

# Local Content and Services Report 2017



Through its nine television stations, 18 radio stations and innovative digital and education platforms, GPB engages viewers, listeners, community partners, students and educators with a variety of programming and resources. GPB produces original television and radio content, community engagement initiatives and free educational content and trainings as part of its service to the community.

## GPB Television and Original Programming



#### A Seat at the Table

GPB's new weekly talk show gives voice to the diverse experiences, perspectives, and challenges of African-American women. Hosted by veteran journalist Monica Pearson, along with author Denene Millner and business advisor and community activist Christine White, the program gives African-American women a platform to educate communities about the black woman's experience, life and journey.



#### **Hometown Georgia**

GPB's new series takes viewers across the state to meet residents who share what makes their hometowns special. Each episode covers three cities. Towns featured so far include Dahlonega, St. Marys, Metter, LaGrange, Milledgeville and Blue Ridge.



#### **Georgia Outdoors**

GPB's award-winning original series continues to deliver an amazing view of all that Georgia has to offer through spectacular photography and narrative storytelling that showcases wildlife, plants and other aspects of the state's natural beauty. Episodes this year focused on the power of nature to heal, millennials ready to lead the conservation effort and a look at Georgia's major barrier islands.



#### **GPB Sports**

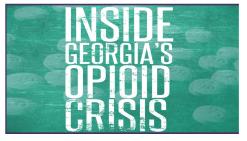
GPB Sports launched *Football Fridays in Georgia: Inside Edition*, a three-hour live studio broadcast featuring high school football games all over the state of Georgia. Hosts shared up-to-the-minute scores and gave viewers the chance to interact during the broadcast. As in years past, GPB Sports also aired live coverage of the GHSA playoffs, quarterfinals and Championship Finals.



#### Lawmakers

GPB's long-running television program provides daily, in-depth coverage of the state legislature during the annual Georgia General Assembly session and reports on issues including taxes, jobs, schools and the environment.

## **GPB Radio**



#### **Inside Georgia's Opioid Crisis**

In the face of America's opioid crisis, GPB News presented a special week-long series examining what's happening in Georgia. Reports in the series included how opiates work in the brain, drug companies' role in the opiate epidemic, the science of addiction and the epidemic's impact on Georgia's economic development.



#### **Hurricane Irma Coverage**

GPB Radio produced extensive coverage of Hurricane Irma and its impact on Florida and Georgia, including hourly on-air news updates and real-time updates to the web. Reporters were stationed throughout the state, as well as in the Georgia Emergency Management headquarters to provide valuable information about shelters and other resources for evacuees. GPB also served as a resource for other national media outlets covering the hurricane.



#### On Point Live Broadcast from GPB Studios

GPB Radio partnered with WBUR Boston's *On Point* for a live broadcast from the Atlanta studios. The popular news and information program hosted by Tom Ashbrook was also streamed live on Facebook. After the program, GPB hosted a special luncheon where guests could meet the host and learn more about the program.



#### Political Rewind Mayoral Debate Special

Atlanta's mayoral election generated national interest. GPB Radio's *Political Rewind*, a weekly series examining Georgia politics, presented a special edition with candidates Keisha Lance Bottoms and Mary Norwood to discuss topics including race, transportation, Confederate monuments, and corruption. The special was broadcast live on GPB Atlanta 88.5 FM and streamed live on GPB's website and Facebook.



#### On Second Thought Live From the Douglass Theatre in Macon

GPB Radio's weekday program *On Second Thought* hosted a special live recording at the historic Douglass Theatre in Macon. The special explored the music and culture of Macon and featured student performances and a discussion with representatives from the Otis Redding Foundation.



#### **The Moth Story Slams**

As an extension of its weekly broadcast of the Peabody award-winning program *The Moth Radio Hour*, GPB Radio sponsored The Moth StorySLAM in Atlanta. The open-mic storytelling competition took place monthly throughout 2017 and featured competitors sharing a five-minute story on a theme determined by competition organizers.

### **GPB Education**



#### **Education Outreach**

This fiscal year, the GPB Educational staff offered free professional development to 2,431 Georgia educators through our education outreach efforts. The education team travels the state to offer training sessions and conference presentations on digital learning strategies and resources. GPB provides GA educators with free access to over 125,000 digital learning resources by developong original content through our Education and PBS LearningMedia. *Education Matters* newsletter goes to a membership of over 45,000 educators each month and the education team writes a blog that averages 8,000 views per month. The blog focuses on topics and trends, with a focus on digital learning. We have also launched a "Share Your Story" initiative where teachers from around Georgia can submit a blog post describing how they are using GPB's digital learning resources or how they are innovating in the classroom. So far, over 40 teachers have submitted a story outlining instructional strategies and innovations in teaching.



#### **GPB Live Explorations**

GPB Live Explorations are designed to bring quality learning experiences to classrooms all over the state, especially underserved areas where the students are not able to take field trips and have the learning experience firsthand. Our first live exploration was at Gray's Reef Marine Sanctuary and the UGA Aquarium in Savannah. Students learned how Gray's Reef was formed, how the seafloor served as a habitat, and how they can help protect the reef from major threats. Experienced divers and marine biology experts were available to answer students' questions. There was a live quiz interactive component and teachers and students used the hashtag #GraysReefLive to participate in the conversation. Over 45,000 teachers and students participated live. The exploration is available on demand with supplemental classroom resources for grades K-12 at: www.gpb.org/grays-reef.com



#### **GASHA GO!**

GASHA GO! is a new skill-building math game for kids in kindergarten through third grade. The game focuses on developing children's number sense, which is a sense of what numbers mean and their relationship to one another. Research shows that children who have a well-developed number sense are able to succeeed in early math (and beyond), while children who do not are at much greater risk of falling increasingly further behind. GPB is listening to teachers to identify those stumbling blocks that can help close the achievement gap for underserved students. Teachers can use GASHA GO! during classroom instruction as a center activity or for individual students who are struggling with numeracy. Families can use the game to build math skills at home. The game is free.



#### **Georgia Race Through Time**

As part of a two-year grant from the Woodruff Foundation, GPB partnered with the award-winning media developers at FableVision Studios to create *Georgia Race Through Time (GRTT)*, a new history adventure game for students. Aligned to Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for 8th grade social studies, *GRTT* leverages primary source documents, rich historical content, and a unique storyline for an engaging, game-based learning experience. Georgia educators and students were included in the development process, allowing crucial feedback to guide production. *GRTT* was designed to work across web and mobile platforms and is available online and via mobile devices.



#### **Civil Rights Virtual Learning Journey**

In partnership with Georgia Department of Education, GPB is developing a Civil Rights Virtual Learning Journey. Students get to take an interactive, virtual journey through the Civil Rights Movement, from Jim Crow laws to the Freedom Riders to modern day civil rights efforts. The journey has photos, primary source documents, videos, interactive elements, art, music and more.



#### **Ignite Your Passion for Innovation Event**

GPB partnered with Discovery Education for an Ignite Your Passion for Innovation event for back to school, a powerful evening of networking and concise, energizing presentations combined with engaging conversations. For this event, we asked, "What is Innovation?" Each presenter shared in the Ignite format, which is a 5-minute presentation that features 20 slides that automatically advance every 15 seconds. Each presentation also ended with a question that was intended to spark curiosity and provoke conversation. Participants had a chance to network and interact with fellow educators. The event took place August 2016 and had an attendance of over 70 educators.

## **GPB Community Engagement**



#### The Vietnam War

GPB participated in the national community engagement program for the film *The Vietnam War* with the goal of providing a platform for veterans and military personnel and families to share stories and creating cross-cultural awareness and intergenerational understanding of the war. Activities included working with community partners to present several public screening events and producing a "GPB Viewer Resource Guide" that was distributed to 45,000 member households statewide prior to the film premiere. The resource guide provided episode descriptions, along with local resources and information about the impact of the Vietnam War and the Vietnamese community in Georgia.



#### **GPB Kids Activities**

GPB organized station events and participated in community partner initiatives throughout the year that promoted literacy through GPB Kids programming. Activities included *Super Why!* and *Martha Speaks* screening parties where each child received a book. The events celebrated the "Mayor's Summer Reading Club" in Atlanta. GPB also promoted literacy through character appearances with *WordGirl* at Atlanta's High Museum of Art monthly Second Sunday Family program and the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library summer reading kick-off party. GPB also participated in the Sesame Street K is for Kindness Pop-Up Tour, which promoted reading, learning and imaginative play.

Additional GPB Kid activities include an "Explore the Outdoors" Earth month screening party, featuring special episodes of *Nature Cat* and *Wild Kratts*. GPB also partnered with Children's Museum of Atlanta for "Be My Neighbor Day with Daniel Tiger," where children learned about acts of kindness and met Daniel Tiger. GPB's *Splash and Bubbles One Big Ocean* screening tautht lessons about the interconnections of all creatures.



#### **Indie Lens Pop-Up Film Screenings**

The acclaimed Emmy Award-winning athology series Independent Lens features unforgettable stories about a unique individual, community or moment in history. GPB hosted four Indie Lens Pop Up screenings in conjunction with community partners connected to the film topics. The Bad Kids film explored the challenges of at-risk high school students, and featured a panel discussion with representatives of CHRIS 180, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, Communities in Schools Atlanta, Georgia Family Connection Partnership and Atlanta Public Schools. National Bird exposed the secret U.S. drone war and featured a discussion with experts in treating post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression related to past military service. Newtown told the story of the aftermath of the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting, the deadliest mass shooting of schoolchildren in American history and featured a panel discussion with representatives of CHRIS 180 and Emory University's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science. Real Boy featured the coming-of-age story of a trans teenager and was presented in partnership with Atlanta Pride, CHRIS 180 and Out on Film.



#### **RARE - Creatures of the Photo Ark**

GPB hosted two screenings for the PBS mini-series Rare - Creatures of the Photo Ark, which features a stunning digital collection of the world's mammals, fish, amphibians, birds, reptiles and insects. During the first screening, GPB executive producer Sharon Collins shared information about endangered species in Georgia with new footage from GPB's award-winning television series, Georgia Outdoors. The second screening was hosted in partnership with Gray's Reef National Marine Santuary located near Savannah and the Tybee Post Theater.



#### Spy in the Wild - Animal Robotics Screening and Demonstration

GPB partnered with the Atlanta Science Festival and the Museum of Design Atlanta for a special screening and robotics demonstration for the five-part *Nature* series Spy in the Wild. The series employs more than 30 animatronic spy cameras disguised as animals to secretly record behavior in the wild that reveals animals have emotions and behavior similar to humans, including the capacity to love, grieve, deceive, and invent.



#### **All The Difference Screening**

In recognition of the 2017 theme for Black History Month "The Crisis in Black Education" GPB partnerred with the Auburn Avenue Research Library and the Atlanta Branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History {ASALH} for a screening of the documentary film *All the Difference* and panel discussion. The film chronicles the lives of two African American young men from the south side of Chicago and their ambition to be the first in their families to attend and graduate from college.



## Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise Preview Screening Event and Poetry Slam For Teens

Referred to as a "redwood tree, with deep roots in American culture," Maya Angelou gave people the freedom to think about their history in a way they never had before. Dr. Angelou's was a prolific life; as a singer, dancer, activist, poet, and writer, she inspired generations with lyrical modern African-American thought that pushed boundaries. GPB hosted a screening of the film featuring the Alliance Theatre's Playwright in Residence Pearl Cleage. GPB also partnered with VOX Teen Communications and the Alliance Theatre for a "And I Still Rise Spoken Word Workshop and Poetry Slam" for teens in celebration of Dr. Angelou's legacy.