WHRO-TV December 2013 Highlights

Ethan Bortnick Live In Concert: The Power of Music Sunday, December 1, 2013, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

The captivating new family music special Ethan Bortnick Live in Concert: The Power of Music features the amazing 12-year-old composer, pianist, and entertainer Ethan Bortnick, accompanied by a 50-piece orchestra, 4-piece band, and the 120-member Kids Choir, in a program that had the live audience dancing in the aisles! Ethan performs with passion and heart - his fingers fly across the piano keys in "Minute Waltz," and the audience rocks out to "Rock Around the Clock," claps to the beat of "Lean on Me," and participates in a very enthusiastic sing-along of "Crocodile Rock."

Return to Downton Abbey

Sunday, December 1, 2013, 9:30-11:00 p.m.

Savor fond memories from the past three seasons of "Downton Abbey" and get a tantalizing taste of the upcoming fourth season. Academy Award —-winning actress Susan Sarandon — a devoted fan of the series — hosts the program, which includes a mix of behind-the-scenes footage, interviews with creators and cast members, and video clips of favorite moments. Structured around three themes, RETURN TO DOWNTON ABBEY explores "The Changing World of Downton Abbey," "The Women of Downton Abbey" and "Love and Other Relationships at Downton Abbey."

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode One Sunday, December 1, 2013, 11:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.

Wedding guests descend on Downton Abbey, where disasters — large and small — threaten. One is Cora's freewheeling American mother, who tries to loosen up her inlaws.

Antiques Roadshow "Junk in the Trunk 3" Monday, December 2, 2013, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW packed a trunkful of treasures to share from the six cities visited during the Season 17 tour. "Junk in the Trunk 3" is a new episode with never-before-seen appraisals from ROADSHOW's 2013 season, including a Myrtle Beach guest with a sports collection that would make any Celtics fan turn green with envy, a diamond and platinum ring in Corpus Christi, and a valuable old book with a mysterious past in Rapid City that is valued at \$35,000 to \$50,000.

Classical Rewind (My Music)

Monday, December 2, 2013, 9:30-11:00 p.m.

Experience the beauty, romance and dramatic power of musical masterpieces in this visual and auditory joyride through the world of classical hits. Host Martin Goldsmith guides viewers on this fresh and engaging exploration of the world of classical music, with personal reflections from Itzhak Perlman, Joshua Bell and Stewart Copeland of The Police, among others.

Mister Rogers & Me

Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Soon after Fred Rogers had retired from many years of producing and starring in Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Rogers had a chance meeting with his next door neighbor on the island of Nantucket - Benjamin Wagner, a young, up-and-coming producer for MTV. On the afternoon of their first meeting, the children's television icon provided Wagner with some wise advice: "I feel so strongly that deep and simple is far more essential than complex," and urged Wagner to "spread the message." The chance meeting would change Wagner's life. After Rogers' death in 2003, Wagner and his brother, Christofer, set out to meet some of Mister Rogers' real-life "neighbors," aiming to discover more about the man himself, what he meant by "deep and simple," and who still preaches Rogers' message. The result is detailed in the charming and philosophical documentary MISTER ROGERS & ME.

Libera: Angels Sing Christmas in Ireland

Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 9:30-11:00 p.m.

Warm your heart and soul with the angelic voices of one of the world's most acclaimed boy choirs as they perform traditional Christmas carols infused with the musical sounds of Ireland. Recorded in the spectacular St. Patrick's Cathedral in Armagh, Ireland, the concert also features virtuoso musicians, including Irish flute player Brian Dunning and violinist Zoe Conway.

Glass on Fire

Wednesday, December 4, 2013, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Glass on Fire imparts the story of the Chrysler Museum of Art, the birth of the Glass Studio and the passion that the craftsmen and women have for the art of glass. Videotaped at the Chrysler Museum of Art, the Chrysler Museum Glass Studio and the Willoughby - Baylor House, the beauty of glassmaking comes to life.

Great Performances "Pavarotti: A Voice for the Ages" Wednesday, December 4, 2013, 9:30-11:00 p.m.

Like Enrico Caruso before him, Luciano Pavarotti extended his presence far beyond the limits of Italian opera. Quickly establishing his rich sound as the great male operatic voice of the 20th century, he expanded his reach to stadium concerts and pop collaborations that brought him fame beyond measure. Audiences adored his larger than life personality, childlike charm, generous figure and happy go lucky style. This program celebrates the 50th anniversary since the launch of the international phenomenon. In 1963, he debuted in Amsterdam, Vienna, Zurich and finally London. Even today, it is his powerful sound, with its natural grace and brilliant color, that still leads many to consider him the world's greatest voice. Pavarotti brought opera to the masses and made football fans worldwide fall in love with "Nessun dorma." This program includes that hit and other arias from La Bohème, Rigoletto and Aida; Neapolitan songs in arrangements by Henry Mancini, including "Mamma" and "O Sole Mio"; and popular duets with Bono, Sting, Vanessa Williams and Eric Clapton.

A Chef's Life "The World is Your Oyster" Thursday, December 5, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Vivian goes to Cedar Island to explore the new culture of farm-raised oysters in the Southeast. She and Ben share plans of opening an oyster bar across the street from Chef & the Farmer in hopes it will be a place that adds character and variety to the tiny town's "dining scene." Vivian and her dad orchestrate their family's first-ever oyster roast and are blown away by how much everyone enjoys it.

Celtic Woman: Home for Christmas

Thursday, December 5, 2013, 9:00-10:30 p.m.

Celebrate the holidays with timeless favorites performed with a Celtic twist in this new chapter of musical enchantment from the enormously popular all-female ensemble. A visual and aural feast, this moving and festive celebration was filmed at Dublin's Helix Theatre.

II Volo Buon

Friday, December 6, 2013, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Join the Italian vocal trio II Volo to usher in the holiday season with performances of favorite Christmas classics. Filmed at the Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason Theater, this new special features "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "It's the Most Wondeful Time of the Year," "O Holy Night," "Jingle Bell Rock" and many more.

Paul Byrom - This Is the Holiday Moment

Friday, December 6, 2013, 9:30-11:00 p.m.

Paul Byrom, an original member of the Irish music phenomenon Celtic Thunder, returns to public television as a solo artist in Paul Byrom - This Is The Holiday Moment. This version of the program also includes a special section of holiday songs including "Panis Angelicus," "Happy Holidays," "Oh, Holy Night," and "Silent Night" a duet with special guest

Janine DiVita. Recently named 2012's "Best Irish Tenor" at the annual Irish Music Awards, Byron's 2011 album, "This Is the Moment," also debuted at No.1 on the World Billboard Chart.

The Best of the 60s (My Music Archives)

Saturday, December 7, 2013, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Favorite hits of the decade are performed by the New Rascals, the Fifth Dimension, Steppenwolf, Roger McGuinn, The Zombies, Blood, Sweat & Tears and many more.

Great Performances "Barbra Streisand: Back to Brooklyn" Saturday, December 7, 2013, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

The legendary Barbra Streisand makes a historic homecoming to Brooklyn at the new Barclays Center arena, marking the superstar's first Brooklyn concert since her childhood years. Joined by special guests II Volo and Chris Botti, Streisand performs an extensive selection of songs from throughout her five-decade career, including a touching duet with her son, Jason Gould.

Happy Holidays: The Best of the Andy Williams Christmas Shows Sunday, December 8, 2013, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Happy Holidays: The Best of the Andy Williams Christmas Shows features classic clips from beloved singer and television personality Andy Williams' Christmas specials. The digitally re-mastered production numbers are complete with magnificent sets and costumes and a cast of singers, dancers and skaters. Quintessential moments include Williams' solos on "Silent Night" and "Ave Maria," as well as ensembles with his brothers on "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and with the Osmonds on "Silver Bells." Interviews with Williams, his son Bobby and Donny Osmond are interwoven with the clips.

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode Two Sunday, December 8, 2013, 9:30-10:30 p.m.

The fate of Downton Abbey hinges on a letter from a dead man. Edith and Sir Anthony face their own fateful moment. Mrs. Hughes confronts a crisis.

Independent Lens "Beauty Is Embarrassing" Monday, December 9, 2013, 10:00-11:30 p.m.

If you've seen "Pee-Wee's Playhouse," you're already familiar with the off-kilter sensibility of Wayne White. In this program, savor the work of an artist who's become an iconic auteur of the weird, the silly and the joyfully absurd, from a dancing chicken carcass in a Peter Gabriel video to giant cardboard masks of one-term presidents to wildly successful and often obscene word paintings. A husband, father and Tennessee native who is happy picking a banjo on the porch swing, White approaches elder statesman territory even as he flatly refuses to grow up.

Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Featuring Alfie Boe and Tom Brokaw Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.; rpt. Tuesday, December 24, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

As seen and heard by more than 80,000 people in the LDS Conference Center in Salt Lake City, this program features renowned TV personality Tom Brokaw and Tony Award-winning Les Misérables tenor Alfie Boe in a concert of holiday favorites. Boe's moving signature performance of "Bring Him Home" is a highlight. The choir also welcomes a surprise guest, Gail "Hal" Halvorsen, the famous candy bomber of the Berlin airlift. Together with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square, these special guests bring attendees to their feet more than once during the night.

Israel: Facing the Future

Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

Join BBC journalist John Ware as he journeys to Israel for a fresh look at the country's response to the changes sweeping the region in the wake of the Arab Spring. Meeting Israelis from all walks of life, Ware ventures beyond the news clichés and analyzes what's next for the Jewish state, as both the religious and the secular battle over its future.

Nature "Magic of the Snowy Owl" Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

NATURE takes an intimate look at the snowy owl, a bird made popular by Harry Potter's faithful companion, Hedwig. "Snowies" stand out for their magical beauty, intelligence and charm. Filmmakers take us deep into the owl's tundra home on the North Slope of Alaska to observe the daily struggles involved in raising a family of helpless owlets until they're able to fly. Viewers discover that these strikingly beautiful Arctic owls have a range of skills far more impressive than those required of magical messengers.

Nova "Ultimate Mars Challenge" Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

In August 2012, a rover named Curiosity touched down inside Mars' Gale Crater, carrying 10 cutting-edge science instruments to advance the quest for signs that Mars might once have been suitable for life. Weighing nearly a ton — twice as much as all previous Mars rovers combined — Curiosity required an entirely new landing system. After parachuting through the Martian atmosphere at twice the speed of sound, Curiosity was gently lowered to the planet's surface by a "sky crane" maneuver that seemed too outrageous to work — but succeeded brilliantly. With inside access to the massive team of scientists and engineers responsible for the mission, NOVA was there for the exhilarating moments of Curiosity's landing — and for her first discoveries on the Red Planet.

Extreme by Design

Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 10:00-11:00 p.m.

Stanford students on a life-changing journey create products for the poor using a revolutionary method, Design Thinking. They open their hearts and brains and, almost magically, their products take shape and work.

A Chef's Life "Have Yourself Some Moonshine" Thursday, December 12, 2013, 9:00-9:30 p.m.

Vivian visits Broad Slab Distillery, where they talk about the art and soul of white lightning. The restaurant's mixologist works moonshine into several new drinks, while the restaurant staff struggles through the holiday party season. They end the season with a party of their own at Ben and Vivian's new house, with AppleJack Moonshine cocktails making a guest appearance.

Silent Night

Friday, December 13, 2013, 9:00-11:00 p.m.

This opera recounts the true story of the World War I Christmas Eve truce. For one magical evening on December 24, 1914, French, German and Scottish soldiers laid down their arms and joined in a spontaneous celebration reflecting the peace, fellowship and humanity of the season. Based on the Academy Award-nominated film Joyeux Noel, this two-act production was commissioned by the Minnesota Opera and premiered in November 2012 to national acclaim, including a Pulitzer Prize for Music for composer Kevin Puts. With a libretto by Mark Campbell, Silent Night is sung in French, English, German, Italian and Latin with English subtitles.

Concert for Newtown

Saturday, December 14, 2013, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

"Concert for Newtown" features performances by Peter Yarrow, Dar Williams, Bethany Yarrow & Rufus Cappadocia as well as Newtown's own Flagpole Radio Cafe that includes Francine and David Wheeler, the parents of 6-year-old Ben, who died at Sandy Hook Elementary on December 14, 2012. Musical performances are interwoven with interviews of Peter Yarrow and Francine Wheeler by Bill Moyers. The concert is a deeply moving, tearful yet also joyful event, filled with love and a powerful sense of the Newtown community's commitment to fulfilling the Sandy Hook Promise - that is, to be remembered not as the place where tragedy occurred but as the place where transformational change began. "I fully believe that this concert will touch the heart of America. It was a most remarkable night, one that shows who we can be when we

act with courage and allow our hearts to be open to one another," says Peter Yarrow, a former member of folk music trio Peter, Paul and Mary, and founder of the non-profit anti-bullying organization, Operation Respect.

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode Three Sunday, December 15, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Two social revolutions arrive at Downton Abbey: the Irish civil war and the fight for women's suffrage. A mysterious conspiracy keeps Anna and Bates apart.

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode Four Sunday, December 15, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

The Crawley family faces its severest test yet. Meanwhile, new faces try to fit into the tight-knit circle of servants. New evidence turns up in a baffling case.

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode Five Sunday, December 15, 2013, 10:00-11:00 p.m.

Things go badly amiss at Downton Abbey. Robert and Cora are not speaking. The servants are shunning Matthew's mother, Isobel. And Matthew and Robert have fallen out. Bates takes a gamble.

Antiques Roadshow "Junk in the Trunk" Monday, December 16, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Just when you thought ANTIQUES ROADSHOW couldn't possibly have more great discoveries to share, comes this special edition. "Junk in the Trunk" is a new episode of never-before-seen appraisals from ROADSHOW's 2011 season. Highlights include one of a set of six inherited chairs, made 50 years ago by a furniture designer who also did commissions for Aristotle Onassis; a rare and extensive collection of WWII prison camp

materials that posthumously established a glider pilot's eligibility for a medal from the U.S. Department of Defense; and a drawing and lithograph by iconic American artist Grant Wood, as well as a trunk containing some of his possessions, acquired by the owner from Wood's aunt and valued at \$14,000 to \$22,000.

Antiques Roadshow "Trash to Treasure" Monday, December 16, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW's special edition "Trash to Treasure" sets an optimistic tone with more than 20 incredible tales of treasures rescued from rubbish heaps, roadsides, dumpsters and demolition sites. Highlights include an autographed script of the Academy Award-winning 1935 John Ford movie The Informer, unearthed from a pile of discarded books, valued at \$4,000 to \$5,000; a rare circa 1885 Zuni pot, found by the side of a road in Tucson, valued at \$15,000 to \$25,000; and precious relics from Louis Comfort Tiffany's Laurelton Hall mansion, destined for demolition until salvaged by a quick-thinking carpenter, valued at \$80,000 to \$100,000.

Independent Lens "Playwright: From Page to Stage" Monday, December 16, 2013, 10:00-11:00 p.m.

The lives of two outstanding young playwrights — an African American from Miami's inner city and an Indian American from Cleveland — are brought together inextricably in the process of creating a new language for the stage.

Red Metal: The Copper Country Strike of 1913 Tuesday, December 17, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

An epic labor strike that devastated Michigan's Copper Country in 1913 haunts the American labor movement to this day. Among the notable elements of that strike was the death of 73 children at a union Christmas party, a tragedy immortalized by Woody Guthrie in his ballad "1913 Massacre," performed in the film by Steve Earle. The event remains the deadliest unsolved manslaughter in U.S. history. This program traces the Copper Country strike from its hopeful start to its heartrending conclusion. Between those endpoints, it explores the intensifying battle between organized labor and corporate power, as well as issues of immigration and technology. Richard Harris narrates.

How Sherlock Changed the World December 17, 2013, 9:00-11:00 p.m.

The fictional Sherlock Holmes was a scientist who used chemistry, bloodstains and minute traces of evidence to catch criminals. In an era when eyewitness reports and "smoking gun" evidence were needed to convict criminals, Sherlock Holmes' crime-scene methods were revolutionary. Forensic scientists, crime historians and Sherlockian experts reveal for the first time the astonishing impact Arthur Conan Doyle's creation had on the development of real-life criminal investigation and forensic techniques. With a mix of interviews, dramatic reconstruction and archives, the program tells the story of the impact and legacy of the most famous crime fighter in history.

Nature "Cold Warriors: Wolves and Buffalo" Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

For thousands of years, wolves hunted buffalo across the vast North American plains, until the westward settlement of the continent saw the virtual extinction of these vast herds and their eternal predators. However, this ancient relationship was not lost altogether and continues uninterrupted in only one location — the northern edge of Canada's central plains in a place named Wood Buffalo National Park. Today, the descendants of those ancient buffalo and wolves still engage in the epic life-and-death dramas across this northern land. Their story is captured in thrilling cinematic glory by a lone filmmaker who has followed them for more than 20 years.

Nova "Extreme Ice" Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

As the world warms, the threat from rising sea levels poses an alarming potential for disaster. Some models now project a one-meter sea level rise over the next century, which could displace millions of people, from Florida to Bangladesh, and require trillions of dollars' investment in coastal infrastructure. But these models don't reflect recent findings that glaciers in Greenland and Antarctica are melting at an ever faster rate. What explains this alarming acceleration, and just how can we figure out what's happening inside a gigantic wall of ice? In collaboration with National Geographic, NOVA follows the exploits of

acclaimed photojournalist James Balog and a scientific team as they deploy time-lapse cameras in risky, remote locations in the Arctic, Alaska and the Alps. Their goal is to create a unique photo archive of melting glaciers that could provide a key to understanding their runaway behavior. They're grappling with blizzards, fickle technology and perilous climbs up craggy precipices to anchor cameras that must withstand sub-zero temperatures and winds up to 170 mph. In this high-action adventure, NOVA investigates the mystery of the mighty ice sheets that will affect the fate of coastlines around the world.

Life on Fire "Icelandic Volcanoes" Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 10:00-11:00 p.m.

The 2010 eruption of the Eyjafjallajokull volcano in Iceland provoked economic chaos by paralyzing a major air traffic network for days. This eruption, however, was mild. Much more powerful volcanoes in Iceland are ready to wake up. Through spectacular aerial footage of this country, which is an accumulation of lava and ash, a maze of craters and faults, the episode tries to discern which volcano could wake up next and what the consequences of a major eruption are likely to be. Europe has come to realize that a colossal power sleeps beneath Iceland, while Icelanders for centuries have learned to live amongst their volcanoes.

A Chef's Life "Sweet Corn & Expensive Tea" Thursday, December 19, 2013, 9:00-9:30 p.m.

Chef Vivian and her husband, Ben, leave New York to open a restaurant in her small North Carolina hometown. Vivian revisits the Southern tradition of "putting up" corn and shares her method for making smoked corn relish. As the episode concludes, a devastating setback threatens their new life.

Mind of a Chef, Season One "Noodle" Thursday, December 19, 2013, 9:30-10:00 p.m.

David Chang makes instant ramen dishes and tsukemen. He travels to Japan for a bowl of the original tsukemen and visits a noodle factory. Food scientist Harold McGee explains alkalinity and its role in ramen.

Craft in America "Holiday" Friday, December 20, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m. "Holiday" celebrates some of our most important traditions. Nordic folk woodcarver Harley Refsal brings to life the rich history of winter solstice. Clay artist Susan Garson creates fanciful Chanukah menorahs. George Vanderbilt's opulent turn-of-the-century Christmas is recreated at the Biltmore in Asheville, North Carolina. Daring chefs make lavish gingerbread houses for the competition at Grove Park Inn. Navidad is celebrated in San Antonio with religious processions, tamales and Kathleen Trenchard's sparkling luminarias. Garcia Art Glass makes colorful ornaments, and Veronica Castillo creates a traditional Mexican Tree of Life.

Christmas at Belmont 2013

Friday, December 20, 2013, 10:00-11:00 p.m.; rpt. Tuesday, December 24, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Nashville shows why it's called Music City as acclaimed American mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves hosts this annual production of traditional carols, classical masterworks, world music and light-hearted seasonal favorites taped at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center. Nearly 700 Belmont University student musicians join Graves, the Belmont School of Music faculty and the Nashville Children's Choir to present the seasonal celebration. The program also features the University Symphony Orchestra, Belmont Chorale, Percussion Ensemble, Musical Theatre, Jazz and Bluegrass Ensembles.

Austin City Limits ""ACL Presents: Americana Music Festival 2013" Saturday, December 21, 2013, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Enjoy selected performances from performers at the Americana Music Festival in Nashville, including Dr. John, Duane Eddy, Richard Thompson and more.

Mr. Stink

Sunday, December 22, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Chloe (Nell Tiger-Free) sees Mr. Stink (Hugh Bonneville) every day, but she's never spoken to him, which isn't surprising, because he's a tramp — and he stinks. But before she knows it, Chloe has an unusual friend hiding in her garden shed when it seems Mr. Stink and his stinky dog, Duchess, might be driven out of town. As Chloe struggles to make sure no one sniffs out Mr. Stink, she also has to cope with an overbearing mum who is more interested in her own political ambitions than her daughter, her put-upon dad who has a secret of his own, her "perfect" younger sister, Annabelle, and the nasty girls who make her life miserable at school. There is also one other person with an extraordinary secret, as it turns out that there is more to Mr. Stink than meets the eye ... or nose. This special family comedy with a nose-clenching twist is based on David Walliams' best-selling book.

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode Six Sunday, December 22, 2013, 9:00-11:00 p.m.

Change arrives in a big way for several key characters at Downton Abbey. A yearly cricket match with the village sees old scores settled and new plots hatched.

Antiques Roadshow "Finders Keepers" Monday, December 23, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

Tucked behind a fireplace, buried in a cotton field, mistaken for insulation in the ceiling of a basement ... some treasures show up where you least expect to find them. In this new special, ROADSHOW shines a spotlight on items whose discovery was a happy accident. Examples include a formerly buried Weller Coppertone vase that the guest almost tripped over, valued at \$2,500 to \$3,000, and a collection of Cole Porter and Monty Woolley letters, appraised for \$50,000 to \$70,000, that were saved from the dumpster in true trash-to-treasure fashion.

Christmas in Norway with the St. Olaf Choir Monday, December 23, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

From Trondheim's historic Nidaros Cathedral, CHRISTMAS IN NORWAY WITH THE ST. OLAF CHOIR treats PBS viewers and lovers of choral music to a spectacular holiday concert featuring the 75-voice St. Olaf Choir from St. Olaf College and the Norwegian girl choir, Nidaros Jentekor. The production pairs the cathedral's spare gothic beauty and stunning acoustics with the distinctive a cappella singing style for which the St. Olaf Choir — which owes its origins and legacy to Norway — is internationally known. Musical selections include innovative arrangements of Christmas music ("The Word Was God" and "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming/The Rose"), gospel spirituals ("This Little Light of Mine") and beloved Norwegian hymns and folk songs.

Independent Lens "Jiro Dreams of Sushi" Monday, December 23, 2013, 10:00-11:30 p.m.

Eighty-five-year-old Jiro Ono, considered the world's greatest sushi chef, is the proprietor of Sukiyabashi Jiro, a 10-seat restaurant inauspiciously located in a Tokyo subway station. Despite its humble appearance, it is the first restaurant of its kind to be awarded a three-star Michelin Guide rating, and sushi lovers from around the globe make pilgrimages. "Jiro Dreams of Sushi" is a thoughtful and elegant meditation on work, family and the art of perfection.

Frontline "From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part 1" Tuesday, December 24, 2013, 10:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

FRONTLINE presents the epic story of the rise of Christianity. Drawing upon new and sometimes controversial historical evidence, the series transports viewers back 2,000 years to the time and place where Jesus of Nazareth once lived and preached and challenges familiar assumptions and conventional notions about the origins of Christianity. The first program traces the life of Jesus of Nazareth, exploring the message that helped his ministry grow and the events that led to his crucifixion around 30 C.E. The film then turns to the period

that followed Jesus' death, examining the rise of Christianity and concluding with the first revolt — the bloody and violent siege of Jerusalem and the beginning of a rift between Christianity and Judaism. The broadcast explores evidence suggesting that Jesus' followers, because of their diversity and the differences in their cultures and languages, looked at and interpreted Jesus and his teachings in many different ways.

Nature "Christmas in Yellowstone" Wednesday, December 25, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

As snow falls and Christmas lights glow in Jackson Hole, a holiday season of a different sort settles in just beyond the town, in the great winter world of Yellowstone. Breathtaking landscapes frame intimate scenes of wolves and coyotes, elk and bison, bears and otters as they make their way through their most challenging season of the year. NATURE journeys in the footsteps of the men who first explored the park, and travels with their modern-day counterpart on his own journey of discovery. From the unique crystals of individual snowflakes to the grand sweep of Yellowstone's Hayden Valley, this is a Christmas like no other.

Nova "Building the Great Cathedrals" Wednesday, December 25, 2013, 9:00-10:00 p.m.

Carved from a hundred million pounds of stone, soaring effortlessly atop a spider web of masonry, Gothic cathedrals are marvels of human achievement and artistry. But how did medieval builders reach such spectacular heights? Consuming the labor of entire towns, sometimes taking a hundred years to build, these architectural marvels were crafted from just hand tools and stone. Many now teeter on the brink of catastrophic collapse. To save them, an international team of engineers, architects, art historians and computer scientists searches the naves, bays and bell-towers for clues to how the dream of these heavenly temples on earth came true. NOVA's teams perform hands-on experiments to investigate and reveal the architectural secrets that the cathedral builders used to erect their soaring, glass-filled walls. On this dazzling journey, inside the jewels of Gothic architecture, the filmmakers of the award-winning NOVA documentary "Secrets of the Parthenon" reveal the hidden formulas, drawn from the pages of the Bible itself, that drove medieval builders ever upward.

Comet Encounter

Wednesday, December 25, 2013, 10:00-11:00 p.m.

In this program, scientists around the world follow a once-in-a-lifetime event, the path of the sun-grazing comet ISON. The comet, somewhere between one and 10 kilometers in diameter, is currently just beyond the orbit of Jupiter. As it races past Earth toward the sun, it will likely develop a tail to light up the night skies. Then ISON will slingshot around the back of the sun, to emerge perhaps brighter than ever. But there's jeopardy, too; ISON could evaporate completely, or the sun's gravity could tear it apart, producing a so-called "string of pearls" – several small comets arching across the night sky. Don't miss the breathtaking images captured in this special.

A Chef's Life "Strawberry Stay at Home" Thursday, December 26, 2013, 9:00-9:30 p.m.

Vivian and Ben rebuild their restaurant against the backdrop of the Southern harbinger of spring, the strawberry. Their twins go on their first strawberry-picking excursion, and Vivian and a friend develop a recipe for coconut cornbread strawberry shortcake with basil whipped cream.

The Mind of a Chef, Season One "Pig" Thursday, December 26, 2013, 9:30-10:00 p.m.

Explore David Chang's relationship to the pig. He travels to San Sebastian to discuss pork bushi, prepares pork belly and tonkotsu, and visits Montreal with comedian Aziz Ansari for Wilensky's fried bologna sandwich.

American Masters "Marvin Hamlisch: What He Did for Love" Friday, December 27, 2013, 9:00-10:30 p.m.

By age 31, Marvin Hamlisch (1944-2012) had won four Grammys, an Emmy, three Oscars, a Tony and a Pulitzer Prize, making him one of only 2 PEGOT winners ever. Hit after hit — "The Way We Were," "Nobody Does It Better" and scores for The Sting, Sophie's Choice and the Broadway juggernaut A Chorus Line — made him the go-to composer and performer for film, Broadway, every U.S. President since Reagan and concert halls worldwide. A child prodigy accepted at Juilliard at age six, he defied classical expectations to create his own music. When his unprecedented streak ended, Hamlisch fell into a self-described "period of suffocating despair" before rebounding to find true love worthy of a Broadway musical

and renewed passion for creation. With exclusive access to Hamlisch's personal archival treasure trove, new interviews with A-list collaborators from Barbra Streisand to Steven Soderbergh and complete cooperation from his family, this documentary tells a deeply personal, insider story of one of the great artists of our time.

Austin City Limits "Tom Waits" Saturday, December 28, 2013, 6:00-7:00 p.m.



Tom Waits performs in this classic episode from 1979.

Call the Midwife Holiday Special

Sunday, December 29, 2013, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Based on the memoirs of Jennifer Worth and created for TV by Heidi Thomas, CALL THE MIDWIFE follows nurse Jenny Lee and the midwives and nuns from Nonnatus House convent, who visit the expectant mothers of Poplar, providing the poorest women with the best possible care. Chummy, PC Noakes and baby Freddy are back in the East End, Sister Bernadette, now known as Shelagh since leaving the convent, is preparing for her wedding to Dr. Turner and Jenny is facing huge challenges personally and professionally. At Christmas, when an unexploded World War II bomb is found under a warehouse close to Nonnatus House, the nuns and dozens of local families become homeless. Dr. Turner is in a race against time to immunize children against polio, but when the illness strikes closer to home, he finds there's nothing he can do but hope. Chummy persuades a royal visitor to the East End to open the new Community Centre. It's a race against time as Chummy tries to get everything in place for the big day.

Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season 3" Episode Seven Sunday, December 29, 2013, 9:00-11:00 p.m.

The Crawleys head to a Scottish hunting lodge, while the downstairs staff stays behind at Downton Abbey. New romances flare up, and a crisis unfolds.

Antiques Roadshow "Phoenix" (Hour One) Monday, December 30, 2013, 8:00-9:00 p.m.

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW host Mark L. Walberg and appraiser Stuart Whitehurst visit Phoenix' Hall of Flame Museum, home to the largest collection of fire-fighting materials in North America. Program highlights include a circa 1905 advertising display for waterproof baby pants; a 1797 Chippendale marriage chest; and a collection of original Charles Schulz "Peanuts" artwork, valued at \$350,000.

Independent Lens "How to Survive a Plague" Monday, December 30, 2013, 10:00-11:30 p.m.

This acclaimed film tells the story of ACT UP and TAG (Treatment Action Group), two groups whose activism and innovation turned AIDS from a death sentence into a manageable condition. Despite having no scientific training, these determined activists infiltrated the pharmaceutical industry to help identify promising new drugs and move them from experimental trials to patients. With unfettered access to a treasure trove of never-before-seen archival footage, the film reveals the controversial actions, heated meetings, heartbreaking failures and exultant breakthroughs of heroes in the making.

Live from Lincoln Center "New York Philharmonic Gala with Yo-Yo Ma" Tuesday, December 31, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER rings in the new year with a special broadcast of the New York Philharmonic's opening gala concert featuring music director Alan Gilbert and special guest cello soloist Yo-Yo Ma. The concert, taped on September 25 at Avery Fisher Hall, will feature dance-inspired orchestral works, including Azul by Osvaldo Golijov, a cello concerto written for Ma; the world premiere of an arrangement of Astor Piazzolla's La serie del Ángel by Octavio Brunetti, commissioned by the New York Philharmonic; and two classics by Maurice Ravel, Alborada del gracioso and Boléro. Audra McDonald hosts the broadcast, which features interstitial interviews with Yo-Yo Ma and composer Osvaldo Golijov.

Frontline "From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians, Part 2" Tuesday, December 31, 2013, 10:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

In the second program, FRONTLINE examines the period after the first revolt, tracing the development and impact of the Gospels and looking at the increasingly hostile relationship between the Christians and the Jews. The film looks at another bloody Jewish war against Rome, the second revolt, assessing its impact on the Christianity movement. The broadcast documents the extraordinary events of the second and third centuries in which Christianity grew from a small Jewish sect to an official religion of the Roman Empire.