series profiling each of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame inductees and exploring the stories that transcend their sport. The stories were presented in a 15-minute short format as well as digital for streaming. Profiles include inspirational stories from greats like MLB pitcher Paul Byrd, NFL champ Eli Manning, and Walter Imahara, who went from detainee at a Japanese internment camp to a six-time USA National Weightlifting Championship.

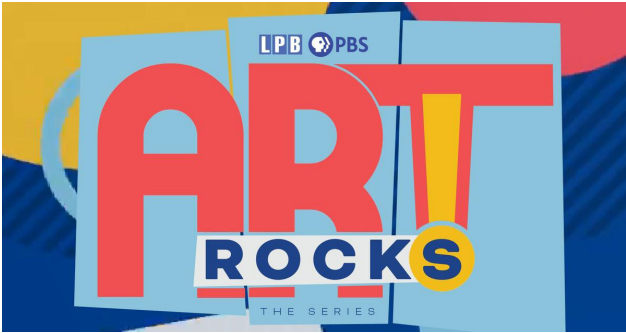


LA. LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE’S 2023 STATEWIDE SPELLING BEE



LPB partnered with the Louisiana Leadership Institute to broadcast the finals for their 2023 spelling bee. The event featured children in grades 3-8 from across the state. The Louisiana Leadership Institute is an educational organization dedicated to nurturing and empowering Louisiana’s youth.

ART ROCKS! THE SERIES



Each episode of this weekly program features Louisiana art, performance, culture, literature, or history. In its eleventh season, episodes featured a groundbreaking masterworks exhibit by African American artists at LSU Museum of Art, a glass artist from Breaux Bridge, and New Orleans sculptor Sheleen Jones, whose work honors Black military

2023 LOUISIANA LEGENDS

This live program celebrates a diverse group of Louisiana natives, representing some of the best and brightest from our state. In 2023, the honorees included: Gayle Benson, noted business professional and philanthropist; Warrick Dunn, NFL great and philanthropist; Gary Fields, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist; Brigadier General Gary M. Jones, whose distinguished 26-year military career saw him serving a long list of assignments; and The Pennington Family, for their long history of community giving.



LOUISIANA YOUNG HEROES 2023



This inspiring program is based on an LPB community project celebrating the achievements of students nominated from across Louisiana. Each honoree has devoted their time and energy to making their communities better and inspiring those around them. Each student was profiled during our weekly news program **Louisiana: The State We're In** and in a 30-minute program devoted to sharing their stories.

Key partners include AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana; the U.S. Army Baton Rouge Recruiting Battalion; Community Coffee; and the East Baton Rouge Parish Library with additional support from Hotel Indigo and DEMCO.

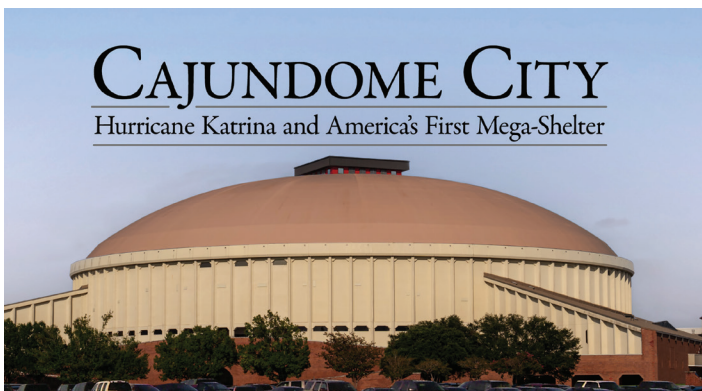
AN EVENING AT THE GOVERNOR’S MANSION



LPB was proud to partner once again with Governor John Bel Edwards and First Lady, Donna Edwards for this evening of music and magic from the Governor’s Mansion. LPB was thrilled to share with viewers state-wide this intimate performance by Grammy-award winning artist Jon Batiste. As educational as it was entertaining, Batiste spent time explaining the melting pot of influences that have shaped music in Louisiana while performing for an enthusiastic audience.

LOUISIANA FOCUSED INDEPENDENT PRODUCTIONS

LPB works to develop partnerships with independent filmmakers and organizations from across the state to share their work with a broader audience with a focus on stories centered on Louisiana.



CAJUNDOME CITY - In the hours following the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, flooding drove tens of thousands of evacuees away from their homes. Exhausted and desperate, over 18,000 evacuees left with little more than the clothes on their backs and headed to Lafayette toward the Cajundome Arena. This is the inspirational story of what happened next. The effort would later become a template for similar efforts around the country.



SHREVEPORT LITTLE THEATRE: MAKER OF DREAMS - More than just an exploration of the 100-year history of the Shreveport Little Theatre, this independent documentary is a celebration of the power of live theatre. The theatre was the first ever to produce a live theatrical adaptation of a Walt Disney animated feature, paving the way for theatres across the country, including Broadway!

REEL SOUTH SEASON 8 - LPB continues its partnership in support of this PBS anthology series, which features filmmakers telling stories that explore the South’s proud, yet complicated history. This year’s selection included the compelling documentary **8 Days at Ware**, a devastating investigation into youth suicide and a legacy of abuse at Louisiana’s Ware

Youth Center in Coushatta. Along with the broadcast premiere of the film, LPB provided additional support with a virtual premiere followed by an in-depth conversation about the impact of the film and a look at advances in juvenile justice reform. LPB also provides production support for this nationwide series as one of three major station partners.

DIGITAL FIRST PRODUCTIONS
ZIGGY'S ARTS ADVENTURE



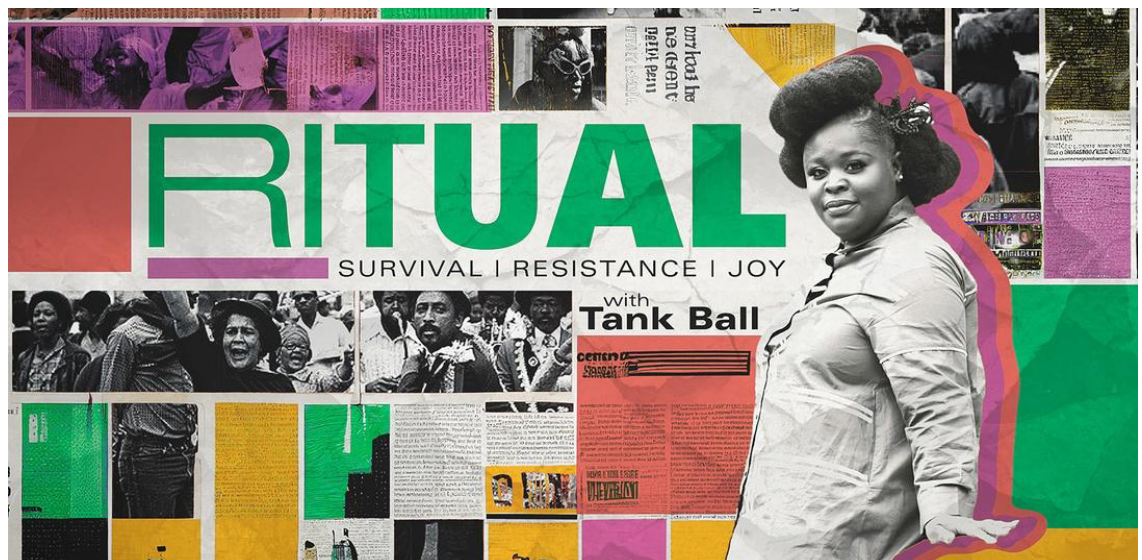
friends he meets in a Louisiana junkyard. Together they meet artists from Louisiana and learn about all types of art, community, and friendship. Each episode has a “Concept of the Day” and a corresponding art activity and also features a segment called “Great Minds Think” that provides young viewers with a peek inside Ziggy’s mind to see how critical and creative thinking work together to solve problems. The segment is based on Harvard’s Project Zero, which

Recognizing the correlation between art and academic achievement, LPB set out to produce an educational art series serving children ages 7 – 12. Now in its second season, this puppet series follows a 9-year-old alien and his adventures with the creative

follows the idea that students learn during the process of creating. LPB also provides all of these educational elements in a re-designed, child-centered website. This season we welcomed a new partner, the Louisiana Division of the Arts.

RITUAL

LPB teamed up with PBS Digital Studios and Houston Public Media to produce this very popular streaming series, hosted by New Orleans musician and poet, Tarriona “Tank” Ball. Ritual explores the depths and varieties of ritual across the American South. Each episode focuses on a different ritual that



contributes to a larger conversation around a community’s relationship between the past and present, and how perpetuating a ritual resonates in the collective regional consciousness. From the intricate history of Black burial practices to river Baptisms, this streaming series debuted on the PBS Voices Channel on YouTube and

has since expanded to other platforms. To date, the eight-episode series has had over 1-million streams on YouTube, highlighting Louisiana culture and, to a broader extent, Southern culture, for a nation-wide audience. With support by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

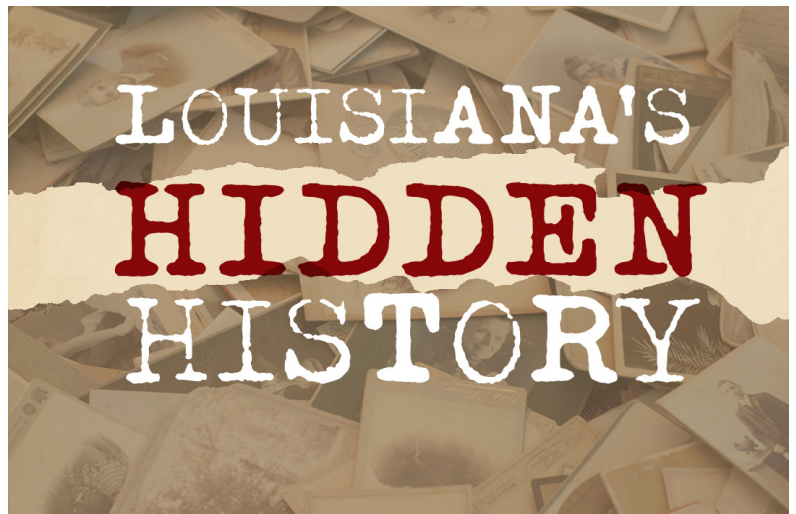


HBCU WEEK NOW

Teaming up with Maryland Public Broadcasting, LPB produced a short film celebrating one of Louisiana’s most classic football rivalries – the Bayou Classic. This legendary game between Southern University and Grambling State University celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2023. The film debuted as three digital shorts on the brand new HBCU Week Now YouTube Channel. With the support of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

LOUISIANA’S HIDDEN HISTORY

This 4-part digital short series was produced in conjunction with Maryland Public Television in support of their documentaries on Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. Each episode explores little known facts about Louisiana’s history and celebrates the cultural bearers who uncovered and shared their stories. Episodes include the mysteries of voodoo queen Marie Laveau, myths around Black midwives, and the secrets of Black fraternal organizations. The series has recorded more than 3,000 streams to date.



LOUISIANA’S HARVEST OF THE MONTH

This digital first series is a celebration of foods grown or sourced in Louisiana. The series includes planting and growing tips, along with recipes and fun facts. Working with the LSU Ag Center, resources are also provided to schools.

LPB also continues its commitment to streaming the monthly meetings of the Baton Rouge Rotary Club (Newsmakers) and the Baton Rouge Press Club (Press Club) both featuring speakers of statewide interest.

LPB EN FRANÇAIS

LPB continues our efforts to not just preserve Louisiana’s French language heritage, but to actively promote it. In 2023, LPB provided hundreds of hours of French language programs, including animated children’s programming and *Cinéma Français*, featuring classic French films.



LA VEILLÉE

This multi-platform short format program, produced in partnership with Télé-Louisiane, puts the happenings, culture, and people of Louisiana’s French-language speaking population in the spotlight. Presented in Louisiana French with English subtitles, the program simultaneously broadcasts on LPB and streams on its own micro-site and YouTube playlist. Télé-Louisiane even offers the program in French with French subtitles on their site, ensuring accessibility for all.

“Each episode constitutes a new, engaging audiovisual resource for French speakers and learners across Louisiana. But La Veillée is about more than just French: the show also tells the unique stories of the people of Louisiana and helps remind us to have pride in our unparalleled culture. We are so grateful to be partnering with LPB in this endeavor for a second season!”

- Will McGrew, CEO and Co-Founder of Télé-Louisiane



La Veillée led to a global partnership with TV5MONDE, a French public television network based in Paris. *La Piste de la Francophonie pour la planète* (The Trail Of Francophonie For The Planet) was an event showcasing 19-hours of live broadcasts from 17 cities with francophone communities – and that included a 52-minute long French-language segment from the LPB studios. The aim: to raise awareness of the consequences of global warming

and highlight the collective action for the environment among French-speaking communities in countries around the world. “We were able to represent the French speaking communities of Louisiana, including Creoles, Cajuns, and Native Americans, with an emphasis on the close relationship between the environment and the French language in the formation of Louisiana culture,” said Will McGrew, CEO and Co-Founder of Télé-Louisiane.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: AMPLIFYING THE IMPACT
ANTIQUES ROADSHOW



When the hit PBS show *Antiques Roadshow* announced their intention to shoot episodes in Louisiana, the effect was immediate! Over 10,000 people registered for tickets for the May taping at the LSU Rural Life Museum, with 400 tickets set aside for community partners and organizations serving under-represented groups. For LPB, it was all hands-on deck in our effort to help provide attendees with the ultimate “Roadshow Experience” and help Louisiana shine brightly in this very significant national spotlight!

“The more significant impact for Baton Rouge will come from the national television exposure,” says Laura Cating, the senior vice president of marketing and communications at Visit Baton Rouge. “Antiques Roadshow is PBS’ most popular program and boasts more than 6 million viewers each week. With three episodes expected to air from the footage collected in Baton Rouge, the Capital City will receive significant exposure.”

LPB helped secure over 100 volunteers from the community, without whom the day would not have been possible. Along with sharing resources and securing publicity, LPB was also able to film a behind-the-scenes special, to air in 2024 in support of the national premiere of the Louisiana episodes.



SPINNING YARN: THE TRADITION OF SOUTHERN STORYTELLING



Nearly 100 people turned out for “Spinning Yarn: The Tradition of Southern Storytelling” an event held Saturday, July 15 at the East Baton Rouge Parish Main Library in Baton Rouge. The audience was treated to a special preview of the PBS mini-series **Southern Storytellers** and heard stories from three of Louisiana’s most notable storytellers – Angela Davis, who has shared her Louisiana stories with audiences in over 100 countries; Mona Lisa Saloy, Louisiana’s Poet Laureate; and Nathan Willis, an Emmy-award winning filmmaker.



While this event was going on, LPB concurrently hosted a children’s story-time and educational event featuring Ziggy – the main character in our digital children’s puppet series. After exciting stories and songs, LPB’s education team helped attendees build their own Ziggy puppet and develop a story surrounding their creation.

MORE LIBRARY PARTNERSHIPS



LPB loves partnering with libraries across the state. We teamed up with the Lafayette Public Library for **Uncovering Your Hidden History: Genealogy in the Digital Age**, a panel discussion about the free resources available to help in efforts to explore your family ancestry. LPB teamed up with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library for **Why Louisiana Ain't Mississippi... or Any Place Else!: A Behind the Scenes Conversation** a companion to the LPB docu-series. LPB's superstar puppet Ziggy was excited to visit with young fans at

the Livingston Parish Book Festival. The kids enjoyed songs and storytelling, and each went home with instructions on how to make their very own Ziggy puppet. Finally, LPB shared educational resources and information with parents and children alike at the 2023 Louisiana Book Festival just outside the Louisiana State Library. From information about LPB PBS Learning Media to details about the new season of **Ziggy's Arts Adventure**, it was a great day to get outside and meet people who depend on LPB regularly.

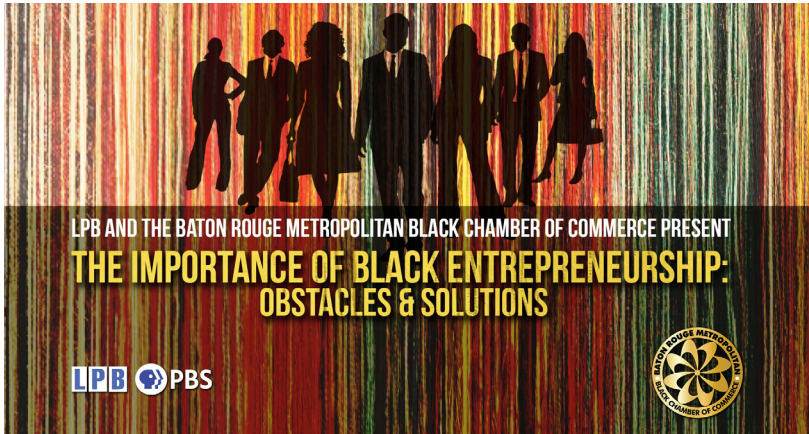
DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

LPB is in the early stages of a partnership to help facilitate the statewide expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. This unique book gifting program's mission is to inspire a love of reading by providing all of Louisiana's children ages 0-5 with a free, high-quality and age-appropriate book each month, no matter their family's income. "The first step is to find additional local partners to help start programs in unserved communities. Right now,



there are 32 local programs working hard to sign-up families in their communities, but Louisiana can do better," says Clarence "C.C." Copeland, President and CEO of LPB. "By working together, we can ensure that all eligible children can receive a book with their name on it, delivered to their home, in every parish in Louisiana, every month. As Dolly herself says 'let's put some wings on this dream.'"

VIRTUAL EVENTS



THE IMPORTANCE OF BLACK ENTREPRENEURSHIP

LPB partnered with the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce for a virtual conversation on **The Importance Of Black Entrepreneurship**. Aaron Franklin and Dr. Adraine Conrad joined us from the chamber as well as Ada Womack-Bell, Director of the Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southern University, to discuss obstacles and solutions to Black business ownership.

SECOND CHANCES: BUILDING BRIDGES FOR WOMEN AFTER INCARCERATION

As part of the ITVS initiative, LPB hosted A fascinating discussion with Louisiana women who have established programs to assist previously incarcerated women to help them regain confidence, re-enter the workforce, and become positive influences within their communities.



PBS SHORT FILM FESTIVAL LPB once again participated in the PBS Short Film Festival. Two independent filmmakers from Louisiana were selected for inclusion. Designed to increase the reach and visibility of independent films and to showcase diverse storytelling, this is the tenth straight year that an LPB nominated film has made this national festival.



Plum Town | Kelly Yu
A New Orleans raised, Chinese-American filmmaker.



The Funeral Band | Nicholas Manuel Pino
A Chilean American filmmaker based in New Orleans.

LPB EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The LPB Education Team took a big step in 2023, committing to expanding educational resources developed in conjunction with LPB productions and making those resources available to educators, parents, and students across the state.



The LPB docuseries *Why Louisiana Ain't Mississippi... or Any Place Else! (WLAM)* was a hit with LPB viewers, taking them on a time-tripping historical adventure across our state. It was both entertaining and educational, but LPB took it one step further, devel-

oping classroom ready education resources to expand the impact. The 24-media rich curriculum supports are designed to aid educators, parents, and students in grades 6-12 in a variety of subjects, including math, science, ELA, and Louisiana history.



In June, the resources were endorsed by the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and became available to all via the *Why Louisiana Ain't Mississippi... or Any Place Else!* website at whylouisiana.lpb.org.

In addition, LPB created the LPB Lagniappe initiative – a scholarship designed to help Louisiana teachers offset the costs of classroom supplies – costs that often come out of their own pockets. LPB committed to putting 10% of membership revenues raised by *WLAM* during the school year toward it.



Teacher Carri Rockett at Winnfield Middle School in Winn Parish used her scholarship to purchase materials to help students as they research and explore local legends, such as Huey P. and Earl K. Long and the lofty pines of Kisatchie National Forest. “The project will culminate with a community show featuring student writing, research presentations, and artwork,” says Carrie. “Thank you LPB.”

ZIGGY'S ARTS ADVENTURE



ZIGGY'S
* ARTS ADVENTURE *

EXPRESS YOURSELF!

Art provides infinite ways to express individuality! Singing is one of the simplest!

→→→→

This easy to follow art activity sheet can help you get started!

Download at ziggy.lpb.org

New episode now streaming!

LPB  **PBS**



Get Moving!

One of the best ways to beat the homesick blues is to get moving and get dancing!

←

This easy to follow art activity sheet can help you get started!

Download at ziggy.lpb.org

LPB  **PBS**

Season Two of LPB's educational puppet series *Ziggy's Arts Adventure* expanded to include an educational art activity associated with each of the episodes. Each of the digital episodes are available to teachers to stream

and include additional educational components such as the "Concept of the Day" exemplified by a special Louisiana guest artist and "Great Minds Think" showing creative and critical problem solving.

BRIGHT BY TEXT

LPB signs up parents for this free service, which offers prenatal and parenting tips by text message, all based on a child's exact age and location. We have a total of 1,849 children who are signed up for this simple and free service.



LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

The LPB Education team used their imaginations to come up with this version of a "Thingamajigger," which was used as part of their presentation to more than 100 educators at the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Association Conference held in Alexandria in November. The team shared how to transform your classroom into a "Cat in the Hat" discovery center using free resources available through LPB/PBS LearningMedia... and of course a little imagination!



COMMUNITY LEARNING WORKSHOPS

Building space suits for teddy bears might sound like child’s play, but there is some serious science behind the activity when it’s coupled with activities from the LPB Education Team and the kids animated favorite *Ready, Jet, Go!* The LPB Education team used the exercise to train 200 Family Engagement Coordinators

from school districts across Louisiana during the Louisiana Dept. of Education’s Teacher Leader Summit. The lessons are especially valuable for immigrant families, English-language learners, and those experiencing homelessness. LDOE estimates 750 families will benefit.

CAMPS BOTH VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON

LPB continues to offer parents a fun and educational camp experience for their little ones, but now they are even more accessible than ever with more virtual options.



More than **3,000** parents took advantage of LPB camp opportunities.



731,488
users



386,871
users



2,141,356
users

SOCIAL MEDIA: CONNECTING ON ALL PLATFORMS

LPB Facebook – 68,848 followers
LPB X – 6,274 followers
LPB Instagram – 5,466 followers
LPB YouTube – 33,420 subscribers

LPB.org – 140,000 unique visits
LPB App – 6,054 unique users
LPB Educ. Facebook – 1,300 followers
LPB YouTube – 2,008,727 views

LOUISIANA DIGITAL MEDIA ARCHIVES – 46,716 UNIQUE VISITS

This free historical archive is the online home of the LPB Digital Collection and the Louisiana State Archives Multimedia Collection. In 2023, the preservation of at-risk media continued, including the completion of the digitization of the entire Louisiana: The

State We’re In series, a ten-year project, dating back to the series’ premiere in 1976. Cataloging continues monthly to make more episodes of this statewide newsmagazine freely available for streaming to the public.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY

“Thanks for sending the notice about Walter and Lyn Rollins on LPB last evening. “Beyond the Glory” was the best 15 minutes of television I watched in a long time.”

- Edmond Dugas, commenting about Behind The Glory via email

“Powerful, informative, transformational!”

- Anonymous, attendee of Bridge Builders Collective Virtual Event

“Tremendous success on BOTH fronts. I really don’t see how you could have improved either one... because even with a short lead time, the venues, the adult speakers, the Ziggy activity ALL WORKED.”

- Mary Stein, Asst. Library Director at East Baton Rouge Parish Library, partner in Spinning Yarn Storytelling Events

“As someone who has watched every episode and continues to watch this show all the time, I loved getting to see this side of Troy!! Loved this.”

- Ccouch1988, commenting on La Veillée via YouTube

“Fantastic program. Kara St. Cyr excels at telling important stories in such an accessible and objective way.”

- Jamie Webb, via Facebook about Louisiana Spotlight: Birthright

“As a former educator, my motivation to become a member stemmed from my deep appreciation for the educational impact of public broadcasting. LPB’s commitment to providing high-quality educational content resonates with teachers and parents.”

- Barbara DeCuir, member via Visions magazine



The Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe is a community on the brink, fighting to save their homes, their culture, their language, and their very way of life against two immense forces: the government and climate change. **The Precipice**, a documentary from LPB premiering in 2023, explores the challenges they face and reveals the battles they’ve won. From their fight

to become a federally recognized tribe, to the battle for educational equality – **The Precipice** explores efforts to preserve their unique tribal culture. The community is also facing extinction due to climate change. The gulf is claiming land at an alarming rate. In 2021, Hurricane Ida, a category 4 storm, almost wiped the community away.

“Climate change is here, and the towns and cities impacted will only grow larger. This film offers viewers the stark reality of what happens to Pointe-aux-Chenes, could happen to communities throughout the world. It’s in our best interest to make sure they succeed.”

- Producer and filmmaker, Ben Johnson.



This initial film under LPB’s **Louisiana Spotlight** umbrella, **The Precipice** represents a unique and in-depth way to expand on a topic. LPB Executive Producer Linda Midgett: “The story of the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe is a uniquely Louisiana story, but

their challenge also has global impact. It is a story that needs to be told.” The documentary went on to win a Suncoast Regional Emmy Award® and was named the Humanities Documentary Film of the Year by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Along with a premiere party at the LPB studios, LPB has shared the documentary with community organizations and festivals, including the Black Media Story Summit, the Consulate Général de France à la Nouvelle-Orléans, State of the Coast Conference 2023, and the New Orleans Film Festival. LPB developed a robust multi-page website in support of the film that has recorded an outstanding engagement rate of 52.6%.

Key partners included the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area, the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program, and the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.

*“The film’s most significant contribution is its focus on Louisiana Indigenous knowledge, history, storytelling, and anthropology as an indispensable yet dramatically understudied part of Louisiana’s humanities fabric. More than any other documentary film in recent years and perhaps in Louisiana’s history, **The Precipice** masterfully engages and educates its audience in and about interdisciplinary Louisiana Indigenous humanities.”*

- Will McGrew, École Pointe-au-Chien Board President

Since the premiere of **The Precipice**, the new French immersion school, École Pointe-au-Chien officially opened its doors in August 2023, serving students from Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes for children pre-K and first. The mission: to provide a high quality public French immersion education grounded in the areas unique Indian and Cajun French bayou culture.