



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS Western Reserve offers two free screenings of new McKinley National Memorial documentary

MONUMENTAL DEVOTION: THE MCKINLEY NATIONAL MEMORIAL screenings to be held in Niles and Canton prior to May 10 documentary broadcast premiere

KENT, OH – Thursday, April 14, 2022 – In celebration of the premiere of the new PBS Western Reserve documentary *MONUMENTAL DEVOTION: THE MCKINLEY NATIONAL MEMORIAL* on Tuesday, May 10, at 9 PM, the following two free screenings of the production will be held:

- Monday, April 25, at 2:30 PM at McKinley Memorial Library, 40 N. Main St., Niles
- Wednesday, April 27, at 7 PM at Timken Career Center, 521 Tuscarawas St. W., Canton

MONUMENTAL DEVOTION: THE MCKINLEY NATIONAL MEMORIAL tells of the public's admiration of President William McKinley, plus his loving relationship with his wife. It centers on McKinley's life as president and, ultimately, the construction of a monument in Canton, Ohio, for his final resting place.

The half-hour documentary introduces the human side of McKinley, a Civil War veteran and attorney who married the love of his life, the highly educated and gifted Ida McKinley. Together the couple endured the tragic loss of two young daughters and the challenges of Ida's serious illnesses.

It is difficult to imagine the immense sadness that gripped the world when the popular president was shot in Buffalo, New York, on Sept. 6, 1901, and later died. The way to see it today is through the fruit of that tragedy: a strikingly beautiful monument, built with funds ranging from the penny donations of school children to the gifts of industrialists and other nations throughout the world.

Throughout the production, we see evidence of devotion to President McKinley. One striking place is in the reported gratitude of some of the memorial workers—former slaves who wanted to contribute to the legacy

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of a president who fought for the North and opened the military to Black soldiers in the Spanish-American War. We can appreciate the workers' efforts as we explore a part of the monument the public never sees: the formidable steps between the inner and outer domes that lead to a breathtaking view of Canton.

For additional documentary air dates and more information, visit [PBSWesternReserve.org](https://www.pbswesternreserve.org).

About PBS Western Reserve

PBS Western Reserve is the brand name of Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

A trusted community resource, PBS Western Reserve 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 of Ohio's eight PBS member stations.

PBS Western Reserve (WNEO 45.1 / WEO 49.1), a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of Northeast Ohio. It is available to 4.9 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 two standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2 / WEO 49.2) and FNX (WNEO 45.3 / WEO 49.3).

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