A Complex and Conflicted Writer

Ernest Hemingway, the iconic literary figure considered to be one of the greatest American writers and among the first to live and work at the treacherous nexus of art and celebrity, is the subject of an upcoming three-part, six-hour documentary series directed by award-winning filmmakers Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.

“Hemingway is both an intimate, turbulent family saga and an examination of some of the greatest works of American literature in the 20th century,” said director Ken Burns. “The documentary attempts to go beyond prevailing assumptions about Ernest Hemingway and his writing. At the same time, we are unsparing in our inquiry into less well-known aspects of his character and writing. Our intent is to offer viewers an honest portrayal of a complex and conflicted writer who left an indelible mark on literature.”

Narrated by long-time collaborator Peter Coyote, the series features an all-star cast of actors bringing Hemingway (voiced by Jeff Daniels), his friends and family vividly to life. Through letters to and from his four wives—voiced by Meryl Streep, Keri Russell, Mary-Louise Parker and Patricia Clarkson—the film reveals Hemingway at his most romantic and his most vulnerable, grappling at times with insecurity, anxiety and existential loneliness.

New from NEPM — And Another Thing

Remember what it’s like to go to a party? You walk in and immediately notice a cluster of people having an animated discussion about something you really care about. You want to be part of it.

That’s how you’ll feel when you tune in for And Another Thing, NEPM’s new live, interactive audio experience, launching this April on NEPM 88.5. The show will give a local take on important issues, inviting you to be part of the discussion, and even help build the show. Every morning, And Another Thing will share the topic for the evening show and give listeners the chance to interact and weigh in. Then, the team will roll up their sleeves to put everything in place for the 6 p.m. live show.

Hosts Dara Kennedy and Maya Shwayder will guide the conversation and talk to local experts and people from our region, bringing journalistic chops, a passion for real conversation, and a dash of levity and humor to your evening routine.

Written by Geoffrey C. Ward and produced by Sarah Botstein — both longtime collaborators of Burns and Novick — the film interweaves a close study of the biographical events of the author’s life with excerpts from his fiction, nonfiction and short stories, informed by interviews with celebrated writers, scholars and Hemingway’s son, Patrick.

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Hemingway — Watch Monday, April 5–Wednesday, April 7 at 8 p.m. on NEPM TV

“Dara Kennedy and Maya Shwayder represent the future of public media producers. They are digital-native, global in perspective and operate with the best of journalistic principles,” said Maxie C Jackson III, NEPM’s Chief Content Officer. “We are excited to have them join NEPM and look forward to the innovative interactive experience that they are creating with And Another Thing.”

For complete listings, previews, and more, visit nepm.org
Greta Thunberg: A Year to Change the World
Premieres Thursday, April 22 at 8 p.m.
Greta Thunberg is on a mission to save the world. She is asking every one of us to act and to mobilize in order to slow down the growing climate change that is destroying our planet and threatens our way of life. The message is clear, and scientists agree — we need to keep global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees in order to give our species the best possible chance of avoiding a catastrophic future.

Masterpiece: Atlantic Crossing
Watch Sundays, April 4–May 23 at 9 p.m.
A princess steals the heart of the president of the United States in an epic drama based on the World War II relationship of Franklin Roosevelt and Norwegian Crown Princess Martha. Kyle MacLachlan (Twin Peaks, Sex and the City) stars as Roosevelt, opposite Swedish star Sofia Helin (The Bridge) as the beautiful Martha.
Photo Credit: Courtesy of MASTERPIECE

PBS Kids: Donkey Hodie
Weekdays at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., starting May 3
A whimsical, new PBS KIDS puppet series follows the adventures of Donkey Hodie, the granddaughter of the original Donkey Hodie character (now known as “Grampy Hodie”), a puppet from Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood. The series is designed to encourage preschoolers to aim high, embrace challenges and work hard to achieve their goals.
Photo Credit: Fred Rogers Productions

As Schools Match Wits Season 60
Premieres Saturday, April 10 at 7 p.m.
Hosted by Beth Ward, the popular local program that pits teams of nearby high schoolers against one another in tournament-style academic competitions, returns for its historic 60th season. Production at Westfield State University will be conducted under strict COVID-19 safety protocols.

Classical Music on NEPM 88.5
Listen: Weekdays, 9 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Saturdays, 1–5 p.m.
Sundays 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
NEPM is your reliable source for a wide selection of the most appealing and exciting classical music from every era. Tune in for Classical Music weekdays with John Nowacki (9 a.m.–1 p.m.) and Walter Carroll (1–4 p.m.) On the weekends there’s Saturday Classical Music with Stephen Petke — including Metropolitan Opera rebroadcasts. On Sundays, you can enjoy Sunday Baroque with Suzanne Bona, Sunday Classical Music with Jon Solins, Boston Symphony Orchestra rebroadcasts, From the Top, and Fiesta!

The Short List
Listen Friday Afternoons During All Things Considered
Some weeks produce a whirlwind of news, and local stories can get lost in the shuffle. NEPM’s Adam Frenier and a rotating panel of journalists from western New England reflect on important issues from a regional perspective.

Throughline
Listen Saturdays at 7 p.m. on the NEPM News Network
The past is never past. Every headline has a history. Hosts Rund Abdelfatah and Ramtin Arablouei share stories you can feel and sounds you can see from the moments that shaped our world. Also available as a podcast.
Photo Credit: Mike Morgan

The Long Form
Listen Sundays at 6 p.m. on NEPM 88.5
This is the place on the NEPM schedule for ‘long form’ audio documentaries. Upcoming episodes of note include, on April 4, an investigation of possibilities for restructuring the judiciary to reduce political influence on our courts. Then, on April 18, for Earth Day, we present a deep dive into America’s troubled water infrastructure.
Join us for the Valley Voices Season 6 finale and get the chance to vote for your favorite story. During this unprecedented season, stories were told at the New City Brewery in Easthampton and Hawks & Reed in Greenfield, taped at home, and livestreamed from the Academy of Music Theatre. Now, we gather the best of the best to tell their stories live from the Academy stage into your living room through Zoom.

Best of Valley Voices
Saturday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Meet Heather Gawron
Senior Director of Development

Join us in welcoming Heather Gawron, who will oversee NEPM’s fundraising efforts, including grants, on-air fundraising campaigns, and planned and major giving programs. Heather will also lead our targeted fundraising effort for programming and endowment.

A graduate of Champlain College in Burlington, VT, she has worked for a decade as a development professional, most recently at American International College, in Springfield, where she was Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. She loves reading, photography, travel, food, music, and her family. “One of my favorite things is seeing the world through the eyes of my two daughters and enjoying a spontaneous dance party with them.”

“As I make the transition from higher education to the arts and public media, I am looking forward to impacting our next generation of learners and leaders,” said Heather. “Providing an opportunity for growth through giving and engagement is more important now than ever.”

Introducing the NEPM Community Advisory Board

The NEPM Community Advisory Board was recently established by the NEPM Board of Directors to reflect the tremendous value NEPM places on the aspirations of our community. The CAB serves in an advisory role, offering outside perspective on the diverse educational and cultural needs and interests of the local communities served by NEPM.

CAB members come from a broad cross-section of the NEPM broadcast coverage area. They have widely differing backgrounds, experiences, and interests. They range in age from young adults to seniors.

NEPM Chief Content Officer Maxie Jackson, who serves as the staff liaison to the CAB, is looking forward to working with the group. “I’m very glad that we have this talented and diverse team of people who care about the mission of New England Public Media. They will provide us with perspective, point out our blind spots, and advise us going forward.”

Questions or Comments?
Call 413-781-2801 or email us at hello@nepm.org

Stay in Touch!

Check nepm.org for the full schedule of programs and events.

Thank you for being part of the NEPM community!

Stay connected at

nepm.org  |  PBS  |  npr
New England Public Media is all about discovery — and so are we!

Group events and tours exploring Western Massachusetts.
413-345-5016 | frontiercycling.net

New England Public Media
44 Hampden Street
Springfield, MA 01103-1286

Premieres Monday, April 5 at 8 p.m.