



1750 W. Campus Center Drive • Kent, Ohio 44240-3820
330.677.4549 • programs@PBSWesternReserve.org

news release

Contact: Diane Steinert, Public Relations and Communications Manager
330-677-4549 or dsteinert@PBSWesternReserve.org

Press release image available at pbswesternreserve.org/press/photos

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PBS Western Reserve production *The World According to Polka* Receives National Award

Kent, Ohio — Sept. 16, 2024 — PBS Western Reserve, which operates TV channels WNEO and WEAO, has won a national industry award for its production **The World According to Polka**, a six-part series that follows Ohio's Chardon Polka Band. The National Educational Telecommunications Association recognized the production at the 56th Public Media Awards on Sunday, Sept. 15, at the 2024 NETA Conference and CPB Thought Leader Forum held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The series follows the Chardon Polka Band across Northeast Ohio and beyond as it explores the rich history and lively culture surrounding polka. A second season of the show will premiere Friday, Oct. 11, at 8:30 PM on PBS Western Reserve (WNEO 45.1 / WEAO 49.1). The series is also available for viewing on demand at PBSWesternReserve.org.

The Public Media Awards honor members' work in the highest caliber community engagement, content, education, and marketing and communications. **The World According to Polka** won in the Content — Performing Arts — Division 2 category. "Congratulations to all of this year's honorees and award winners," said NETA President Eric Hyypa. "The entries were exemplary, showcasing the best of the best from across the public media system."

In June, **The World According to Polka** won a regional Emmy Award from the Central Great Lakes Region of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

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 / WEAO 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 / WEAO 49.2) and FNX (WNEO 45.3 / WEAO 49.3).

##