



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Western Reserve PBS's NewsNite to Return on Sept. 7

Civil discourse in politics is topic of season opener

NORTHEAST OHIO — Aug. 20, 2012 — Civil discourse in the political arena will be the first topic of discussion for the new season of **NewsNite**, the weekly Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1) program that airs Fridays at 8:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 7. **NewsNite**, in its 14th season on Western Reserve PBS, features stories about the greater Akron area and this year has a new host — Jody Miller — and a new format.

The season's opening show will feature interviews with John Green, PhD, distinguished professor at the University of Akron and director of the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics; Dan Moulthrop, curator of conversation at the Civic Commons; and Diana Swoope, PhD, senior pastor of Arlington Church of God. They will discuss the Civility Project, a year-long study addressing the impacts of civil discourse, particularly as it relates to politics. Topics planned for upcoming episodes include the work of University Park Alliance and the 10th anniversary of the Akron Marathon.

Previously composed of a news panel discussing the week's top regional stories, the program now features one-on-one interviews that address noteworthy news events about Northeast Ohio. Hosting the program is longtime **NewsNite** panelist Jody Miller, who has also hosted many of the show's longer-format "NewsMaker Special" programs.

"Using the 'NewsMaker' format provides a way for Western Reserve Public Media to continue its long-standing commitment to keep **NewsNite** on the air," said Trina Cutter, Western Reserve Public Media president and CEO. "We will continue to offer timely, in-depth coverage of regional news topics while at the same time broaden the discussion to include community leaders and news makers."

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In addition to airing Fridays at 8:30 p.m., **NewsNite** repeats on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. It also airs on Western Reserve Public Media's Fusion channel (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2) on Mondays at 7 p.m. Visit the show's website at www.NewsNite.net, where archived videos and extended interviews are available for free viewing on demand.

About Western Reserve Public Media

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. It serves the largest population (5.13 million people) of Ohio's eight PBS member stations.

Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1), a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio. It is available to 5.13 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average month, more than 1 million people tune in. The organization also operates three standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2), MHz Worldview (WNEO 45.3/WEAO 49.3) and V-me (WNEO 45.4/WEAO 49.4).

Through funding from eTech Ohio, Western Reserve Public Media provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about the organization, visit www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

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