



press release

Contact: Diane Steinert
steinert@wneo.pbs.org
330-677-4549

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING ON PBS 45 & 49

KENT, Ohio — NOV. 30, 2005 — PBS 45 & 49 celebrates the holiday season in December with a variety of specials featuring music and children's programming. Presented here is the month's holiday programming. Shows that are airing for the first time on our station are marked with an asterisk (*).

Wednesday, Nov. 30

***Christmas Spectacular Presented by Larry Wilgus, 10 p.m.**

Under the direction of Larry Wilgus, the annual Christmas show on stage at the Akron Civic Theatre features 200 local performers, including a 140-voice festival chorus, live orchestra, dance troupe, bagpipers, marching toy soldiers and more.

Saturday, Dec. 3

John Tesh's Christmas in Positano, 6 p.m.

Filmed on the Amalfi Coast of Italy, this program features a lush mix of Christmas classics.

A Lawrence Welk Family Christmas, 7 p.m.

This program is a compilation of clips from Welk's television Christmas programs over the years as well as nostalgic reminiscences with the Welk Family of Stars.

Sunday, Dec. 4

A Lawrence Welk Family Christmas, noon

This program is a compilation of clips from Welk's television Christmas programs over the years as well as nostalgic reminiscences with the Welk Family of Stars.

John Tesh's Christmas in Positano, 2 p.m.

Filmed on the Amalfi Coast of Italy, this program features a lush mix of Christmas classics.

***The Holiday Table, 4:30 p.m.**

Style experts offer ideas for simple and inexpensive centerpieces, mantel decorations, innovative place cards and more. The special also features recipes for appetizers, a main course and cookies.

**PBS
45 & 49**

Northeastern
Educational Television of
Ohio, Inc.

1750 Campus
Center Drive

P. O. Box 5191

Kent, Ohio

44240-5191

Phone

330.677.4549

Fax

330.678.0688

E-mail

questions@wneo.pbs.org

Web Site

www.pbs4549.org

Saturday, Dec. 10

***Rick Steves' European Christmas, 5:30 p.m.**

Travel host Rick Steves takes an intimate look at how diverse European cultures celebrate Christmas.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

John Tesh's Christmas in Positano, 10:30 p.m.

Filmed on the Amalfi Coast of Italy, this program features a lush mix of Christmas classics.

Monday, Dec. 19

Arthur's Perfect Christmas, 6:30 a.m.

Arthur and D.W., with friends and family, make preparations for perfect gifts, parties and family traditions for Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

***Holiday Lights: Crane Candlelight Concert 2003, 10 p.m.**

Over 300 carolers and musicians from the renowned Crane School of Music at the State University of New York at Potsdam come together to present a holiday concert.

Tuesday, Dec. 20

Barney's Christmas Star, 1 p.m.

Barney and friends celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Wednesday, Dec. 21

***Thomas & Friends, Thomas' Winter Tales, 11:30 a.m.**

This special features winter stories from the Island of Sodor, all themed around communication.

***Bob the Builder, Snowed Under: The Bobblesberg Winter Games, 12:15 p.m.**

It's the countdown to The Bobblesberg Winter Games and the team assigned to build the course is snowed under. Will everything be finished by opening ceremonies?

***Chanukah Stories, 3:30 p.m.**

In this dynamic new animated special, celebrity storytellers share two popular holiday tales: *The Tie Man's Miracle* and *Moishe's Miracle*.

Arthur's Perfect Christmas, 4 p.m.

Arthur and D.W., with friends and family, make preparations for perfect gifts, parties and family traditions for Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Sing We Now of Christmas, 9 p.m.

This production showcases more than 200 performers from the choirs of First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, Iowa.

***O Christmas Tree, 10 p.m.**

This special traces the styles, traditions and history of the Christmas tree — from its pagan origins to its status as the modern-day symbol of the holiday season.

Thursday, Dec. 22

***O Christmas Tree, 2 p.m.**

This special traces the styles, traditions and history of the Christmas tree — from its pagan origins to its status as the modern-day symbol of the holiday season.

***Christmas With the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Featuring Audra McDonald and Peter Graves, 10 p.m.**

Four-time Tony Award winner Audra McDonald and veteran movie and television star Peter Graves join the renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir in an annual holiday concert that includes African-American spirituals and a medley of contemporary favorites.

Saturday, Dec. 24

Arthur's Perfect Christmas, 6 a.m.

Arthur and D.W., with friends and family, make preparations for perfect gifts, parties and family traditions for Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Sunday, Dec. 25

Barney's Christmas Star, 6 a.m.

Barney and friends celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

***Bob the Builder, Snowed Under: The Bobblesberg Winter Games, 6:45 a.m.**

It's the countdown to The Bobblesberg Winter Games and the team assigned to build the course is snowed under. Will everything be finished by opening ceremonies?

***Thomas & Friends, Thomas' Winter Tales, 7:30 a.m.**

This special features winter stories from the Island of Sodor, all themed around communication.

Arthur's Perfect Christmas, 8 a.m.

Arthur and D.W., with friends and family, make preparations for perfect gifts, parties and family traditions for Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

***A St. Olaf Christmas in Norway, 1 p.m.**

Filmed in an historic Gothic church in Trondheim, Norway, this special includes the renowned a cappella voices of the St. Olaf Choir from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn.

***Christmas at Belmont (2005), 2 p.m.**

Hosted by up-and-coming country music artist Josh Turner, this annual concert held at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., includes traditional Christmas carols and classical masterworks.

Great Performances, Ren e Fleming: Sacred Songs and Carols, 3 p.m.

Beloved American soprano Ren e Fleming marks her first holiday special with an evening of devotional and holiday favorites.

***O Christmas Tree, 7 p.m.**

This special traces the styles, traditions and history of the Christmas tree — from its pagan origins to its status as the modern-day symbol of the holiday season.

***A Tennessee Ernie Ford Christmas, 8 p.m.**

Tennessee Ernie Ford and guests perform many of the world's most memorable carols.

***Live From Lincoln Center, New York Philharmonic New Year's Eve Gala Concert, 8 p.m.**

Ring in the new year with a program of Italian opera featuring renowned soprano Angela Gheorghiu.

About PBS 45 & 49

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of non-commercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire.

-##-