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"What I'm crazy about most of all is we've figured out a way of combining some of my big hits with some great Christmas songs," Barry Manilow tells us. "It's not just all Christmas songs. So it's a little bit more interesting. And the set is gorgeous."

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Lidia Bastianich

25 YEARS WITH LIDIA: A CULINARY JUBILEE

Beloved award-winning chef Lidia Bastianich, a restaurateur, bestselling cookbook author and host of one of the longest-running cooking shows, is celebrating 25 years on public television with a biographical documentary special (airing Monday, Dec. 18 on PBS) showcasing her life story and all her various food-related endeavors. Beginning with her childhood in Istria, an Italian peninsula given to Yugoslavia in 1947 and now a part of Croatia, to growing up in Queens, where she briefly worked at a bakery owned by Christopher Walken's parents, Bastianich shares how she turned the challenges of immigration into a recipe for success.

"I think I took off like a jet," Bastianich said of her arrival in the U.S. after two years in an Italian refugee camp. "I was only 12, but I was going to finally be free. We had a home, we could speak Italian, we could go to church. I think it made me who I am." Her love for food and feeding people came from her family history as well. "As children [of immigrants], you become part of the unity of working for the family, making the family survive. Food is magical. Yes, we like it, it tastes good. It gives us nutrients for us to grow. But it nurtures us emotionally. It's a story of who we are as people. It tells our story as a family. It gives you comfort. Food is a connector in so many ways, for all of us in different ways with our different cultures.

"Americans are getting back into cooking," she added. "I'm happy I can lead them to that. It's very rewarding because America gave me this great opportunity. It's a sense of giving back." — *Zhanna Slor*

25 Years With Lidia: A Culinary Jubilee: Credit: PBS Elvis: Courtesy Everett Collection Kojak: Courtesy Everett Collection Thriller: © Courtesy Everett Collection

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Notable TV series, episodes, networks and/or events marking anniversaries this month.

By Jeff Pfeiffer

55 YEARS AGO



"ELVIS" ('68 COMEBACK SPECIAL)

Officially titled *Singer Presents … Elvis*, but much better remembered by the name it was commonly referred to as — the *'68 Comeback Special* — this program aired Dec. 3, 1968, on NBC. It did indeed mark a comeback for legendary rocker Elvis Presley, as it was his return to live performances after nearly a decade focused on making movies. Elvis was famously clad in black leather during this special, which included an informal sit-down session where he was surrounded by fans and a small band.

50 YEARS AGO



KOJAK'S LOLLIPOP

New York City homicide investigator Theo Kojak (Telly Savalas) started replacing cigarettes with one of his famed Tootsie Pops in "Dark Sunday," a Season 1 episode of *Kojak* that premiered Dec. 12, 1973, on CBS.

40 YEARS AGO



"THRILLER" MUSIC VIDEO

Ahead of its MTV premiere on Dec. 2, 1983, the music video for Michael Jackson's song "Thriller," off his blockbuster album of the same name, was as hyped and anticipated as any major movie opening. The nearly 15-minute production, directed by filmmaker John Landis, was cinematic in its own right and helped solidify music videos as an art form and MTV as a pop-culture force.

RECENTLY RENEWED

When FOX's cooking competition series ***MasterChef Junior*** returns for Season 9, Tilly Ramsay, daughter of host Gordon Ramsay, will be coming onboard as a new judge alongside returning judges Aarón Sánchez and Daphne Oz. ... Ahead of its milestone 25th anniversary next year, the animated Nickelodeon favorite ***SpongeBob SquarePants*** has been renewed for a 15th season. The upcoming season's 26 episodes will put the series at 345 total episodes and counting since its July 1999 debut. ... Some notable streaming series have been renewed: ***Sweet Magnolias*** (Season 4) on Netflix; ***Based on a True Story*** (Season 2) on Peacock; and ***Gen V*** (Season 2) on Prime Video.



RETURNING FAVORITES

American Pickers History (Dec. 27)
Coach Prime Prime Video (Dec. 7)
Dr. Death Peacock (Dec. 21)
Hollywood Houselift With Jeff Lewis Amazon Freevee (Dec. 6)
Power Book III: Raising Kanan Starz (Dec. 1)
Reacher Prime Video (Dec. 15)
The Real Housewives Ultimate Girls Trip Peacock (Dec. 14)
Slow Horses Apple TV+ (Dec. 1)
Southern Hospitality Bravo (Dec. 7)
Why the Heck Did I Buy This House? HGTV (Dec. 26)

YANKED!: Recently Canceled Shows

Mockumentary comedy ***Welcome to Flatch*** had two seasons and wore out its welcome on FOX. ... ABC cut sitcom ***Home Economics*** from its budget after three seasons. ... Canada's CTV announced that medical drama ***Transplant*** has ceased operating after Season 4. NBC is currently airing Season 3. ... Chantel Everett and Pedro Jimeno have split, and TLC is calling it quits for ***The Family Chantel*** after its current fifth season. ... Historical drama ***Vikings: Valhalla*** will have its final voyage on Netflix in 2024. ... ***The Problem With Jon Stewart*** suffered from the dreaded "creative differences" problem and has been shuttered by Apple TV+ after two seasons. ... Also at Apple TV+, darkly funny murder mystery anthology ***The Afterparty*** has turned out the lights after two seasons. ... Freevee's buddy cop drama ***Pretty Hard Cases*** has turned in its badge after three seasons.

Very Brady Christmas: © Paramount Television/Courtesy Everett Collection MasterChef Junior: Credit: Fox

35 YEARS AGO



A VERY BRADY CHRISTMAS

Nearly every original cast member of the classic sitcom *The Brady Bunch* was back for this TV movie, which premiered Dec. 18, 1988, on CBS (only Susan Olsen did not return; Jennifer Runyon took her place as Cindy). The Brady clan proved to still be a draw nearly 15 years after their series left the air, with this movie garnering high ratings.

Happy Holidays

On behalf of the entire *Channel Guide Magazine* team, we wish you the happiest of holidays and blessings for 2024.

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Remembrances 2023

A Tribute To Some Of The Entertainment Celebrities We Lost This Year.



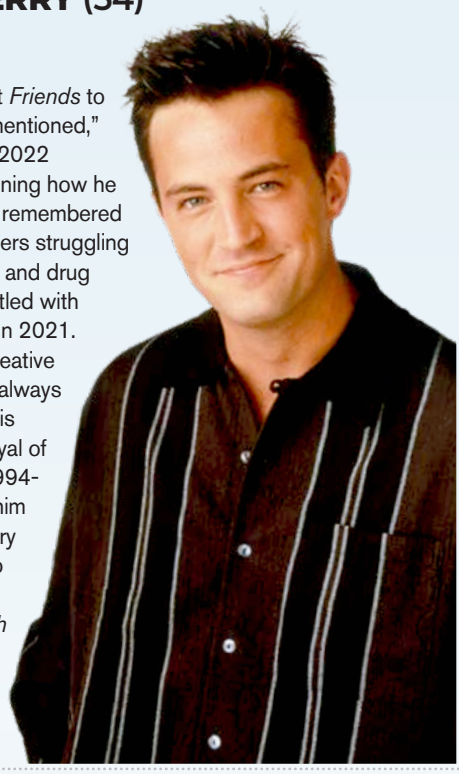
Bob Barker (99)

Born: Dec. 12, 1923 | **Died:** Aug. 26, 2023

You can't put a price on personality. Bob Barker's was beyond compare, a display of unflappable charm, graciousness and good humor no matter the circumstance. Never losing his cool even when frenzied contestants lost their minds, the dapper Barker was the ultimate TV host, receiving 18 Daytime Emmys (and one Lifetime Achievement Emmy) for his 35-year run on *The Price Is Right*. If he could choose his own legacy, however, it would undoubtably be as an outspoken animal-rights activist. "Have your pets spayed or neutered!" Barker died at his home in Los Angeles following several years with Alzheimer's disease.

MATTHEW PERRY (54)

Born: Aug. 19, 1969
Died: Oct. 28, 2023



"When I die, I don't want *Friends* to be the first thing that's mentioned," Matthew Perry said in a 2022 podcast interview, explaining how he would prefer to be most remembered for his efforts to help others struggling with the types of alcohol and drug issues he had long wrestled with before becoming sober in 2021. In terms of the actor's creative onscreen work, *Friends* always will be mentioned first; his Emmy-nominated portrayal of Chandler Bing on the 1994-2004 sitcom endeared him to fans old and new. Perry also brought his talent to the big screen, leading films such as *Fools Rush In* (1997), *The Whole Nine Yards* (2000) and *17 Again* (2009).

SUZANNE SOMERS (76)

Born: Oct. 16, 1946 | **Died:** Oct. 15, 2023



With her toothy grin, short-shorts, ace comic timing and hair done up in boopsy ponytails, Suzanne Somers made herself a household name as sexy secretary Chrissy Snow on the '70s sitcom *Three's Company*. Though the series was an instant smash, with a crack cast of comic talent, Chrissy was the show's centerpiece and poster girl, and Somers knew it. She moved on to star in *She's the Sheriff* and *Step by Step*, as well as famously becoming the spokeswoman for the ThighMaster exercise machines. Somers died of breast cancer, which she battled for more than 20 years.



Cindy Williams (75)

Born: Aug. 22, 1947
Died: Jan. 25, 2023

She was the sweet, fun girl next door. Cindy Williams, who died at 75 after a brief illness, had to be talked into putting her movie career on hold to take the part of Shirley Feeney, the starry-eyed 1950s Milwaukee brewery worker and roomie of brash Laverne DeFazio (Penny Marshall). They made their debut on *Happy Days* as double dates of Fonzie (Henry Winkler) and Richie (Howard) but soon got their own spinoff in 1976 with *Laverne & Shirley*. Audiences delighted in their slapstick antics as blue-collar working girls making it on their own. And that they did!

Bob Barker: © TV Guide/Courtesy Everett Collection Suzanne Somers: © Jim Britt/TV Guide/Courtesy Everett Collection
Matthew Perry: © Warner Bros/Courtesy Everett Collection Cindy Williams: © ABC/Dorothy Tanous/TV Guide/Courtesy Everett Collection



Tina Turner (83)

Born: Nov. 26, 1939
Died: May 24, 2023

While Ike and Tina Turner hit the jackpot with their scorching, signature cover of Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Proud Mary," it would take Tina nearly a decade for her solo career to take flight after she left the abusive Ike. Tina's iconic 1984 album *Private Dancer* yielded three top hits: the title track, the infectious "Better Be Good to Me" and the triple Grammy-winning, No. 1 smash "What's Love Got to Do With It." She would win seven solo Grammys, have three songs inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame and earn the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, before declining health forced Tina to stop performing in 2009 and eventually claimed her life. She died in her home in Switzerland.

Tony Bennett (96)

Born: Aug. 3, 1926
Died: July 21, 2023

The incomparable vocalist Tony Bennett, who died after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's disease, was more than legendary, as his seven-decade career suggests. The born-and-bred New Yorker had his biggest hit in 1962 with the enduring "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," but he belonged to the world, releasing more than 100 albums.





JERRY SPRINGER (79)

Born: Feb. 13, 1944 | **Died:** April 27, 2023

It's hard to fathom that Gerald Norman "Jerry" Springer left behind a legacy that largely skips over his prestigious law degree, campaign work for Robert F. Kennedy, the mayorship of Cincinnati and numerous local Emmy Awards in favor of a self-titled reality spectacle, *The Jerry Springer Show*. But a deliberately eccentric political career left Springer well aware that average joes wanted an anonymous peek at unusual unions, sexual deviants, unkept family secrets and people clobbering the bejesus out of each other. *The Jerry Springer Show* ran 27 years, ending in 2018. Springer died of pancreatic cancer.

RAQUEL WELCH (82)

Born: Sept. 5, 1940 | **Died:** Feb. 15, 2023

Every generation has its sex symbols, but Raquel Welch is a sex symbol for the ages, effortlessly maintaining that image throughout her five-decade career. When Raquel graced the promotional posters for *One Million Years B.C.* (1966) clad in a fur bikini, she instantly became iconic. Following a steady career of film and television roles, Welch turned to nightclub performances and shilling her health and beauty lines in her later years. She died of cardiac arrest while battling Alzheimer's disease.



Harry Belafonte (96)

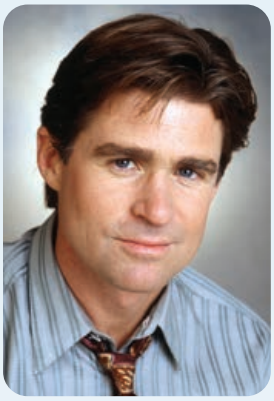
Born: March 1, 1927 | **Died:** April 25, 2023

Singer, actor and civil rights activist Harry Belafonte began his career as a singer in a nightclub. After releasing his breakthrough album *Calypso* in 1956, Belafonte quickly rose to fame, introducing a new style of music to America with origins in the Caribbean. One song from this album, "Day-O (The Banana Boat Song)," was a huge success at the time and is still well-known today. He released over 30 albums throughout his life and acted in numerous films as well. Belafonte died from congestive heart failure in his apartment.



Tina Turner: © DENIZE alain/Sygma via Getty Images Tony Bennett: © 2016 Virginia Sherwood/NBCU Photo Bank/NBCUniversal via Getty Images Jerry Springer: © NBC/James Sorenson/Courtesy Everett Collection Raquel Welch: © Silver Screen Collection/Getty Images Harry Belafonte: © TV Guide/Courtesy Everett Collection

Remembrances 2023



TREAT WILLIAMS (71)

Born: Dec. 1, 1951
Died: June 12, 2023

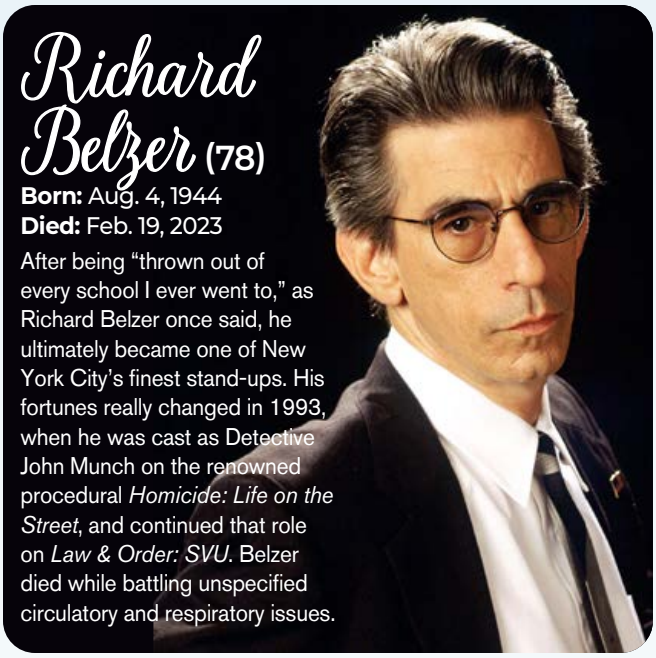
Treat Williams, who died in a motorcycle accident near his Vermont home, enjoyed a prolific career that began in Broadway musicals and expanded into film (1979's *Hair*, 1981's *Prince of the City*), but he found his most enduring fame on TV in *Everwood* (2002-06) and Hallmark Channel's heartwarming *Chesapeake Shores* (2016-22).



Alan Arkin (89)

Born: March 26, 1934
Died: June 29, 2023

Alan Arkin earned his first Oscar nominations as the stranded Soviet submarine officer in the 1966 farce *The Russians Are Coming, the Russians Are Coming*, and two years later as an empathetic but terribly depressed deaf mute in *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*. He finally struck Oscar gold playing the hilariously foulmouthed grandpa in 2006's *Little Miss Sunshine*.



Richard Belzer (78)

Born: Aug. 4, 1944
Died: Feb. 19, 2023

After being "thrown out of every school I ever went to," as Richard Belzer once said, he ultimately became one of New York City's finest stand-ups. His fortunes really changed in 1993, when he was cast as Detective John Munch on the renowned procedural *Homicide: Life on the Street*, and continued that role on *Law & Order: SVU*. Belzer died while battling unspecified circulatory and respiratory issues.

PIPER LAURIE (91)

Born: Jan. 22, 1932
Died: Oct. 14, 2023

"Every role I played was the same girl, no matter whether my costar was Rock Hudson or Tony Curtis or Rory Calhoun," Piper Laurie told *The New York Times*. In 1956 Laurie broke her contract and revamped her career, earning an Oscar nomination for her role in 1961's *The Hustler* and in 1976's horror classic *Carrie*. She was nominated for nine Emmys, including for the 1983 miniseries *The Thorn Birds*. She won for the 1986 TV movie *Promise*. Laurie was still working when she passed away following a long illness.



Treat Williams: © 1993 CBS Photo Archive via Getty Images Richard Belzer: © NBC/Courtesy Everett Collection Paul Reubens: © CBS/Courtesy Everett Collection Alan Arkin: Courtesy Everett Collection
Piper Laurie: © Aaron Spelling Prods/Courtesy Everett Collection David McCallum: Courtesy Everett Collection



PAUL REUBENS (70)

Born: Aug. 27, 1952
Died: July 30, 2023

For many of his fans, Paul Reubens primarily existed as his defiantly ageless alter ego, Pee-wee Herman. Stare too long, and he'd likely quip, "Why don't you take a picture? It'll last longer." Reubens, who died of respiratory failure while battling cancer, made guest appearances on hit comedies including *Murphy Brown* (earning an Emmy nomination) and *30 Rock*. He reprised the Pee-wee character on Broadway in 2010 (later an HBO special) and in the 2016 Netflix film *Pee-wee's Big Holiday*.



David McCallum (90)

Born: Sept. 19, 1933
Died: Sept. 25, 2023

When Mark Harmon first met David McCallum in 2003 while filming the backdoor pilot for *NCIS* (which aired on *JAG*), he gushed, "I can't imagine I'm shaking the hand of Illya Kuryakin [*The Man From U.N.C.L.E.*]" To which McCallum replied, "Good God, man, that was 40 years ago!" Such is the aura of a true TV legend, even one as charming and unassuming as McCallum, who died at a Manhattan hospital six days after turning 90. He followed up Kuryakin with the more loquacious, instantly endearing role of medical examiner Donald "Ducky" Mallard in the global hit *NCIS*.



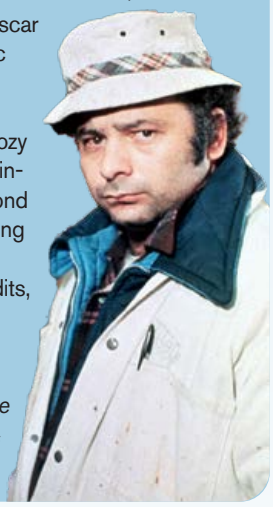
RON CEPHAS JONES (66)

Born: Jan. 8, 1957
Died: Aug. 19, 2023

Of all the tear-jerking storylines on the sentimental NBC hit *This Is Us*, few were more affecting than the too-short-lived reunion of William Hill (Ron Cephas Jones) and his biological son, Randall Pearson (Sterling K. Brown). Jones, who died of pulmonary issues, made an indelibly moving impression as the recovering addict who fatefully left his infant son at a fire station, later to be adopted by the Pearsons.

Burt Young (83)

Born: April 30, 1940 | **Died:** Oct. 8, 2023



Burt Young earned an Oscar nomination for the classic 1976 Sylvester Stallone film *Rocky*, playing the downtrodden boxer's boozy but fiercely loyal brother-in-law Paulie Pennino. Beyond the *Rocky* franchise, Young scored more than 150 movie and television credits, including the Oscar-winning film *Chinatown* and memorable turns in television's *M*A*S*H*, *The Sopranos* and the *Law & Order* franchise.

MICHAEL GAMBON (82)



Born: Oct. 19, 1940
Died: Sept. 27, 2023

Late-career fame playing a wizened, wizardly character came to Michael Gambon, who played Hogwarts headmaster Albus Dumbledore in *Harry Potter*'s final six films. Gambon, who died after a bout of pneumonia, is remembered by his costar, Daniel Radcliffe, as "one of the most brilliant, effortless actors I've ever had the privilege of working with."

Ron Cephas Jones: © Los Angeles Times/via Getty Images/Credit: Jay L. Clendenin Burt Young: Courtesy Everett Collection Michael Gambon: © Warner Bros/Courtesy Everett Collection

Also Remembering

Burt Bacharach (94)
b. 1928 Composer/songwriter; "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head," "(They Long to Be) Close to You"

Robert Blake (89)
b. 1933 Actor; *In Cold Blood*, Tony Baretta in the 1970s crime drama *Baretta*

Jim Brown (87)
b. 1936 Hall of Fame NFL running back with the Cleveland Browns (1957-65); actor, *The Dirty Dozen*, *Ice Station Zebra*

Ricou Browning (93)
b. 1930 Stuntman/filmmaker; performed underwater scenes as the Gill-man in *Creature From the Black Lagoon*

Jimmy Buffett (76)
b. 1946 Musician/singer-songwriter; "Margaritaville"

Dick Butkus (80)
b. 1942 Hall of Fame NFL linebacker with the Chicago Bears (1965-73); actor, *The Longest Yard* (1974)

David Crosby (81)
b. 1941 Singer/guitarist with the Byrds; Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young; and solo career

Melinda Dillon (83)
b. 1939 Actress; *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (Oscar nominee), *Absence of Malice* (Oscar nominee; film airs Dec. 28 during TCM's "In Memoriam" evening), *A Christmas Story* (1983)

Frederic Forrest (86)
b. 1936 Actor; *Apocalypse Now*, *The Rose* (Oscar nominee), *Valley Girl*

William Friedkin (87)
b. 1935 Director/screenwriter; *The French Connection* (Oscar winner), *The Exorcist* (Oscar nominee)

Bert I. Gordon (100)
b. 1922 Sci-fi B-movie filmmaker; *The Amazing Colossal Man*, *Village of the Giants* (film airs Dec. 29 during TCM's "In Memoriam" theme)

Glenda Jackson (87)
b. 1936 Actress; *Women in Love* (Oscar winner), *Sunday Bloody Sunday* (Oscar nominee; film airs Dec. 28 during TCM's "In Memoriam" evening)

Al Jaffee (102)
b. 1921 Cartoonist; longest-running contributor to *MAD* magazine (65 years)

Lance Kerwin (62)
b. 1960 Actor; *James at 15*, *Salem's Lot* (1979 miniseries)

Bob Knight (83)
b. 1940 Basketball coach; Indiana Hoosiers

Gina Lollobrigida (95)
b. 1927 Actress/photojournalist; *Come September*, *Buona Sera Mrs. Campbell*

Tim McCarver (81)
b. 1941 MLB catcher, most notably with the St. Louis Cardinals (1959-61, 1963-69, 1973-74) and Philadelphia Phillies (1970-72, 1975-80); later a broadcaster

Richard Moll (80)
b. 1943 Actor; *Night Court*

Sinéad O'Connor (56)
b. 1966 Singer-songwriter and activist; *I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got* (Grammy winner), "Nothing Compares 2 U" (Grammy nominee)

Lisa Marie Presley (54)
b. 1968 Singer-songwriter; only child of Elvis Presley and Priscilla Presley

Adam Rich (54)
b. 1968 Actor; *Eight Is Enough*

Richard Roundtree (81)
b. 1942 Actor; *Shaft* (as well as four of its sequels and its TV series spinoff)

Tom Sizemore (61)
b. 1961 Actor; *Heat*, *The Relic*, *Saving Private Ryan*

Stella Stevens (84)
b. 1938 Actress; *The Nutty Professor*, *The Poseidon Adventure*, *Girls! Girls! Girls!*

Inga Swenson (90)
b. 1932 Actress; Tony nominee in stage plays *110 in the Shade* and *Baker Street*, three-time Emmy nominee in sitcom *Benson*

Chaim Topol (87)
b. 1935 Actor/singer; *Fiddler on the Roof* (Oscar nominee), *Flash Gordon*, *For Your Eyes Only*

Jacklyn Zeman (70)
b. 1953 Actress; *General Hospital* (Daytime Emmy nominee)

Season's Greetings



Ladies Of The '80s: A Divas Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 2 on LIFETIME
ORIGINAL FILM!

"Fasten your face-lifts, ladies, it's going to be a bumpy weekend," warns *Falcon Crest* superstar Morgan Fairchild to her fellow castmates — *Dallas*' Linda Gray, *WKRP in Cincinnati*'s Loni Anderson, and *Knots Landing*'s Donna Mills and Nicollette Sheridan. These iconic stars are all playing a tongue-in-cheek version of a diva in Lifetime's adorably funny and heartfelt original film *Ladies of the '80s: A Divas Christmas*.

The ladies star as five glamorous actresses who gather to film the final Christmas episode of their long-running soap opera *The Great Lakes*. Wrangling this group, however, proves to be no easy task (as can be true in real life, too) and the responsibility falls to the soap's producer, Alex (Travis Burns), and director, Nell (Taylor Ann Thompson). These two have their own past as well, which adds a little romantic spark to the diva drama.

"We think we made a movie that gives everybody what they expect in a Christmas movie, but a lot more," tells executive producer Larry A. Thompson. "We've sprinkled it with old memories from these ladies, and young love."

Also sprinkled in are glorious diva moments that include over-the-top slap fests, pool pushings, an epic food fight and plenty of fun zingers ("Wheel over the liquor cart, Christmas tea ain't gonna cut it today"), as these TV icons show what living like a Hollywood superstar is all about.

Thompson, who's managed several stars over his long career, approached friend and client Donna Mills first with the idea of a lighthearted reunion film. Most of the stars are now in their late 70s/early 80s, and all had their own reasons for agreeing to do the film.

"It's not easy putting together this much talent," Thompson says. "Each of these ladies saw this as an opportunity for all of them to work together. What we had to carefully do is draft a story, a script, where they all came off equally important in the movie."

Ladies of the '80s: A Divas Christmas. Credit: Lifetime



Nicollette Sheridan, Donna Mills, Travis Burns, Morgan Fairchild, Taylor Ann Thompson, Linda Gray and Loni Anderson

Mission accomplished, as each of the ladies shines in their respective roles.

"We had fun making a movie where we are winking at the audience the entire time," Thompson adds. "One could possibly think this is a true story, this is their real life, but it's not. But it's close sometimes! And you're guessing, 'Is that real? Is that not real?' So that's fun."

From the start there's conflict, as Mills' character Dana hasn't spoken to Sheridan's character Juliette for years. And Dana likens herself to Mother Teresa! But it's nonstop fun with plenty of surprises (Gray's onscreen husband is played by her former lover from *Dallas*, Christopher Atkins).

"They made fun of themselves. They were over the top. They showed you how a diva can get carried away," Thompson laughs. "That happened throughout the movie. And of course, we have an epic food fight. I mean, epic. I think anyone who sees this is going to go, 'Oh my Lord, how did they shoot this?' [The gravy being poured over Sheridan is something to see!] Especially when I told them when we started, 'We're only going to shoot the food fight once because we don't have time for all of you to go take a shower, redress and do this thing. So, we got one take at getting this right, but I want you to throw everything you can at everybody you can.'" And what a merry old time they had. — *Barb Oates*

Holiday Music Specials!

Christmas at the Opry

Thursday, Dec. 7 on NBC

Host Wynonna Judd welcomes the best and brightest voices in country music including Kelly Clarkson, Chrissy Metz, Mickey Guyton and more as they kick off the season with holiday classics and today's hits.

Season of Light: Christmas With the Tabernacle Choir

Tuesday, Dec. 12 on PBS
Sunday, Dec. 17 on BYUTV

This beautiful annual favorite features Disney and Broadway legend Lea Salonga (*Mulan*, *Pretty Little Liars: Original Sin*) and actor Sir David Suchet (*Agatha Christie's Poirot*) joining the award-winning Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square, along with the Orchestra at Temple Square and the Bells at Temple Square, for a magical evening.

Silent Night: A Song for the World

Wednesday, Dec. 20 on THE CW

This encore musical film documentary has become a holiday tradition at The CW. The film tells the story of the creation and cultural impact of the world's most famous Christmas carol, "Silent Night." Composed in 1818 in Salzburg, Austria, the song is translated into 300 different languages and dialects. Hugh Bonneville provides the narration, and the special includes recordings by Kelly Clarkson, Joss Stone, John Rhys-Davies, David Foster, Katharine McPhee, Randy Jackson, Gavin Rossdale, Josh Groban and many others.

The 25th Annual A Home for the Holidays

Friday, Dec. 22 on CBS

This entertainment special features uplifting stories of adoption from foster care and includes music from some of today's top artists playing at the Bram Goldsmith Theater at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles.

Season's Greetings

Barry Manilow's A Very Barry Christmas

Monday, Dec. 11 on NBC

At a mere 80 years old, the legendary Barry Manilow is having quite the year. The multi-award-winning performer, composer and songwriter has sold more than 85 million albums, has released 13 No. 1 hits and recently performed his 637th show at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino, beating Elvis Presley's previously held record for most appearances on the same stage.

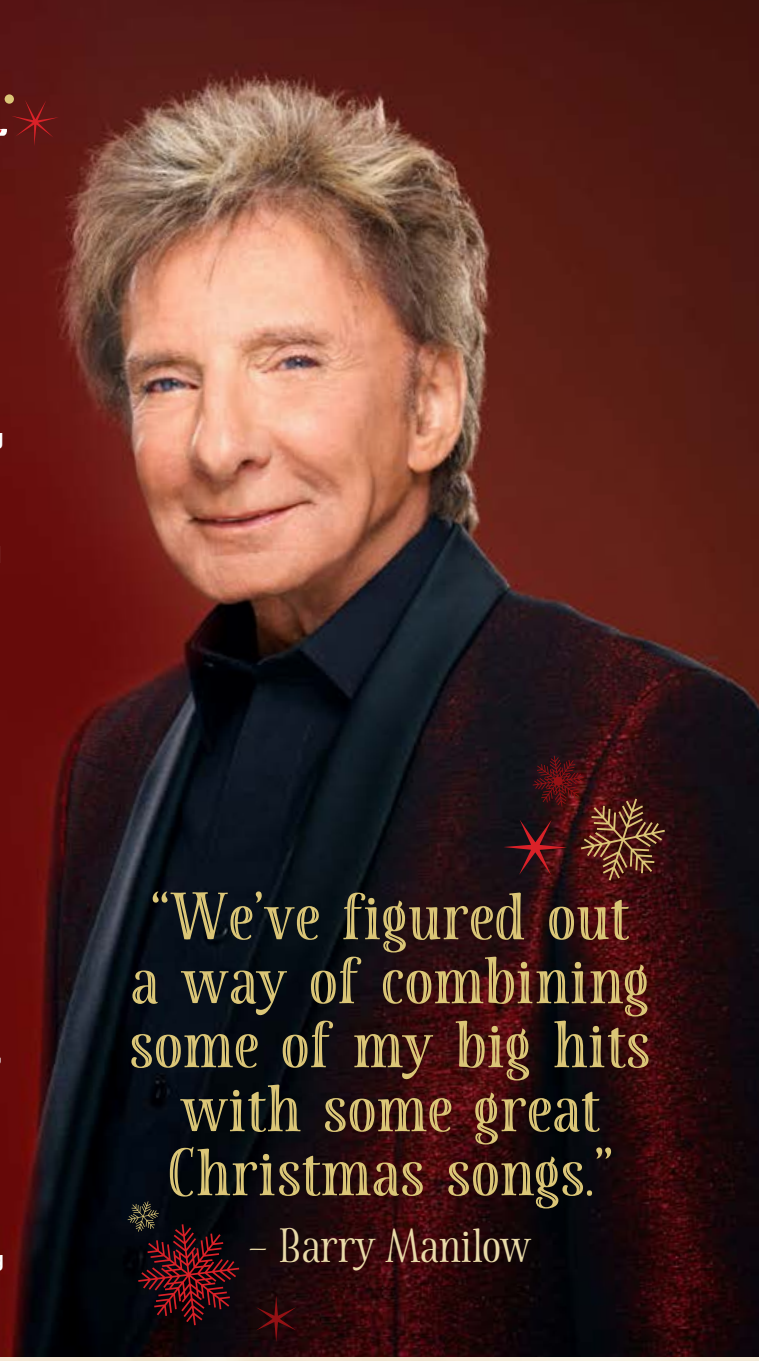
Manilow also completed a sold-out run at Radio City Music Hall, and his years-in-the-making musical, *Harmony*, opened on Broadway in November. Now he and his 24-piece band are joining NBC and TV fans across the country to celebrate the holidays with this special concert performance. Manilow will perform his classics; just name a tune — "Looks Like We Made It," "Mandy," "I Write the Songs," "Can't Smile Without You," "Copacabana" — and chances are you know those memorable lyrics. He'll also perform several holiday favorites including "Jingle Bells," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Feliz Navidad" and "White Christmas."

"What I'm crazy about most of all is we've figured out a way of combining some of my big hits with some great Christmas songs," Manilow shares. "It feels like a great Christmas hour, but it's not just all Christmas songs. And, of course, the set is gorgeous."

Manilow, who has never taken any of his success for granted, is still touched by the millions of "Fanilows" who flock to see him.

"I've been doing this for a long time and I'm always ready for the whole thing to fall apart any day," he laughs. "Every night before I go out on the stage, I say to Ken, my stage manager, 'Anybody out there?' And I mean it. ... It's just an amazing ride that I've had because of [my fans]."

And the ride is far from over. Manilow has no plans of slowing down. "I like working. ... I have no intention of stopping." And that is music to our ears. — *Barb Oates*



"We've figured out a way of combining some of my big hits with some great Christmas songs."

– Barry Manilow

More Holiday Highlights!

CMA Country Christmas

Thursday, Dec. 14
on ABC

Filmed in Nashville in front of a live audience, the 14th annual CMA Country Christmas will feature one-of-a-kind musical performances of festive classics from country music's biggest stars.

iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2023

Thursday, Dec. 21
on ABC

Once again iHeartRadio will celebrate the season with performances by this year's biggest artists captured during their nationwide tour.

Disney Parks Magical Christmas Day Parade

Monday, Dec. 25
on ABC

Disney's annual celebration returns Christmas morning with endearing stories and magical celebrity performances as the parade celebrates its 40th year.

Hallmark Movies & Music

In addition to all-new movies every Friday, Saturday and Sunday on Hallmark Channel, and every Thursday on Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, the network has teamed with some top recording artists. Hallmark Movies & Mysteries' *Heaven Down Here* (Thursday, Dec. 14) is inspired by country star Mickey Guyton's song of the same name, which is featured in the film. Former *American Idol* contestant Grace Leer performs her original song "Star on Top of the Tree" and stars in *Time for Her to Come Home for Christmas* (Thursday, Nov. 30 & Saturday, Dec. 2, also on HMM), the sixth installment of the network's popular franchise executive produced by Blake Shelton.

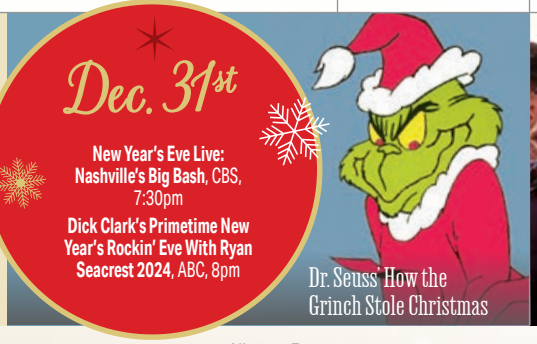
Barry Manilow's A Very Barry Christmas: © 2023 NBCUniversal Media, LLC. Credit: Martin Schoeller/NBC

December's Best Holiday Programming

There's plenty more holiday programming available; look for the present icon in your daily programming listings.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 **Richie Rich's Christmas Wish**, Freeform, 9am **Dr. Seuss' The Grinch (2018)**, Freeform, 5pm **Home Alone**, Freeform, 7pm **My Norwegian Holiday**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **Christmas Catch**, UPtv, 8pm	**2** **Bonanza: "A Christmas Story,"** MeTV, 2pm **The Santa Clause 2**, Freeform, 4:15pm **A Not So Royal Christmas**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **Ladies of the '80s: A Divas Christmas**, Lifetime, 8pm **A Christmas Story Christmas**, TBS, 10pm
3 **Last Christmas**, FX, 10am **The Nightmare Before Christmas**, Freeform, 2:50pm **Yuletide the Knot**, UPtv, 7pm **Christmas With a Kiss**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **Mistletoe Match**, Lifetime, 8pm **Office Christmas Party**, TBS, 10:45pm	**4** **Prep & Landing: Naughty vs. Nice**, Freeform, 10:30am **'Twas the Night Before Christmas**, AMC, 4:45pm **Noelle**, Freeform, 8:55pm **Elf**, AMC, 9pm **Barmageddon: "Blake Shelton's Holiday Bartacular Featuring Ice T,"** NBC, 10pm	**5** **Holiday in Handcuffs**, Freeform, 7am **The Polar Express**, AMC, 4pm **Christmas Lucky Charm**, UPtv, 6pm **Daddy's Home 2**, FX, 8pm **TMZ's Merry Elfin' Christmas**, FOX, 9pm	**6** **Gremlins**, AMC, 10:30am **The Santa Clause**, Freeform, 4:15pm **Jack Frost**, AMC, 5:30pm **Second Chance Christmas**, UPtv, 6pm **The Santa Clause 2**, Freeform, 6:25pm	**7** **Love the Coopers**, Freeform, 12:35pm **Happy Christmas**, AMC, 2:15pm **To All a Good Night**, Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 8pm **Silent Night, Fatal Night**, LMN, 8pm **Christmas at the Opry**, NBC, 8pm	**8** **Eight Crazy Nights**, AMC, 10:15am **Home Alone 2: Lost in New York**, Freeform, 1pm **The Price Is Right at Night Christmas Week: "Holiday Heroes,"** CBS, 8pm **Magic in Mistletoe**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **Frozen**, Freeform, 8:20pm	**9** **Santa Claus: The Movie**, AMC, 6am **Dr. Seuss' The Grinch (2018)**, Freeform, 1:05pm **Byron Allen Presents a Merry Soulful Christmas**, CBS, 8pm **Christmas on Cherry Lane**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **A Cowboy Christmas Romance**, Lifetime, 8pm **Trolls Holiday in Harmony**, NBC, 8:30pm
10 **A Very Brady Christmas**, MeTV, 6pm **Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer**, The CW, 7pm **Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas**, TBS, 7pm **Round and Round**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **Yes, Chef! Christmas**, Lifetime, 8pm	**11** **Snowglobe**, Freeform, 7am **Richie Rich's Christmas Wish**, Freeform, 1:05pm **The Polar Express**, AMC, 4pm **The Christmas Chalet**, UPtv, 8pm **Barry Manilow's A Very Barry Christmas**, NBC, 10pm	**12** **Life-Size 2: A Christmas Eve**, Freeform, 7am **White Christmas**, AMC, 2pm **Christmas in Paris**, UPtv, 6pm **Season of Light: Christmas With the Tabernacle Choir**, PBS, 8pm **Godmothered**, Freeform, 8:30pm	**13** **12 Dates of Christmas**, FX, 9:30am **Miracle on 34th Street (1994)**, Freeform, 1:30pm **Four Christmases**, AMC, 6pm **Christmas in the Rockies**, UPtv, 6pm **Three Wise Men and a Baby**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm	**14** **Fred Claus**, AMC, 12:30pm **The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause**, Freeform, 3:05pm **CMA Country Christmas**, ABC, 8pm **Heaven Down Here**, Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 8pm **The Nightmare Before Christmas**, Freeform, 9:20pm	**15** **Kung Fu Panda Holiday**, Freeform, 7am **Home Alone**, Freeform, 3:30pm **National Christmas Tree Lighting**, CBS, 8pm **The 91st Annual Hollywood Christmas Parade**, The CW, 8pm **The Secret Gift of Christmas**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm	**16** **A Bad Moms Christmas**, USA Network, 4:30pm **Sealed With a List**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **The Holiday Proposal Plan**, Lifetime, 8pm **Frosty Returns**, CBS, 9:30pm **A Christmas Intern**, Lifetime, 10pm
17 **Haul Out the Holly**, Hallmark Channel, 12pm **Dial S for Santa**, UPtv, 7pm **Friends & Family Christmas**, Hallmark Channel, 8pm **Merry Magic Christmas**, Lifetime, 8pm **It Happened on Fifth Avenue**, TCM, 11pm	**18** **"Family Guy" Holiday Episodes**, Freeform, 10:30am **A Christmas Carol (1938)**, TCM, 6:45pm **A Christmas Story**, TNT, 7:45pm **Elf**, AMC, 8pm **8-Bit Christmas**, TNT, 9:45pm	**19** **A Christmas Story 2**, AMC, 9am **Disney's A Christmas Carol (2009)**, Freeform, 10:30am **A Tiny Home Christmas**, UPtv, 1pm **On Moonlight Bay**, TCM, 2pm **The Bells of St. Mary's**, TCM, 10:15pm	**20** **Miracle on Main Street**, TCM, 10:30am **National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation**, AMC, 5:45pm **Christmas in Connecticut**, TCM, 6pm **Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer**, Freeform, 8:15pm **Frosty the Snowman**, Freeform, 9:20pm	**21** **The Search for Santa Paws**, Freeform, 11:30am **You've Got Mail**, AMC, 3:30pm **iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2023**, ABC, 8pm **Miracle in Bethlehem, PA**, Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, 8pm **Meet Me in St. Louis**, TCM, 8pm	**22** **Carol for Another Christmas**, TCM, 2pm **The 25th Annual A Home for the Holidays**, CBS, 8pm **Fit for Christmas**, CBS, 9pm **Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer**, The CW, 9pm **An Affair to Remember**, TCM, 10pm	**23** **"The Simpsons" Holiday Episodes**, Freeform, 7am **Bell, Book and Candle**, TCM, 3:30pm **Mom's Christmas Boyfriend**, Lifetime, 8pm **Deck the Halls**, TBS, 8pm **The Shop Around the Corner**, TCM, 8pm **Christmas Revisited**, OWN, 9pm
24 **Christmas With "Friends" Marathon**, TBS, beginning at 8am **A Christmas Letter**, UPtv, 7pm **Home Alone**, ABC, 8pm **It's a Wonderful Life**, NBC, 8pm **24 Hours of "A Christmas Story,"** TBS & TNT, beginning at 8pm	**25** **Disney Parks Magical Christmas Day Parade**, ABC, 10am **Holiday Affair**, TCM, 11:45am **Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town**, Freeform, 5pm **The Waltons' Homecoming**, The CW, 8pm **National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation**, AMC, 8:15pm **Mariah Carey: Merry Christmas to All!**, CBS, 9pm	**Dec. 31st** **New Year's Eve Live: Nashville's Big Bash**, CBS, 7:30pm **Dick Clark's Primetime New Year's Rockin' Eve With Ryan Seacrest 2024**, ABC, 8pm				





It's A Wonderful Life: Courtesy Everett Collection A Christmas Story: Courtesy Everett Collection Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas: © TBS

THE TOP 10

A QUICK RUNDOWN OF WHAT TO WATCH THIS MONTH



The UnBelievable With Dan Aykroyd: Credit: Luis Mora/The HISTORY Channel Willie Nelson: © 2013 Frederick Breedon IV/Getty Images for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

1 THE UNBELIEVABLE WITH DAN AYKROYD

Fridays beginning Dec. 1 on HISTORY

NEW SERIES!

Can a human spontaneously combust? Did a river of beer once flood the streets of London and kill five mourners at an Irish wake? Hosted by award-winning actor and producer Dan Aykroyd, this new docuseries will explore some of the world's most bizarre real-life occurrences. From the Dancing Plague of 1518 to the Great Molasses Flood to a falling poodle responsible for three deaths in Argentina, Aykroyd will investigate and uncover some of the most odd, mysterious — and disturbing — events throughout history.

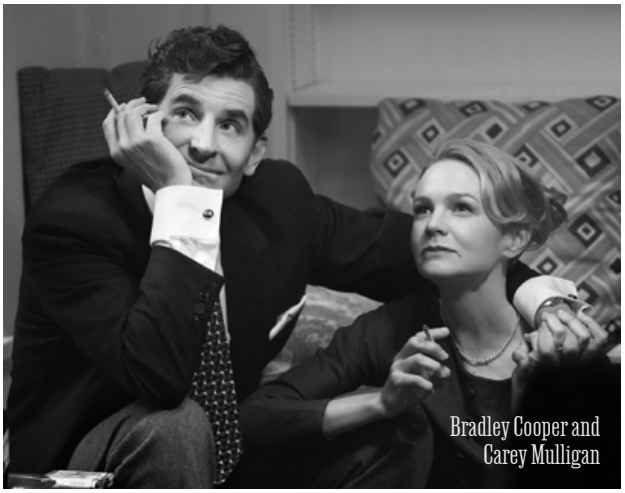
"In my life's journey, I have found that everyone loves logic-defying stories. And, in this series, we will be laying out a range of the most unusual tales ever known," said Aykroyd. "As a longtime, avid watcher of the History Channel, I am excited to partner with their superb research staff and excellent program makers to present human history's 100% true, jaw-dropping mindblowers."



2 WILLIE NELSON'S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, Dec. 17 on CBS

Country music icon Willie Nelson turned 90 years old in April, and some of the world's biggest stars came together for a two-night, sold-out concert celebration at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles. This two-hour concert special features Nelson performing in unforgettable collaborations and sharing the stage with guest artists Beck, Gary Clark Jr., Sheryl Crow, Snoop Dogg, Norah Jones, Miranda Lambert, Dave Matthews, Keith Richards, George Strait, Chris Stapleton, and Nelson's sons Lukas and Micah. Jennifer Garner, Chelsea Handler, Woody Harrelson, Ethan Hawke, Helen Mirren and Owen Wilson host.


Bradley Cooper and Carey Mulligan

3 MAESTRO

Wednesday, Dec. 20 on NETFLIX

FEATURE FILM EXCLUSIVE!

Bradley Cooper cowrote (with Josh Singer), produced, directed and stars as legendary conductor/composer Leonard Bernstein in this biopic. Described as "a love letter to life and art" and "an emotionally epic portrayal of family and love," *Maestro* chronicles the lifelong relationship between Bernstein and actress Felicia Montealegre Cohn Bernstein (portrayed by Carey Mulligan). Among the other musical luminaries depicted in the drama are David Oppenheim (played by Matt Bomer), Jerome Robbins (Michael Urie) and Aaron Copeland (Brian Klugman). Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese also produce the movie, which premiered at the Venice International Film Festival in September and had a limited theatrical release in late November.



4 ARCHER: INTO THE COLD

Sunday, Dec. 17 on FX & FXX

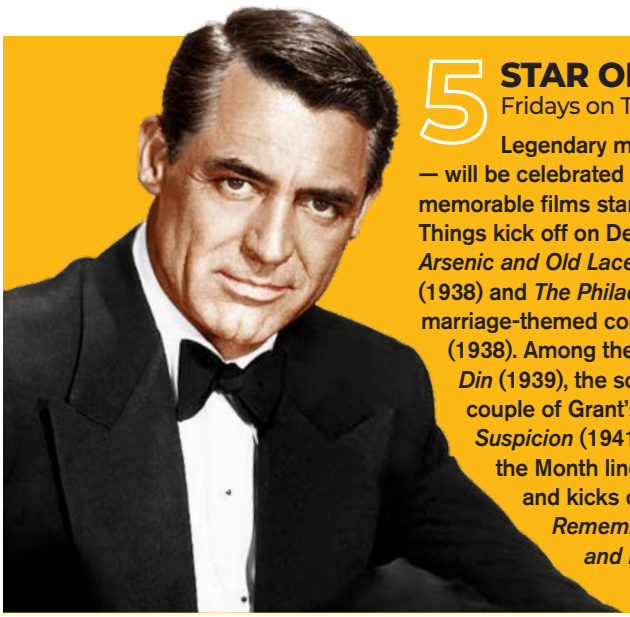
SERIES FINALE!

Surprise! *Archer*'s not done yet! Spy Sterling Archer (voice of H. Jon Benjamin) has one more mission to accomplish in what FX is calling a supersized finale event.

Fans will be happy the series won't end on the cliffhanger from October's "Breaking Fabian" episode, in which Archer and company evaded waves of assassin drones and saved the secretary-general of the United Nations. Still, the U.N. declared that all independent spy organizations are illegal and have 30 days to disband.

A teaser poster for the 90-minute *Archer: Into the Cold* hinted at the return of Christian Slater as the voice of CIA liaison Slater. Also back after a long absence is Ona Grauer voicing Archer's ex-fiancée and current cyborg Katya Kazanova, who last appeared in Season 6. Katya ran off with Archer's archnemesis, Barry Dylan (David Willis), and became head of the KGB in Season 4.

The *Archer* voice cast also features Aisha Tyler, Judy Greer, Chris Parnell, Amber Nash, Adam Reed, Lucky Yates and Natalie Dew. — *Ryan A. Berenz*



5 STAR OF THE MONTH: CARY GRANT

Fridays on TCM

Legendary movie star Archibald Leach — better known as Cary Grant — will be celebrated each Friday on Turner Classic Movies with a lineup of memorable films starring the suave, sophisticated, stylish and witty icon. Things kick off on Dec. 1 with eight notable Grant-led comedies including *Arsenic and Old Lace* (1944), *Sylvia Scarlett* (1935), *Bringing Up Baby* (1938) and *The Philadelphia Story* (1940). On Dec. 8, enjoy Grant in several marriage-themed comedies, including *My Favorite Wife* (1940) and *Holiday* (1938). Among the highlights on Dec. 15 are the action classic *Gunga Din* (1939), the screwball comedy favorite *His Girl Friday* (1940), and a couple of Grant's notable collaborations with director Alfred Hitchcock: *Suspicion* (1941) and *North by Northwest* (1959). On Dec. 22, the Star of the Month lineup airs as part of TCM's weeklong Christmas marathon and kicks off with *The Bishop's Wife* (1947) and *An Affair to Remember* (1957). Finally, on Dec. 29, the lineup features *Night and Day* (1946), *Father Goose* (1964) and *Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House* (1948), among other titles.

Archer: Into the Cold: Credit: FX Networks Cary Grant: Courtesy Everett Collection Maestro: © 2023 Netflix, Inc. Credit: Jason McDonald



Mahershala Ali, Myha'la, Julia Roberts and Ethan Hawke

6 LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND

Friday, Dec. 8 on NETFLIX

FEATURE FILM EXCLUSIVE!

Sam Esmail (*Mr. Robot*) wrote, produced and directed this apocalyptic psychological thriller led by Julia Roberts, Ethan Hawke, Mahershala Ali and Myha'la. Roberts and Hawke play a couple who rent a luxurious home for the weekend with their son and daughter (Charlie Evans and Farrah Mackenzie). But their vacation is soon upended when two strangers — a man (Ali) and his daughter (Myha'la) — arrive in the night, bearing news of a mysterious cyberattack and seeking refuge in the house that they claim is theirs. The two families reckon with a looming disaster that grows more terrifying by the minute, forcing everyone to come to terms with their places in a collapsing world. Kevin Bacon also stars in the film, which had a limited theatrical release in late November.



7 SCIENCE FAIR: THE SERIES

Sunday, Dec. 10 on NAT GEO

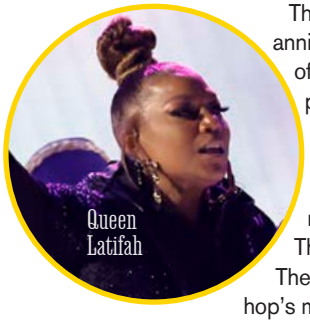
NEW SERIES!

This inspiring, character-driven coming-of-age series is based on the 2018 Sundance Film Festival favorite and SXSW Award-winning documentary *Science Fair*. It showcases students working to solve the world's most complex and pressing issues — from teen suicide prevention to high-efficiency alternatives to induction motors and more — while competing for a coveted spot at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), the most competitive science fair on the planet. The series follows not only the competing students but also the families and teachers — including *Science Fair* fan-favorite Dr. Serena McCalla — who support and push them along the way.

Leave the World Behind: © 2023 Netflix. Credit: JoJo Whilden Science Fair: The Series: © National Geographic

8 A GRAMMY SALUTE TO 50 YEARS OF HIP-HOP

Sunday, Dec. 10 on CBS


Queen Latifah

The yearlong 50th anniversary celebration of America's most popular music genre winds down with this star-studded concert special recorded last month at the YouTube Theater in Los Angeles. The event showcases hip-hop's monumental cultural impact and brings together influential artists from the past and present, including an onstage reunion of DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince (Will Smith).

Performers (as of presstime) are Arrested Development, Big Daddy Kane, Black Sheep, Black Thought, Bun B, Common, Cypress Hill, De La Soul, Digable Planets, DJ Quik, E-40, GloRilla, Gunna, Jeezy, Jermaine Dupri, J.J. Fad, Juvenile, the Lady of Rage, Latto, LL Cool J, Luniz, MC Lyte, MC Sha-Rock, Monie Love, the Pharcyde, Queen Latifah, Questlove, Rakim, Remy Ma, Roxanne Shanté, Spinderella, Talib Kweli, Three 6 Mafia, T.I., Too $hort, 2 Chainz, Uncle Luke, Warren G, YG and Yo-Yo.

9 THE 46TH KENNEDY CENTER HONORS

Wednesday, Dec. 27 on CBS

Gloria Estefan returns to host this annual national celebration of achievement in the arts held in Washington, D.C. The five honorees are actor and comedian Billy Crystal; acclaimed soprano Renée Fleming; British singer-songwriter Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees; rapper, singer and actress Queen Latifah; and singer Dionne Warwick. "It's hard to be proud and humble at the same time," Gibb says. "It is one of the most special moments in my life and something that I will always cherish. When I think back over 50 years to our beginnings in Redcliffe, Queensland, I could never have expected this to happen in my life."


The Bee Gees

Queen Latifah: Credit: Kevin Winter/Getty Images for The Recording Academy Michael Penix Jr.: Credit: Christian Petersen/Getty Images The Bee Gees: © Michael Ochs Archives/Getty Images


Heisman hopeful Michael Penix Jr. leads the high-powered Washington Huskies offense

10 COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Playoff Selection Show, Sunday, Dec. 3 on ESPN
Heisman Trophy Presentation, Saturday, Dec. 9 on ESPN

The four-team College Football Playoff (CFP), which began with the 2014-15 season, will soon have its swan song. The CFP will expand to 12 teams in 2024, though the exact format is unclear after the summer's upheaval among the Power 5 conferences.

The Pac-12 will hold what is likely to be its final football championship game Dec. 1 in Las Vegas, after 10 of its 12 member schools finalized plans to switch leagues in 2024. USC, UCLA, Washington and Oregon join the Big Ten; Cal and Stanford enter the ACC; and Arizona, Arizona State, Colorado and Utah are bound for the Big 12. With only Oregon State and Washington State remaining (at the time of this writing, anyway), the Pac-12's future looks bleak.

Conference championship games take place Dec. 1-2, and the final CFP rankings are released Dec. 3 on ESPN. The two-time defending champion Georgia Bulldogs should be back in the top four, with Michigan, Ohio State, Florida State, Washington, Texas, Oregon and Alabama rounding out the list of CFP hopefuls.

The Heisman Trophy is presented to the season's most outstanding player in a ceremony Dec. 9 on ESPN. Washington QB Michael Penix Jr. is the odds-on favorite, and other potential invitees (all quarterbacks) include Oklahoma's Dillon Gabriel, Michigan's J.J. McCarthy, Oregon's Bo Nix, Florida State's Jordan Travis and LSU's Jayden Daniels.

Bowl games — including the charmingly named LA Bowl Hosted by Gronk — kick off Dec. 16. The Rose Bowl and the Allstate Sugar Bowl serve as the CFP Semifinal games on New Year's Day. The national championship is decided Jan. 8 at NRG Stadium in Houston.

College Football Highlights

Dec. 29 — Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic, ESPN

Dec. 30 — Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl, ESPN
Capital One Orange Bowl, ESPN

Jan. 1 — Cheez-It Citrus Bowl, ABC

College Football Playoff

Jan. 1 — Semifinal: Rose Bowl, ESPN
Semifinal: Allstate Sugar Bowl, ESPN

Jan. 8 — National Championship, ESPN

NETFLIX

Website: netflix.com

Subscription Cost: Standard with ads $6.99/month (can watch on two devices at a time), Standard $15.49/month (two devices at a time), Premium $19.99/month (four devices at a time).

ORIGINAL SERIES



The Crown

Season 6, Part 2
Available Dec. 14

In the final six episodes of this acclaimed drama about the British royal family during Queen Elizabeth II's (Imelda Staunton) reign, Elizabeth reflects on her time as queen and looks ahead to a time when her successors will take the throne. There will also be royal wedding bells for Prince Charles (Dominic West) and Camilla (Olivia Williams), as well as a budding university romance between Prince William (Ed McVey) and Kate Middleton (Meg Bellamy).



Blood Coast

Available Dec. 6

In this French action drama, a group of policemen with particular methods track down a dangerous criminal to prevent Marseille from a bloodbath.

Under Pressure: The U.S. Women's World Cup Team

Available Dec. 12

This all-access sports series allows audiences to intimately follow and get an inside look at the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team's players and coaches. Viewers will get a firsthand look at the pressure, the euphoria, the joy and the hardships that these world-class athletes experience as they strive to capture their third World Cup title in a row.



Berlin

Available Dec. 29

This latest entry in the *Money Heist* franchise is centered around the character Berlin (Pedro Alonso) and takes place long before he found out about his terminal diagnosis and took the Royal Mint of Spain hostage in the original series. This spinoff follows him in his earlier, golden period as he attempts one of his most extraordinary heists, stealing $44 million worth of jewels. To pull this off, he enlists the help of some savvy criminals: Keila (Michelle Jenner), a cybersecurity mastermind; Damián (Tristán Ulloa), an academic and Berlin's close friend; Cameron (Begoña Vargas), a loose cannon who lives life on the edge; Roi (Julio Peña), a locksmith and Berlin's faithful sidekick; and Bruce (Joel Sánchez), who is fluent in gadgets and weaponry.



Analog Squad

Available Dec. 7

This family-oriented series from Thailand is set in the late '90s, when people worried about the Y2K bug, mobile phones were meant only for calling and Google was not yet a verb. Nopachai "Peter" Jayanama plays Pond, a middle-aged man who recruits various people to form a makeshift family to be with him at his estranged father's deathbed to make his dad proud one last time. Along the way, the four learn what it means to be a family.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARIES

Kevin Hart & Chris Rock: Headliners Only

Available Dec. 12

From back in the day to the top of their game, comedians/actors Kevin Hart and Chris Rock offer an unparalleled behind-the-scenes look at their friendship and careers.



Face to Face With ETA: Conversations With a Terrorist

Available Dec. 15

This documentary presents an exclusive interview with one of the key figures in ETA, a former Basque separatist group in Spain: Josu Urrutikoetxea, also known as Josu Ternera. Hosted by Jordi Évole (pictured), the film looks at the terrorist group and some of its more significant moments prior its dissolution in 2018.

The Crown: © 2023 Netflix, Inc. Credit: Justin Downing Blood Coast: © 2023 Netflix, Inc. Credit: Laurent Le Crabe Berlin: © 2022 Netflix, Inc. Credit: Tamara Arranz Analog Squad: © 2023 Netflix, Inc. Credit: Tanakit Petchpradab Face to Face With ETA: Conversations With a Terrorist: Credit: Netflix

ORIGINAL FILMS



The Archies

Available Dec. 7

Based on the *Archie* comic books, this live-action Hindi-language musical is set in 1960s India. The story features iconic characters like Archie (Agastya Nanda), Veronica (Suhana Khan), Betty (Khushi Kapoor), Jughead (Mihir Ahuja) and Reggie (Vedang Raina) at its center, and promises to be a "musical experience bursting with youth, rebellion, friendship, first loves and everything young adult, [yet also] something for every generation."



Chicken Run: Dawn of the Nugget

Available Dec. 15

This film is a sequel to 2000's *Chicken Run*, the highest-grossing stop-motion animated film of all time. Having pulled off a death-defying escape from Tweedy's farm, Ginger (voice of Thandiwe Newton) has finally found her dream — a peaceful island sanctuary for the whole flock, far from the dangers of the human world. When she and Rocky (Zachary Levi) hatch a little girl they name Molly (Bella Ramsey), Ginger's happy ending seems complete. But back on the mainland the whole of chicken-kind faces a new and terrible threat. For Ginger and her team, even if it means putting their own hard-won freedom at risk — this time, they're breaking in.



Rebel Moon — Part One: A Child of Fire

Available Dec. 22

Zack Snyder (*Man of Steel*) cowrote and directed this epic science-fantasy event. When a peaceful settlement on a moon in the furthest reaches of the universe finds itself threatened by the armies of the tyrannical Regent Balisarius (Fra Fee), Kora (Sofia Boutella), a mysterious stranger living among the villagers, becomes their best hope for survival. Tasked with finding trained fighters who will unite with her in making an impossible stand against the Motherworld, Kora assembles a small band of warriors — outsiders, insurgents, peasants and orphans of war — from different worlds who share a common need for redemption and revenge. As the shadow of an entire Realm bears down on the unlikeliest of moons, a new army of heroes is formed. Djimon Hounsou, Charlie Hunnam and Michiel Huisman also star.

FEATURE FILM EXCLUSIVES



May December

Available Dec. 1

Todd Haynes directed this drama that explores human beings' colossal refusal to look at ourselves. After their relationship ignited a tabloid saga two decades ago, Gracie (Julianne Moore) and Joe (Charles Melton) now lead a seemingly perfect suburban life. Their domestic bliss is disrupted when Elizabeth (Natalie Portman), a famous television actress, arrives in their tight-knit community to research her upcoming role as Gracie. As Elizabeth ingratiates herself into the everyday lives of Gracie and Joe, the uncomfortable facts of their scandal unfurl, causing long-dormant emotions to resurface.



Leave the World Behind

Available Dec. 8

Julia Roberts, Ethan Hawke, Mahershala Ali and Myha'la lead this apocalyptic psychological thriller from Sam Esmail (*Mr. Robot*). A family's vacation in a luxurious rental home is upended when two strangers arrive at night, seeking refuge from a cyberattack that grows more terrifying by the minute, forcing everyone to come to terms with their places in a collapsing world. Kevin Bacon costars.



Maestro

Available Dec. 20

Bradley Cooper cowrote, produced, directed and stars as legendary conductor/composer Leonard Bernstein in this biographical drama. Described as "a love letter to life and art" and "an emotionally epic portrayal of family and love," *Maestro*, which includes Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese as producers, chronicles the lifelong relationship between Bernstein and actress Felicia Montealegre Cohn Bernstein (portrayed by Carey Mulligan). The cast also includes Matt Bomer, Sarah Silverman, Maya Hawke and Michael Urie.

The Archies: © ManpreetSinghVirk/Netflix Chicken Run: Dawn of the Nugget: © 2023 Netflix, Inc. Rebel Moon: Part One: A Child of Fire: © 2023 NETFLIX. Credit: Clay Enos May December: Credit: Netflix/Francois Duhamel Leave the World Behind: © 2023 Netflix. Credit: JoJo Whilden Maestro: © 2023 Netflix, Inc. Credit: Jason McDonald

prime video

Website: amazon.com/primevideo

Subscription Cost: Amazon Prime is $14.99/month, $139/year. Prime Video is $8.99/month; 30-day free trial.

ORIGINAL FILMS



Candy Cane Lane

Available Dec. 1

Eddie Murphy leads this holiday comedy adventure as Chris, a man on a mission to win his neighborhood's annual Christmas home decoration contest. After Chris inadvertently makes a deal with a mischievous elf named Pepper (Jillian Bell) to better his chances of winning, she casts a magic spell that brings the 12 Days of Christmas to life and wreaks havoc on the whole town. Chris, his wife, Carol (Tracee Ellis Ross), and their three children must race against the clock to break Pepper's spell.



Merry Little Batman

Available Dec. 8

In this animated family action comedy based on the DC Comics characters, young Damian Wayne (voice of Yonas Kibreab) finds himself alone in Wayne Manor on Christmas Eve and must transform into "Little Batman" to defend his home and Gotham City from the crooks and supervillains intent on destroying the holidays.



Your Christmas or Mine 2

Available Dec. 8

This sequel to the 2022 holiday rom-com *Your Christmas or Mine?* finds James (Asa Butterfield) and Hayley's (Cora Kirk) relationship again put to the test by another turbulent family Christmas. James' father (Alex Jennings) invites the Taylors to spend Christmas at a luxury ski resort in the Austrian Alps so they can meet his new American girlfriend. However, Hayley's dad (Daniel Mays) insists on handling his family's side of the booking, and something clearly gets lost in translation. Eventually, the two tribes end up at each other's accommodations.

ORIGINAL SERIES

Coach Prime

First Two Season 2 Episodes Available Dec. 7; New Episodes Thursdays

The six episodes of this docuseries' new season take fans inside Deion "Coach Prime" Sanders' University of Colorado Boulder football program.

Reacher

First Three Season 2 Episodes Available Dec. 15; New Episodes Fridays

Alan Ritchson returns as veteran military police investigator Jack Reacher in the eight-episode new season of this action series based on Lee Child's 11th Reacher novel, *Bad Luck and Trouble*.

freevee

Website: amazon.com/freevee

Subscription Cost: Amazon Freevee is Amazon's free, ad-supported streaming service.

ORIGINAL SERIES



Pretty Hard Cases

Season 3 (Final Season) Available Nov. 29

As this Canadian police comedy/drama returns, Detectives Samantha Wazowski (Meredith MacNeill) and Kelly Duff (Adrienne C. Moore) finally reunite as partners in Guns and Gangs after eight long months apart. They will need to work hard to prove to their new commander that they are worthy of their department's top cases.

britbox

Website: britbox.com/us

Subscription Cost: Free seven-day trial, then $8.99/month or $89.99/year.

ORIGINAL SERIES



Archie

Available Dec. 7

Jason Isaacs plays legendary actor Archibald Leach — better known as Cary Grant — in this four-part dramatization of Grant's life. The series intercuts scenes of Grant rising from a troubled childhood in extreme poverty in Bristol, England, with scenes in 1961, when he was at the height of his fame on the big screen but desperately unhappy in his private life. Other Hollywood legends depicted in the series include Laura Aikman as Dylan Cannon, Christian Lees as George Burns, Alexandra Guelff as Doris Day, Stella Stocker as Audrey Hepburn and Lolly Jones as Mae West.

Candy Cane Lane: Credit: Prime Video Merry Little Batman: Credit: Prime Video Your Christmas or Mine 2: © The Story Collective/Amazon Studios. Credit: Colin Hutton Pretty Hard Cases: © 2023, PHC Season 3 Inc. Credit: Keri Anderson Archie: © ITV Studios/Matt Squire

Website: disneyplus.com

Subscription Cost: Disney+ Basic: $7.99/month (With Ads); Disney+ Premium: $13.99/month or $139.99/year (No Ads).

ORIGINAL SERIES



Percy Jackson and the Olympians

First Two Episodes Available Dec. 20; New Episodes Wednesdays

This series based on Rick Riordan's bestselling young adult novels tells the fantastical story of 12-year-old modern demigod Percy Jackson (Walker Scobell), who is just coming to terms with his newfound divine powers when the sky god, Zeus (Lance Reddick, who passed away earlier this year), accuses him of stealing his master lightning bolt. With help from his friends Grover (Aryan Simhadri) and Annabeth (Leah Sava Jeffries), Percy must embark on an adventure of a lifetime to find the bolt and restore order to Olympus. Notable guest stars include Lin-Manuel Miranda as Hermes, Megan Mullally as Alecto (aka Mrs. Dodds), Toby Stephens as Poseidon and Glynn Turman as Chiron (aka Mr. Brunner).

ORIGINAL FILMS



The Naughty Nine

Available Nov. 23

Mischievous fifth grader Andy (Winslow Fegley) finds himself without a present from Santa (Danny Glover) on Christmas morning. Realizing he must have landed on the naughty list and feeling unfairly maligned, Andy pulls together a team of eight other "naughty listers" to help him pull off an elaborate heist in Santa's village at the North Pole to get the presents they feel they deserve.

The Shepherd

Available Dec. 1

This short film follows a young Royal Air Force pilot (Ben Radcliffe) who is flying home across the North Sea on Christmas Eve in 1957 when he finds himself in peril. Just when it appears his luck is about to run out, a mysterious good Samaritan (John Travolta, who is also an executive producer) guides him to safety.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Christmas: Cabin Fever

Available Dec. 8

In this latest animated movie based on Jeff Kinney's popular children's book series, the winter holidays are turning out to be particularly stressful for Greg Heffley (voice of Wesley Kimmel) — especially when he gets snowed in with his family, including grumpy older brother Rodrick (Hunter Dillon) and annoying younger brother Manny (Gracen Newton).

FEATURE FILM EXCLUSIVE



Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny

Available Dec. 1

Harrison Ford returns for his final outing as adventurous archaeologist Indiana Jones in this story set in 1969 that finds Indy racing against time to retrieve a legendary artifact that can change the course of history. Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Mads Mikkelsen, Antonio Banderas, John Rhys-Davies and Toby Jones costar. Debuting simultaneously on Disney+ is the feature-length documentary *Timeless Heroes*.

hulu

Website: hulu.com

Subscription Cost: Limited commercials $7.99/month or $79.99/year, commercial-free $17.99/month, Live (plus library with limited commercials) $76.99/month, Live (commercial-free library) $89.99/month. Free trial available.

ORIGINAL SERIES



Culprits

Available Dec. 8

Based on the story collection *Culprits: The Heist Was Only the Beginning*, this thriller series reunites the crew of a heist years after a job in London went haywire when a masked assassin is tracking them down one by one. Starring Kirby, Ned Dennehy and Nathan Stewart-Jarrett.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARY

We Live Here: The Midwest

Available Dec. 6

This documentary follows various LGBTQ+ residents of the Midwest who face discrimination in their communities.

RETURNING SERIES

Letterkenny – Season 12 Available Dec. 26

Percy Jackson and the Olympians Credit: Disney+ The Naughty Nine: © 2022 Disney. All rights reserved. Credit: Jonathan Wenk Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny: © 2023 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM. All Rights Reserved. Culprits Credit: Disney+

tv+

Website: tv.apple.com

Subscription Cost: $9.99/month, after a seven-day free trial.

ORIGINAL FILM



The Family Plan
Available Dec. 15
Devoted family man and former assassin Dan Morgan (Mark Wahlberg) is forced to take his unsuspecting family on a road trip when his past catches up with him in this new action/comedy costarring Michelle Monaghan and Ciarán Hinds.

ORIGINAL SPECIAL



The Velveteen Rabbit
Available Now
Based on the beloved children's book by Margery Williams, this family drama follows a 7-year-old boy named William who receives a new favorite toy for Christmas and discovers a lifelong friend.

RETURNING SERIES

Slow Horses – First Two Season 3 Episodes Available Nov. 29; New Episodes Wednesdays

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING



A Charlie Brown Christmas
Available Dec. 16-17
This beloved *Peanuts* special in which Charlie Brown becomes the director of their holiday play will be available for all viewers during the weekend.



The Snoopy Show Christmas Special
Available Dec. 1
Snoopy searches for the perfect tree topper, Woodstock gets trapped in a window display and more in this special Christmas episode called "Happiness Is Holiday Traditions."



Frog and Toad Christmas Special
Available Dec. 1
A special Christmas episode of *Frog and Toad*, based on the Arnold Lobel book series, centers around a last-minute errand into town that sidetracks Frog and jeopardizes their winter holiday plans.

Shape Island Winter Special
Available Dec. 1
The highly acclaimed stop-motion kids series based on the Mac Barnett picture books returns with a new holiday special called "The Winter Blues," in which the chilly season has left Square feeling sad so Circle and Triangle try to cheer him up.

Sago Mini Friends New Year's Eve Special
Available Dec. 22
In this holiday episode of *Sago Mino Friends*, titled "New Year's Steve," Harvey makes a wish to stay awake until midnight and a firefly kickstarts a scavenger hunt for the crew.

BET+

Website: bet.plus

Subscription Cost: Seven-day free trial; $5.99/month or $54.99/year (with ads), $9.99/month or $94.99/year (no ads)

ORIGINAL SERIES



A Royal Christmas Surprise
Available Nov. 30
Riley (Jennifer Freeman) is planning the perfect Christmas for her soon-to-be husband, Mandla (Thapelo Mokoena). As Riley's family hosts Mandla's South African royal parents in Kentucky, however, Riley receives a surprise from Mandla that will jeopardize her plans with him.



Never Alone for Christmas
Available Dec. 7
Until Lauren (Mignon Von) gets cold feet and calls off her wedding to Miles (Allen Maldonado), neither had dreamt they would be forced to spend Christmas alone. Then, each unknowingly winds up at the same Cajun Christmas retreat for singles with someone new on their arms.

The Family Plan: Credit: Apple TV+ The Velveteen Rabbit: Credit: Apple TV+ A Charlie Brown Christmas: Courtesy of Apple The Snoopy Show Christmas Special: Credit: Apple TV+ Frog and Toad Christmas Special: Credit: Apple TV+ A Royal Christmas Surprise: Credit: BET+ Never Alone for Christmas: Credit: BET+

peacock

Website: peacocktv.com

Subscription Cost: Peacock Premium is $5.99/month or $59.99/year; Peacock Premium Plus (ad-free) is an additional $6/month or $119.99/year.

ORIGINAL SERIES



Dr. Death

Season 2 Available Dec. 21

This season of the true-crime anthology series follows "Miracle Man" Paolo Macchiarini (Edgar Ramírez), a charming Swiss-Italian surgeon renowned for his innovative operations. When investigative journalist Benita Alexander (Mandy Moore) approaches him for a story, the line between personal and professional begins to blur, changing her life forever. As she learns how far Paolo will go to protect his secrets, a group of doctors halfway across the world makes shocking discoveries of their own that call everything about him into question.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTARY

Dr. Death: Cutthroat Conman

Available Dec. 21

This documentary ties in with the story dramatized in the new season of the true-crime anthology series *Dr. Death*. It reveals the shocking rise and fall of Paolo Macchiarini, the superstar celebrity surgeon who ascended to global fame after performing the world's first synthetic organ transplant, only to be exposed as an international con man whose web of lies extended decades, ensnared many — including those in his personal life — and left a trail of devastated patients grappling with a nightmare.

ORIGINAL FILM



Mr. Monk's Last Case: A "Monk" Movie

Available Dec. 8

Tony Shalhoub reprises his Emmy-winning role as brilliant, obsessive-compulsive detective Adrian Monk from the 2002-09 series *Monk* in this film that finds the character returning to solve one last, very personal case involving his beloved stepdaughter, Molly (Caitlin McGee), a journalist who is preparing for her wedding. Other returning cast members include Ted Levine, Jason Gray-Stanford, Traylor Howard, Melora Hardin and Hector Elizondo.

Paramount+

Website: paramountplus.com

Subscription Cost: Paramount+ Essential: $5.99/month or $59.99/year; Paramount+ With Showtime $11.99/month or $119.99/year. Free seven-day trial available.

ORIGINAL SERIES



Geddy Lee Asks: Are Bass Players Human Too?

Available Dec. 5

Famed Rush bassist Geddy Lee hosts this four-part docuseries in which he travels to the homes of some of the most renowned bass players — Krist Novoselic (Nirvana), Les Claypool (Primus), Melissa Auf der Maur (Hole, Smashing Pumpkins) and Rob Trujillo (Metallica) — and digs into the stories that make these musicians stand out.

FEATURE FILM EXCLUSIVE



Finestkind

Available Dec. 15

This crime thriller from writer/director Brian Helgeland, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September, is set in New Bedford, Massachusetts, America's biggest commercial fishing port. It tells the story of two brothers (Ben Foster and Toby Wallace) from opposite sides of the tracks who are reunited as adults over one fateful summer. When desperate circumstances force them to strike a deal with a dangerous Boston crime syndicate, a young woman (Jenna Ortega) finds herself caught in the middle. Along the way, sacrifices must be made, and bonds between brothers, friends, and a father (Tommy Lee Jones) and his son are put to the test.

Mr. Monk's Last Case: A "Monk" Movie: ™ © 2023 Peacock TV LLC. All Rights Reserved. Credit: Steve Wilkie Geddy Lee Asks: Are Bass Players Human Too: © 2023 Paramount+ Finestkind: © 2023 101 Studios Inc. All Rights Reserved. Credit: Paramount+ Dr. Death: TM and © 2023 Peacock TV LLC. All Rights Reserved.

NEW RELEASES!

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In the Fire

(Thriller) When a doctor travels to a remote plantation to care for a disturbed boy, a battle between science and religion will pit the doctor against a local priest. Is he possessed by the devil or might something else be going on? *Amber Heard, Eduardo Noriega, Lorenzo McGovern Zaini* (R, 1:27) **Available Now**



© Shout! Studios

The Kill Room

(Comedy/Thriller) When a hitman and his boss need to find a way to launder money, they turn to an art dealer who creates the hottest fad in the art world. As the popularity of the work grows, the team must find a way out of trouble. *Uma Thurman, Joe Manganiello, Samuel L. Jackson* (R, 1:38) **Available Now**



© Philip Pictures

Rumble Through the Dark

(Action) A bare-knuckle cage fighter seeks to repay his debts in a final attempt to salvage his life. The fight that is in front of him is the fight that might kill him, but may save him from a past that will haunt him forever. *Aaron Eckhart, Bella Thorne, Marianne Jean-Baptiste* (R, 1:56) **Available Now**



© 2023 Walt Disney Studios

The Creator

(Action) A war breaks out between AI and humans in this postapocalyptic world. The lines between AI robots and humans are blurring, and the group that holds a superweapon created by the AI will win the battle. *John David Washington, Madeleine Yuna Voyles, Gemma Chan* (PG-13, 2:13) **Available Dec. 12**



© Universal Studios

Oppenheimer

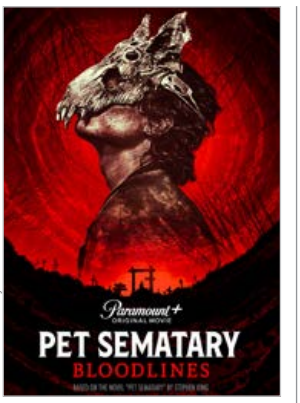
(Drama) J. Robert Oppenheimer and his role in the development of the atomic bomb are the center of this drama. Watch his life and the lives of those around him during the creation of one of the most powerful weapons ever in this riveting exploration. *Cillian Murphy, Emily Blunt, Matt Damon* (R, 3:00) **Available Dec. 15**



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Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny

(Action) About to retire, Indiana Jones is sent on a journey to acquire another legendary artifact. With the world on the line and the franchise wrapping up, will this be the last journey for our hero? *Harrison Ford, Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Antonio Banderas* (PG-13, 2:34) **Available Dec. 15**



© 2022 Paramount Players

Pet Sematary: Bloodlines

(Horror) A young Jud Crandall dreams of leaving Ludlow, Maine. Sinister secrets buried there confront a dark family history. Can his friends fight the ancient evil that has gripped the city since its founding? *Jackson White, Natalie Alyn Lind, Forrest Goodluck* (R, 1:27) **Available Dec. 19**



©SABAN FILMS

Butcher's Crossing

(Drama) An Ivy League dropout travels to Colorado to join a team of buffalo hunters on a journey that will put his life at risk. But his life won't be all that he risks, as his sanity is in jeopardy as well. *Nicolas Cage, Fred Hechinger, Jeremy Bobb* (R, 1:45) **Available Dec. 26**

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