



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Western Reserve PBS Program Celebrates the Work of Glass Artist Paul Stankard

NORTHEAST OHIO — Nov. 8, 2012 — Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEO 49.1) showcases the work of renowned glass artist Paul Stankard in its new production **Paul Stankard Glass at the Akron Art Museum**, which will premiere on Sunday, Nov. 18, at 7 p.m. The documentary captures the essence of Stankard's intricate paperweights and features discussion with him about artistry. It also includes a visit to the Akron Art Museum to view the world's largest public collection of Stankard's work.

Few artists in glass have achieved the kind of career distinction earned by Stankard. As one of the world's master glass artists, he has spent more than 40 years creating a body of work renowned for its artistic excellence, skillful technique and visual acuity. He combines nature, myth and beauty in creating astonishingly realistic elements embedded in glass.

The Akron Art Museum received a gift of more than 60 pieces of Stankard's glass paperweight art from Northeast Ohio residents Mike and Annie Belkin in late 2011. The collection is on display as a permanent exhibition at the museum.

In this new Western Reserve PBS documentary, host Jody Miller visits Stankard at his Mantua, N.J., home and studio to talk about his life and career. Stankard shares his insights about the physical and spiritual dimensions of his work and the inspiring story of how he was able to stretch his artistic mastery to create complex worlds deep within glass.

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The artist says his work “celebrates the beauty of nature all around us,” a theme that resonated with the Belkins. “It’s like sitting in a garden and being able to pick those beautiful flowers as a bouquet in your home,” said Mike Belkin.

For additional air dates for the program on Western Reserve PBS and Fusion (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2), visit WesternReservePBS.org/schedule.htm.

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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