

INSIDE: COLLEGE BOWL GAME SCHEDULE

# Charlie <sup>Magazine</sup> Inside<sup>®</sup>

magazine

December 2018 | \$7.99

**BEST &  
WORST  
Of 2018**

George R.R. Martin's  
**NIGHTFLYERS**  
Comes To Syfy

**WIN!**  
MEGA DVD GIFT  
GIVEAWAY!

# GARTH BROOKS

Live At Notre Dame

**REMEMBERING**

Burt Reynolds  
Margot Kidder  
Anthony Bourdain  
Aretha Franklin  
& More



Your  
Guide to  
Holiday  
TV



# Remember The Episode When ...

## Catch One Of These Classics From Years Gone By



### The Love Boat

#### "The Christmas Presence"

Some nuns decide to travel aboard the ship, unaware that they are smuggling illegal gold. Capt. Stubing impatiently waits for his ship to be decked out for the holidays. **Dec. 9 at 6pm on MeTV.**



### Father Knows Best:

#### Home for Christmas

This was the second of two reunion movies that followed in later years. Bring your Kleenex, as this one gave fans the closure they needed for this beloved family. **Dec. 2 at 12:30pm on getTV.**



### Happy Days

#### "Guess Who's Coming to Christmas"

The Cunninghams plan a quiet family Christmas until they discover that Fonzie will be alone. **Dec. 16 at 5pm on MeTV.**



### All in the Family

#### "Christmas Day at the Bunkers"

Archie is lacking in holiday spirit when an expected Christmas bonus falls through. **Dec. 18 at 7:30pm on getTV.**



### Laverne & Shirley

#### "Oh Hear the Angels' Voices"

Carmine calls the gang together at the Pizza Bowl and asks them all if they're willing to help him put on a Christmas show for the local hospital. **Dec. 23 at 5pm on MeTV.**



### Bonanza

#### "A Christmas Story"

A young singer named Andy Walker returns to Virginia City at Christmastime and agrees to appear at the annual orphans' Christmas benefit. **Dec. 25 at 2pm on MeTV.**



### The Andy Griffith Show

#### "Christmas Story"

A modern-day Scrooge causes trouble on Christmas Eve. **Dec. 25 at 8pm on MeTV.**

All times Eastern.

The Love Boat: Courtesy of MeTV. Father Knows Best: Credit: NBC. Television: Courtesy of Getty Images. All in the Family: Credit: TV Land/Paramount. Laverne & Shirley: Courtesy of MeTV. Bonanza: Courtesy of Everett Collection/MeTV. The Andy Griffith Show: © 2004 Paramount Pictures.



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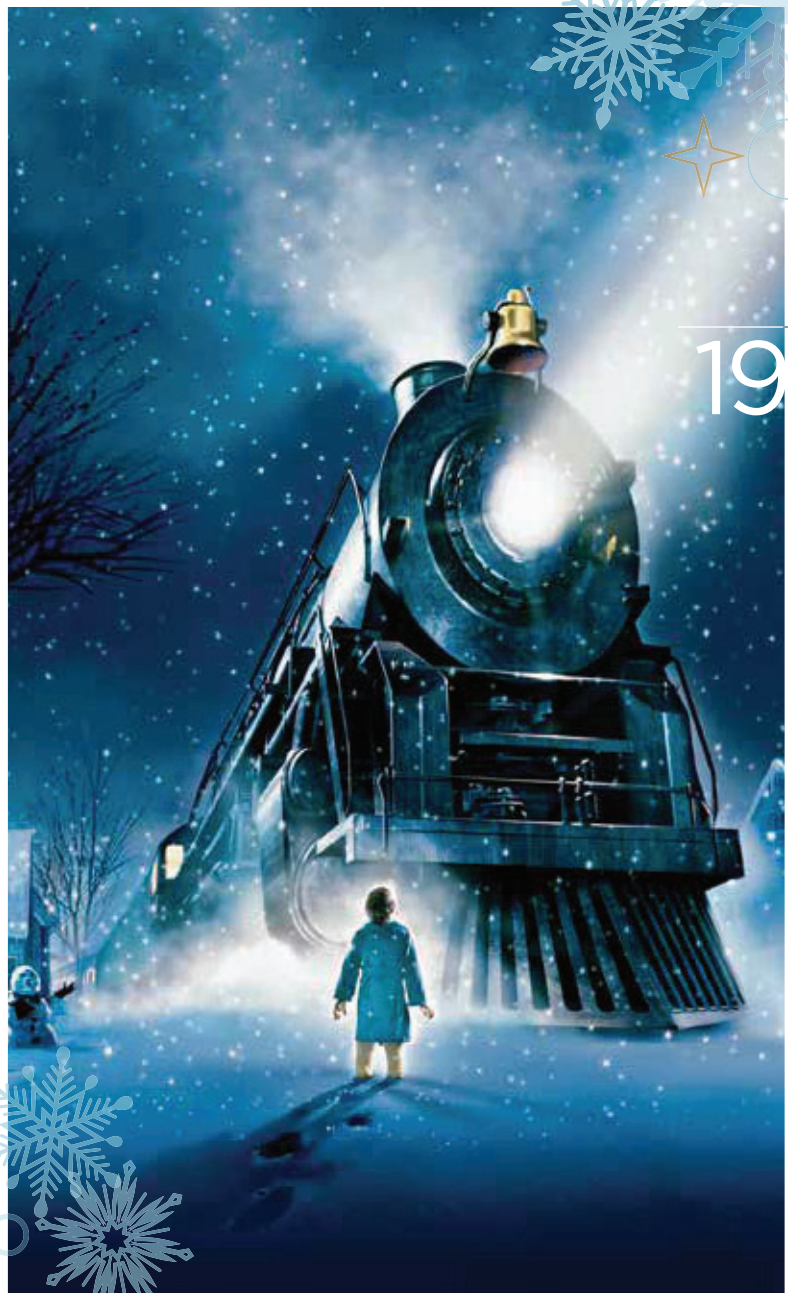
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When is *The Polar Express* airing? You can find out in our massive Movies section in the back of the magazine, or find it in our exclusive holiday programming calendar.

7 **“The Guest Book’s”  
Carly Jibson**

There's lots to love about TBS' *The Guest Book*, especially Carly Jibson. Here we talk *Hairspray*, cheese and *Dog the Bounty Hunter*.

22 **Howie's Back To  
Make Some Deals**

*Deal or No Deal* is back and host Howie Mandel tells us what's in store for this 2.0 version of the hit game show.

**NEXT MONTH**

Get ready for 2019's new TV lineup filled with big stars (Don Cheadle, Chris Pine, Christina Ricci, The Rock), lots of drama, aliens, animals and more.

Editor's Note

That's A Wrap

Where did this year go?! It feels like just yesterday that I was rewinding the credits on HBO's *Sharp Objects* — jaw dropped and stunned — trying to decompress from what just happened. While the year in TV brought us twisty surprises, unneeded tears (yes, I'm still heartbroken over big character deaths on *The Walking Dead*) as well as welcome tears (that live proposal made by director Glenn Weiss during the Emmy Awards!) and plenty of laugh-out-loud moments, I would summarize 2018 as an emotional year of some amazing TV. Inside, Ryan A. Berenz does his annual recap of the best and worst of the year.



As for the holidays, there's no other publication that captures your holiday programming options better than we do, seriously. We started in our November issue denoting all the holiday programming with a present icon in your daily programming

pages, and we continue to do that in this issue. Hallmark Channel and Hallmark Movies & Mysteries have an unprecedented number of new original movies (including Tia Mowry-Hardtrick in *A Gingerbread Romance*, pictured on our cover). AMC took over for Freeform as the home for the Rankin/Bass specials and family-favorite films like *Elf* and *The Polar Express*. We've got a special holiday section beginning on page 14 that includes a daily calendar of the season's best, but don't stop there. Our daily Best Bets tell you more about the new holiday originals and specials, and our comprehensive Movies and Specials sections highlight even more — just look for that present icon.

On behalf of the entire staff at *Channel Guide Magazine*, we wish you the happiest of holidays and blessings for 2019.

*Barb Oates*  
Barb Oates, Editor in Chief

Please Note: Velocity is now MotorTrend Network.

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Meet THE CREW



BARB

First on my list to DVR: *Always at the Carlyle* on Starz

Can't wait for 2019 so I can see: TNT's *I Am the Night*



JEFF

First on my list to stream: *Springsteen on Broadway* on Netflix

Favorite version of *A Christmas Carol*: The Albert Finney musical *Scoogie* (1970)



KELLIE

First on my list to DVR: ABC's *The Great American Baking Show*; the Brit version is way better, but this'll do.

Holiday movie must-watches: *Elf* with my kids; *Love Actually* with my husband.



RYAN

First on my list to DVR: Dr. Pimple Popper's *The 12 Pops of Christmas* on TLC

Best I've seen in 2018: *Lodge 49* on AMC



TAYLOR

First on my list to stream: The second season of *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* on Amazon

Favorite Christmas movie: *The Holiday*

## Random Rants & Raves

### ■ CBS - BULL!

I contacted CBS without reply about *Bull* being moved to Monday nights. *Bull* belongs on Tuesdays along with *NCIS*. *FBI* is a good program; however, do not change a working lineup just for a new show. If anything, move *NCIS: New Orleans* to Monday or even take off *Hawaii Five-0* and put *Bull* in that slot, but for heaven's sake, GET BULL OFF THE LATE MONDAY TIME. Thanks for letting me rant. – Mary

*Thanks for your thoughts, Mary. As much as we'd love to, we do not determine what airs when. That's all CBS' doing. Feel free to reach out again to them at 212-975-3247 or go to their website (cbs.com), click on the "Broadcast Feedback" link on the bottom and send them a note.*

### QUESTION OF THE MONTH: What TV show do you think should win the Golden Globe for Best TV Series — Drama?

Email us at [letters@ntvbmedia.com](mailto:letters@ntvbmedia.com)

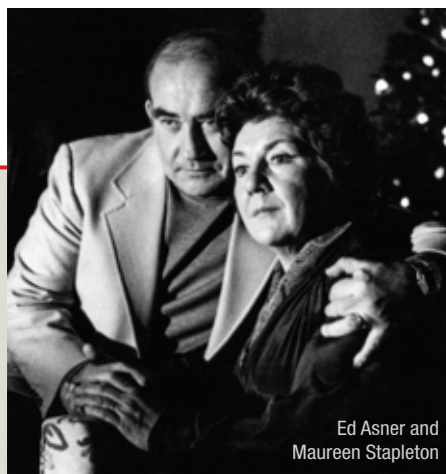
### ■ "MasterChef" Help

I was wondering if you know when *MasterChef Canada* will be starting? Also, that's too bad that *Lucifer* is off the air; we enjoyed that show, too. We like reading your *Channel Guide Magazine*. Thank you. – Debbie

*"MasterChef Canada" Season 5 premiered on CTV (a Canadian network available only in certain northern parts of our country) on April 3 and concluded June 19, 2018. Nineteen-year-old Beccy Stables from Sherwood Park, Alberta, was the winner. Casting for Season 6 began in August. "Lucifer's" fourth season will premiere sometime in 2019. The show moved to Netflix.*

### ■ What Is Your Favorite Holiday TV Special Or Movie And Why?

I love *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. I love *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. I love *Frosty the Snowman*. I love *Prep & Landing* and the elves. And, of course, *It's a Wonderful Life*. I really do. But, oh, the made-for-TV movie that came along in 1977 is the one that lights up my soul. It was called *The Gathering*, and it starred Ed Asner and Maureen Stapleton. It had my mother and me sobbing through it the first time we saw it. I cannot watch it to this day without a full box of tissues nearby. It brought back to us so many memories of our own Christmas traditions and brought to mind many similar moments my family had loved when my brother and I were growing up in Spokane, Wash. We would have as many family members as we could come celebrate with us. We would have



Ed Asner and Maureen Stapleton

my parents' friends come to our "open house" party, and my brother's friends and my friends – everyone would come help us celebrate our Christmastime birthdays. And if we got a white Christmas, too? Then it was just perfect. Oh, to be able to travel back in time for just one of those Christmas seasons when everyone we loved was still living. Where can I sign up to do one of those? But at least I have my DVD of *The Gathering* to love and to remind me of my most precious memories. If you can find a copy, I hope you'll love it, too. – Wendy

### ■ "Facts Of Life" And Nancy McKeon Fan

I am a really big fan of *The Facts of Life*. I found the Logo station that airs it, and now I found MeTV airs it. The question I was wondering about is why one station shows all the episodes and the other one doesn't? I'm also a big fan of Nancy McKeon. I watch everything she's in. I was just wondering if there is any way to obtain information on her. I know that she has two daughters. I was just wondering what their ages were. I don't miss an episode. I get up early every day to watch the show. – Cindy

*Certain syndicated episodes are more popular than others, so it's in a network's best interest to play those more often. The network can command higher ad rates, etc. During holidays, it's more important to air thematically appropriate episodes than to adhere to the chronology of the series. One*

*of our writers, Kellie Freeze, recently interviewed Nancy McKeon about performing in ABC's "Dancing With the Stars" this season. Kellie said McKeon is relatively private about her girls and her family life. In the interview, McKeon stated that she joined the ballroom dance competition to inspire her two daughters – Aurora, 14, and Harlow, 11.*

■ **Include your address when you write or email us, and we'll most likely send you something. We're not promising, we're just saying. Also, if you didn't know this, the letters and opinions above reflect the views of our readers, so don't go crazy on us because you don't like what someone else said.**

#### Send your thoughts to:

[letters@ntvbmedia.com](mailto:letters@ntvbmedia.com) or write to Random Rants & Raves, Channel Guide, 9275 N. 49th St., Suite 100, Brown Deer, WI 53223-1495.

Ruby Rose debuts as Batwoman in crossover event

# HOLY CROSSOVER!

The CW's Latest Multiseries Superhero Event Expands The "Arrowverse" To Gotham City. By Jeff Pfeiffer

Television crossover events — where storylines continue across different series within a franchise, often with characters from those series "crossing over" to shows in which they aren't normally featured — have become increasingly popular.

NBC's *Chicago* franchise and The CW's DC Comics superhero series (often collectively referred to as the "Arrowverse," after *Arrow*, the first of the series) have had crossover events for years. This month's Arrowverse crossover should draw in plenty of viewers with what it has planned.

Dubbed *Elseworlds*, the event runs over three nights (Dec. 9-11) and across three series. The story begins in *The Flash*, continues in *Arrow* and concludes in *Supergirl* (for one time only, *The Flash* and *Supergirl* will be swapping time slots).

*Elseworlds* finds Oliver Queen/Green Arrow (Stephen Amell), Barry Allen/The Flash (Grant Gustin) and Kara Danvers/Supergirl (Melissa Benoist) drawn to Gotham City to confront Dr. John Deegan (guest star Jeremy Davies) over his work at the infamous Arkham Asylum.

Yes, Arrowverse fans, the famed DC city of Gotham is finally being physically introduced within the world of these CW shows. Fans had been expecting this since a 2017 episode of *Arrow* had Star City resident Oliver Queen name-dropping fellow billionaire Bruce Wayne of neighboring Gotham City.

While it seems unlikely that Wayne and his Batman alter ego will be featured in person within the Arrowverse while the Caped Crusader's prequel series *Gotham* is still airing on FOX (that

show begins its final season in early 2019), another notable Gotham hero is introduced in the *Elseworlds* event — Kate Kane, a.k.a. Batwoman (Ruby Rose).

Among other characters drawn from Gotham for this event, viewers can expect to see guest star Cassandra Jean Amell as Nora Fries, whom comic-book fans will recognize as the wife of Batman foe Mr. Freeze.

Although Batwoman is the big newcomer to the Arrowverse in this crossover, fans should also enjoy the introduction of intrepid *Daily Planet* reporter Lois Lane, played by former *Grimm* star Elizabeth Tulloch. And, of course, if Lois is around, you know Clark Kent — a.k.a. Superman — probably isn't far behind. *Elseworlds* will indeed feature Tyler Hoechlin reprising his recurring *Supergirl* role as the Man of Steel.

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## YANKED!: Recently Canceled Shows

The *Megyn Kelly Today* era is over at NBC. ... HBO put down animated comedy *Animals* after three seasons. ... *Nathan for You* won't be back for Comedy Central. ... *I'm Dying Up Here* has expired at Showtime. ... *Outcast* was shunned by Cinemax after two seasons. ... Viceland

called off *The Hunt for the Trump Tapes With Tom Arnold*. ... Netflix ended *Marvel's Luke Cage*, *Marvel's Iron Fist*, *All About the Washingtons* and *American Vandal*, and announced that *Orange Is the New Black* will fade to black after Season 7 next year.

# 5 QUESTIONS

With **CARLY JIBSON** of TBS' "The Guest Book" By Taylor Neumann

Carly Jibson plays the sparkling yet wildly profane Vivian (a.k.a. Tickle the Stripper) on the runaway hit comedy *The Guest Book*, now in its second season (Tuesdays on TBS). The series is loved for its revolving door of guest stars — this season includes Will Arnett, Martha Plimpton, Pete Davidson and more. "[This season] goes beyond just being comical and those funny jokes. We did a screening a couple weeks ago that [had me] clutching my pearls. I was like, 'Oh my God. This is ... wow. It really went there,'" laughs Jibson. As the former star of *Hairspray* on Broadway, Jibson is used to entertaining a crowd, whether it be in a theater or on a TV screen. Here she answers some of our "5 Questions."

**1 If your TV had only three shows on it, what would they be?**  
Oh gosh, here's where the truth comes out. This is what I watch. I watch *Dog the Bounty Hunter*. I feel like you can't say that anymore 'cause he got in trouble, right? But that show is just everything to me. *Law & Order: SVU*. I can't stop watching that. And probably *Grey's Anatomy*. I'm still a big *Grey's Anatomy* fan. Like to this day, I'm so loyal to it. I love that show.

**2 What are three foods you need to have in your fridge or pantry at all times?**  
Cheese. I could literally just eat cheese for the rest of my life. Cheese and tempura cauliflower from Trader Joe's that I'm obsessed with and that we can't stop eating. And my LaCroix. That's all I drink.

**3 Tell us about a time you were starstruck.**  
It happens all the time. The very first time I was starstruck, I was in rehearsal for *Hairspray* in New York, and Richard Dreyfuss was rehearsing a Broadway play at the time in the same rehearsal space that we were in. I got into the elevator, and I saw him, and I was like 18 years old ... and of all the things I could have said to him, I said, "I loved you in *Stakeout 2 [Another Stakeout]*." ... I could have said *Mr. Holland's Opus* or *Jaws* or all of these things, and I said, "I loved you in *Stakeout 2*."

**4 If you could invite a handful of people (dead or alive) to a dinner party, who would they be?**  
Well, my mom of course. Probably ... has to be Bob Dylan. Maya Angelou. Beyoncé, Barack Obama, Janis Joplin.

**5 What has been your biggest splurge?**  
Probably my guitar. It's always been my dream to own a house. It's my biggest goal in life, so I don't splurge very often. [But] I bought a Taylor a couple years ago, and I just love it. And I love the way it sounds.



## Returning Favorites

- Berlin Station** EPIX (Dec. 3)
- Botched** E! (Dec. 6)
- Counterpart** Starz (Dec. 9)
- Deal or No Deal** CNBC (Dec. 5)
- Fuller House** Netflix (Dec. 14)
- The Great American Baking Show: Holiday Edition** ABC (Dec. 6)
- Love After Lockup** WE tv (Dec. 7)
- Marvel's Runaways** Hulu (Dec. 21)
- The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel** Amazon (Dec. 5)
- The Orville** FOX (Dec. 30)
- The Price of Fame** REELZ Channel (Dec. 15)
- The Profit** CNBC (Dec. 4)
- Timeless (series finale)** NBC (Dec. 20)
- Top Chef** Bravo (Dec. 6)
- Vanderpump Rules** Bravo (Dec. 3)



Mayans M.C. ▲

## They're Back, Baby!: Recently Renewed Shows

AMC's quirky new series *Lodge 49* has been renewed for a 10-episode second season, to air in 2019. ... After becoming a breakout hit this fall, FX's new *Sons of Anarchy* spinoff, *Mayans M.C.*, has been renewed for Season 2, to premiere next year. Also on FX next year will be a third season of the crime drama *Snowfall*. ... No kidding — Jim Carrey will return for a 10-episode second season of his Showtime comedy *Kidding*. ... *Queen of the South* will continue to reign on USA Network for a fourth season in 2019. ... OWN has renewed its hit megachurch drama *Greenleaf* for Season 4. ... The Khloé Kardashian-produced true-crime documentary series *Twisted Sisters* will return for another season in summer 2019 on Investigation Discovery. ... Hulu is bringing back the drama *Harlots* for an eight-episode Season 3.

Gifts  
For You!

# CLOSET CLEAN-OUT GIVEAWAY!

'Tis the season of giving. Simply let us know if something here grabs your eye, and we'll be happy to send it to you. If we get more than one person who wants an item, we'll do an official drawing. To keep things fair and organized, we've set up a few guidelines:

1. You can enter for as many items as you want – just make sure you send a separate envelope for each item you are interested in.
2. Mail your requests to: Channel Guide Magazine/"Item Name" 9275 N. 49th Street, Suite 100 Brown Deer, WI 53223-1495
3. All requests must be received by Dec. 18, 2018. We're going to try to get gifts out before the holidays.

Love,  
*The Channel Guide Staff*

Rules are simple: No purchase necessary to enter or win. **YOUR ITEM NAME MUST BE ON THE ENVELOPE.** See official rules at [channelguidemag.com/rules](http://channelguidemag.com/rules)



THE AFFAIR, Season 4  
Item Name: **Affair**



BILLIONS, Season 3  
Item Name: **Billions**



THE BLACKLIST, Season 4  
Item Name: **Blacklist**



BLUE BLOODS, Season 8  
Item Name: **Blue Bloods**



BONANZA, Season 8  
Item Name: **Bonanza**



BULL, Season 2  
Item Name: **Bull**



CHICAGO FIRE, Season 4  
Item Name: **Chicago Fire**



CLAWS, Season 1  
Item Name: **Claws**



CRIMINAL MINDS, Season 13  
Item Name: **Criminal**



DIVORCE, Season 1  
Item Name: **Divorce**



DYNASTY, Season 1  
Item Name: **Dynasty**



GUNSMOKE, Season 13  
Item Name: **Gunsmoke**



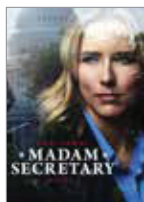
HAWAII FIVE-O, Season 8  
Item Name: **Hawaii**



JERICO, Complete Series  
Item Name: **Jericho**



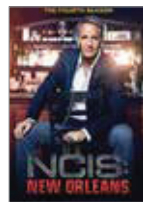
THE LAST SHIP, Season 4  
Item Name: **Last Ship**



MADAM SECRETARY, Season 4  
Item Name: **Madam**



NCIS, Season 15  
Item Name: **NCIS**



NCIS: NEW ORLEANS, Season 4  
Item Name: **New Orleans**



SEAL TEAM, Season 1  
Item Name: **SEAL Team**



SOUL FOOD, Complete Series  
Item Name: **Soul Food**



## STREAMING PICKS!

A look at the best shows and movies to stream online.

FOR MORE  
STREAMING  
OPTIONS,  
SEE PAGE 36

# CAN "ROMA" BRING NETFLIX ITS FIRST BEST PICTURE OSCAR NOMINATION?

Early Buzz For The Film Is Promising. By Jeff Pfeiffer

As yet, a Netflix film has not been nominated for a Best Picture Oscar, but that may change with *Roma*. This latest film from Oscar winner Alfonso Cuarón (*Gravity*) is the filmmaker's most personal project to date as he draws from his own childhood for what is described as a love letter to the women who raised him. The drama is set in a middle-class Mexico City neighborhood, where it follows Cleo (Yalitza Aparicio), a young domestic worker for a family, and offers a vivid and emotional portrait of domestic strife and social hierarchy amid the political turmoil of the 1970s. Along with debuting on Netflix this month, the film will also be

available in select theaters, making it eligible for Oscar consideration.

Early buzz on *Roma* has people speculating that it will earn Netflix its first Best Picture Academy Award nomination. At its debut this summer at the Venice Film Festival, the film received raves and won the Golden Lion award, which is not only that festival's highest honor, but also one of the most prestigious film industry awards in general.

The Oscars stand at the top of such awards. *Roma* has been submitted as Mexico's entry for consideration in the Best Foreign Language Film category

already. If the film receives a nomination there, as well as one for Best Picture, it would be in rare company – only five other movies have ever been nominated in both categories. However, no Best Foreign Language Film winner has also won Best Picture. But just getting the nomination would be a win for Netflix in its drive to further prove itself in the realm of film production. For right now at least, as far as the streaming service is concerned, the old adage of "it's an honor just to be nominated" might be truer than it has ever been.

▶ **Roma** → Netflix → Available Dec. 14

## SPRINGSTEEN ON BROADWAY

As His Sellout Show Closes, The Boss Gives It To His Fans. By Kellie Freeze

On the same day that Bruce Springsteen ends the 236-show run of his solo acoustic show, *Springsteen on Broadway*, he gifts his performance to a global audience by making it available on Netflix.

The concert is based on the Tony, Academy Award and 20-time Grammy winner's bestselling autobiography *Born to Run* and has been heralded as "a unique evening with Bruce, his guitar, a piano and his very personal stories."

Since it opened in October 2017, *Springsteen on Broadway* has been one of the Great White Way's most

red-hot tickets. After-market tickets for the show can cost thousands of dollars, and Broadway World estimates that its run has grossed over \$100 million. In May, the show earned a Special Tony Award for what the American Theatre Wing and The Broadway League recognize as "a once-in-a-lifetime theatergoing experience for the Broadway stage, allowing fans an intimate look at a music idol."

▶ **Springsteen on Broadway** → Netflix → Dec. 15



# BEST And WORST

## Top Shows, People, Moments And More OF 2018

That We Found Worthy. By Ryan A. Berenz



## THE WORTHY



### 18. ALL THE FELT

Oh, the wonders that can be achieved with a hot glue gun! Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman's lighthearted crafting competition series *Making It* on NBC was an inspirational summer TV getaway.

### 17. DEEP CUTS

A-lister Amy Adams made an edgy return to TV with her finely pointed portrayal of a troubled reporter in *Sharp Objects*, HBO's perfect summer-thriller miniseries about a small town's big secrets.

### 16. LET IT BEEP

Paul McCartney's "Carpool Karaoke" cruise around Liverpool with *The Late Late Show's* James Corden was so epic, CBS expanded it to an hourlong primetime special in August.



### 15. ZITS A LIVING

For dermatologist Dr. Sandra Lee of TLC's *Dr. Pimple Popper*, squeezing cheesy goo from growths, pulling fatty masses from lumpy lipomas and exciting stuff from abscesses is all in a day's work, and it made for some grossly engrossing TV.

### 14. GORY DAZE

TNT's Gilded Age murder mystery *The Alienist* took us to deep, dark places. On the bright side, the charming trio of Dr. Laszlo Kreizler (Daniel Brühl), John Moore (Luke Evans) and Sara Howard (Dakota Fanning) will be back on the case in *The Angel of Darkness*.

### 13. LAST LAUGH

After getting unceremoniously dumped by ABC in 2017, Tim Allen's popular sitcom *Last Man Standing* got sturdy new legs this fall on FOX.



### 12. FULL STREAM AHEAD

There were no sophomore slumps for streaming hits *The Handmaid's Tale* (Hulu), *Ozark* (Netflix) and *GLOW* (Netflix), as they only got better in their second seasons.

### 11. SLOW COOKER OF DOOM

NBC's *This Is Us* finally revealed what happened to Jack (Milo Ventimiglia) on one fateful Super Bowl Sunday. Once our tears dried, we all checked on our slow cookers and replaced the batteries in our smoke detectors.

### 10. LEGEND OF STAGE, SCREEN & SONG

Superstar John Legend added a Creative Arts Emmy to his trophy case for executive producing NBC's *Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert*, making him one of the few people to have won an EGOT (an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar and a Tony).

### 9. SUPERUS SICET INFERUS

With its *The Da Vinci Code* meets *The Big Lebowski* tone, AMC's *Lodge 49* embarked on a quirky quest we can't wait to continue in Season 2.

### 8. THE WOMAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

Jodie Whittaker made her debut as the Thirteenth Doctor – the first female one in the 55-year-old sci-fi franchise's history – to rave reviews and big ratings for BBC America's global premiere event in October.

### 7. STONES & STICKS

The U.S. Men's Olympic Curling Team made history by beating Sweden to win America's first Olympic gold medal in curling, and the U.S. Women's Olympic Hockey Team triumphed in a tense shootout thriller vs. Canada in the gold medal game.





## 6. WINDSOR WONDERLAND

The royal wedding of England's Prince Harry and former *Suits* star Meghan Markle was this spring's hottest TV ticket. Nielsen says 29 million people tuned in to the wedding across 15 different TV networks.

## 5. DASVIDANIYA, COMRADES!

FX's Cold War spy thriller *The Americans* wasn't a huge ratings hit, but it received almost universal critical praise during its six seasons. The show went out with a bang in May, then won Emmys for best drama series writing and best actor (Matthew Rhys).

## 4. KICKIN' ASSASSIN

BBC America's *Killing Eve* was a devilishly clever cat-and-mouse match between British bureaucrat Eve (Sandra Oh) and high-class assassin Villanelle (Jodie Comer). Season 2 is expected in the spring.

## 3. WILD ABOUT "BARRY"

Who knew that pairing a socially awkward contract killer (Bill Hader) with an eccentric acting coach (Henry Winkler) would make HBO's *Barry* the year's breakout hit comedy?

## 2. IT'S YOU I LIKE

We remembered the kindness and creativity of Fred Rogers, whose *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* made its national TV debut 50 years ago. PBS presented the touching *Mister Rogers: It's You I Like* retrospective in March, and will air the hit documentary *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* next year.

# 1. STANDING O

Oprah Winfrey's acceptance speech at the Golden Globes eloquently summed up how so many feel in the world of entertainment, and in the world as a whole. "In my career, what I've always tried my best to do, whether on television or through film, is to say something about how men and women really behave, to say how we experience shame, how we love and how we rage, how we fail, how we retreat, persevere, and how we overcome," she said. "I've interviewed and portrayed people who have withstood some of the ugliest things life can throw at you, but the one quality all of them seem to share is an ability to maintain hope for a brighter morning, even during our darkest nights. So I want all the girls watching here now to know that a new day is on the horizon."



# THE CRINGEWORTHY

**YE DID WHAT?** It shouldn't have surprised us when Kanye West performed a song in costume as a bottle of sparkling water on the *Saturday Night Live* season premiere. We're just relieved he waited until the show was over to go on a nonsensical rant onstage.

**DEAD SHOW WALKING** Now that Carl (Chandler Riggs) and Rick (Andrew Lincoln) are gone, AMC's *The Walking Dead* is stiffly stumbling around. After an unsatisfying Season 8 finale and a low-rated Season 9 premiere, it looks like lots of fans stabbed the series through the skull.

**PERRETTE'S PAINFUL PARTING** It was tough enough to see fan favorite Abby (Pauley Perrette) leave CBS stalwart *NCIS*, but Perrette's claim that "multiple physical assaults" influenced her decision to leave the series after 15 seasons is simply heartbreaking.

**FIRE WEAPON** *Lethal Weapon*'s Martin Riggs character was always a loose cannon, but star Clayne Crawford turned out to be even more unhinged. Reports of abusive behavior on the set led to Crawford getting canned from the FOX show.

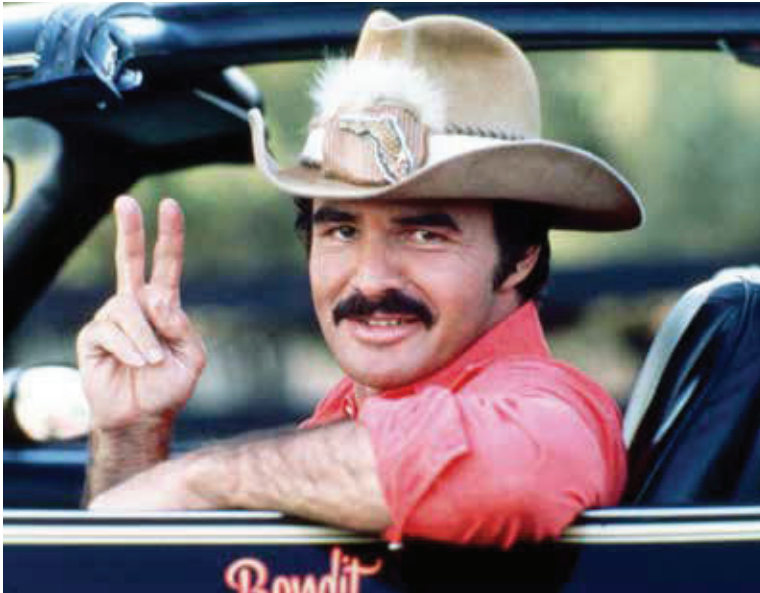
**BARR GETS BOOTED** Roseanne Barr celebrated the *Roseanne* revival's renewal by getting some racist stuff off her chest on Twitter. ABC sacked Barr and axed the show without batting an eye, then barred her from any involvement in *The Conners* spinoff.

**LOW OPINION** TV coverage of the Senate Judiciary Committee on Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination was plagued by unconvincing performances, unrelatable characters and an implausible premise. If our minds were a DVR, we'd delete it.



# Remembrances 2018

A look back at the notable entertainment personalities we lost this year, but whom we will never forget. By Jeff Pfeiffer



**BURT REYNOLDS** (82) (actor)  
**Born:** Feb. 11, 1936 • **Died:** Sept. 6, 2018  
Before becoming a top box office star throughout most of the 1970s and early '80s, Reynolds got his start on television. He was a regular on the Western *Gunsmoke* from 1962-65 and the star of police dramas *Hawk* (1966) and *Dan August* (1970-71). The actor's big-screen breakout role came in 1972's *Deliverance*. Reynolds remained a big-screen fixture for years in hits like *The Longest Yard* (1974), *Smokey and the Bandit* (1977), *Semi-Tough* (1978), *Hooper* (1978), *Starting Over* (1979), *The Cannonball Run* (1981) and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (1982). Later returning to TV, he won an Emmy and Golden Globe in the 1990-94 sitcom *Evening Shade*. Reynolds' acclaimed performance in *Boogie Nights* (1997) netted him a Best Supporting Actor Oscar nod and a Golden Globe win.

## ARETHA FRANKLIN

(76) (singer-songwriter)

**Born:** March 25, 1942 • **Died:** Aug. 16, 2018

In the late 1960s, when she was in her early 20s, Franklin gained fame with a string of legendary hits that established her as the "Queen of Soul" and one of the greatest singers America has ever produced. Her iconic songs from that era include a definitive cover of Otis Redding's "Respect," which became her signature song, "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman," "Chain of Fools," "Ain't No Way," "Think" and "I Say a Little Prayer." Later, in the 1980 musical comedy film *The Blues Brothers*, the singer famously stood out in a movie filled with legendary R&B musician cameos when she performed a show-stopping rendition of "Think." She continued with more hits in the 1980s, including a 1987 duet with George Michael, "I Knew You Were Waiting (For Me)." Among the honors Franklin received throughout her life, she won 18 Grammys, was the first woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (1987), and received the National Medal of Arts (1999) and the Presidential Medal of Freedom (2005).



## CHARLOTTE RAE

(92) (actress)

**Born:** April 22, 1926 • **Died:** Aug. 5, 2018

Milwaukee-born Rae found fame when she moved to New York City in the late 1940s and began working on the stage, eventually earning two Tony Award nominations in the 1960s. In

the 1950s, she also began appearing in guest roles as TV began its early golden age. By 1975, she had received an Emmy nomination for the TV movie *Queen of the Stardust Ballroom*. But Rae's most lasting TV fame came with her role as Edna Garrett, first on the sitcom *Diff'rent Strokes* — where she played the character in a supporting role during its first two seasons from 1978-79 — and then as the Emmy-nominated star of the spinoff series *The Facts of Life* during its first seven seasons, from 1979-86.





## ANTHONY BOURDAIN

(61) (chef/TV personality)  
**Born: June 25, 1956 • Died: June 8, 2018**  
Before tragically taking his own life, Bourdain was one of the most famous chefs and TV personalities in the world. The success of his 2000 memoir *Kitchen Confidential* led Bourdain to begin hosting TV series, starting with *A Cook's Tour* (2002-03) on Food Network and, more famously, *No Reservations* (2005-12) for Travel Channel. He had been hosting the well-received CNN series *Parts Unknown* from 2013 until his death.

## MARGOT KIDDER (69) (actress)

**Born: Oct. 17, 1948 • Died: May 13, 2018**

Upon hearing the name of the comic-book character Lois Lane, it is likely many people instantly visualize Kidder. Just as the 1978 blockbuster film *Superman* helped set the template (and the bar) for the modern superhero movie, Kidder's thoroughly committed and entertaining portrayal of the *Daily Planet* reporter in that movie made it challenging for future actresses to put their own stamp on the Lane character. Of course, Kidder hadn't been totally unknown before *Superman*. Earlier in the decade, she appeared in two films that still give her a special place in the hearts of cult horror movie fans: She starred as twins in Brian De Palma's creepy thriller *Sisters* (1973) and costarred in the proto-slasher film *Black Christmas* (1974). But *Superman* made her a star, and she followed that up with lead roles in the popular haunted-house thriller *The Amityville Horror* (1979) and the 1981 comedy-drama *Heartaches*. She reprised her Lois Lane role in *Superman II* (1980), *Superman III* (1983) and *Superman IV: The Quest for Peace* (1987).



## STEVEN BOCHCO (74) (producer/writer)

**Born: Dec. 16, 1943 • Died: April 1, 2018**

If we are, as many believe, living in a golden age of TV entertainment, then Bochco should be remembered as being a key person in starting us toward this point. Decades ago, he helped television begin to mature in its characterizations, themes and storytelling through his development of groundbreaking series like *Hill Street Blues* (1981-87), *L.A. Law* (1986-94), *Doogie Howser, M.D.* (1989-93) and *NYPD Blue* (1993-2005). And even Bochco's rare misfires, like *Cop Rock* (1990) and *Capitol Critters* (1992), at least were attempting something creatively different from what had been on the small screen before.

## Also Remembering

**Harry Anderson** (65)  
(actor, *Cheers*, *Night Court*) (b. 1952)

**Barbara Bush** (92)  
(first lady) (b. 1925)

**Bill Daily** (91)  
(actor, *I Dream of Jeannie*) (b. 1927)

**R. Lee Ermey** (74)  
(actor, *Full Metal Jacket*) (b. 1944)

**Billy Graham** (99)  
(evangelist) (b. 1918)

**Barbara Harris** (83)  
(actress, *Freaky Friday*) (b. 1935)

**Richard Benjamin Harrison Jr.** (77)  
(*Pawn Stars*) (b. 1941)

**Stephen Hawking** (76)  
(physicist) (b. 1942)

**Tab Hunter** (86)  
(actor/singer, *Damn Yankees*)  
(b. 1931)

**James Karen** (94)  
(actor, *Poltergeist*) (b. 1923)

**Morgana King** (87)  
(singer/actress, *The Godfather*)  
(b. 1930)

**Koko** (46) (celebrity gorilla) (b. 1971)

**Robin Leach** (76)  
(TV personality, *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*) (b. 1941)

**Stan Lee** (95)  
(comic-book writer/publisher; creator of Spider-Man and other iconic characters) (b. 1922)

**John Mahoney** (77)  
(actor, *Frasier*) (b. 1940)

**John McCain** (81)  
(politician/military officer) (b. 1936)

**Neil Simon** (91)  
(playwright, *The Odd Couple*)  
(b. 1927)

**David Ogden Stiers** (75)  
(actor, *M\*A\*S\*H*) (b. 1942)

**Verne Troyer** (49)  
(actor, Mini-Me in *Austin Powers* films)  
(b. 1969)

**Clint Walker** (90) (actor, *Cheyenne*)  
(b. 1927)

**Scott Wilson** (76)  
(actor, *The Walking Dead*) (b. 1942)

**Celeste Yarnall** (74)  
(actress, *Star Trek*) (b. 1944)

Anthony Bourdain: Credit: Paul Frittmann/Corbis via Getty Images; Margot Kidder: © 1995 Harry Langdon; Steven Bochco: © 1995 Ron Galella, Ltd.



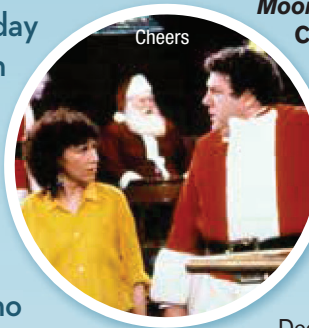
# 40 Years of TV's Best

## *Holiday Episodes*

By Donald Liebenson and Taylor Neumann

Where to begin in unwrapping TV's best holiday episodes? It seems like EVERYBODY had a holiday episode! TV shows through the decades have brought home all the joy, magic and enduring life lessons of the holiday season. And how nice it is to return "home" year after year to characters who have come to feel like family.

### Best of the 1980s



Cheers

**Moonlighting:** "Twas the Episode Before Christmas" [original airdate Dec. 17, 1985, Season 2, Episode 10] – It's the Nativity story, *Moonlighting*-style, as secretary Agnes DiPesto finds an abandoned baby in her apartment.

**Cheers:** "Christmas Cheers" [original airdate Dec. 17, 1987, Season 6, Episode 12] – Sam hates working the bar on the holiday, and when the other employees decide to exchange gifts, he realizes he doesn't have a gift for Rebecca.

**The Wonder Years:** "Christmas" [original airdate Dec. 14, 1988, Season 2, Episode 3] – The year is 1968. Kevin Arnold recalls the holiday when "Christmas stopped being about tinsel and wrapping paper and started being about memory."

**Full House:** "Our Very First Christmas Show" [original airdate Dec. 16, 1988, Season 2, Episode 9] – Have mercy! A blizzard strands the Tanners at an airport for Christmas, but as Jesse reminds us, "Christmas doesn't have to happen in one certain place; it happens in our hearts."

**The Simpsons:** "Simpsons Roasting on an Open Fire" [original airdate Dec. 17, 1989, Season 1, Episode 1] – With no Christmas bonus, Christmas looks bleak for the Simpsons, but Bart is a true believer: "If TV has taught me anything, it's that miracles always happen to poor kids at Christmas. It happened to Tiny Tim, it happened to Charlie Brown, it happened to the Smurfs and it's going to happen to us."



Full House



The Simpsons

*Did you know...*

1. Fred Astaire was 71 years old when he voiced the narrator/mailman in the special *Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town*.

2. The green suit worn by Jim Carrey in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* was made of yak hairs that were dyed green and then individually sewn onto a spandex suit.

## Best of the 1990s

**The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air: "Christmas Show"** [original airdate Dec. 16, 1991, Season 2, Episode 13] – All you need to know about this episode is that it marks the first appearance of the Carlton dance.

**Home Improvement: "Yule Better Watch Out"** [original airdate Dec. 17, 1991, Season 1, Episode 12] – Young Mark needs an extra helping of Christmas spirit after his older brothers tell him Santa Claus is dead. Enter next-door neighbor Wilson in a Santa suit ... or is it?

**Mad About You: "Met Someone"** [original airdate Dec. 16, 1992, Season 1, Episode 11] – From a meet-cute at a newspaper stand to an office Christmas party, Paul and Jamie's love story begins.

**Frasier: "Miracle on Third or Fourth Street"** [original airdate Dec. 16, 1993, Season 1, Episode 12] – Kindness from patrons at a diner make this a Christmas Frasier will never forget.

**Seinfeld: "The Strike"** [original airdate Dec. 18, 1997, Season 9, Episode 10] – The holiday known to all as "Festivus" is introduced as George creates a fake charity called "The Human Fund" and Kramer's job is finally explained.



Seinfeld

## Best of the 2000s

**Friends: "The One With the Holiday Armadillo"** [original airdate Dec. 14, 2000, Season 7, Episode 10] – *Friends* was famous for its holiday episodes, but this one, where Ross dresses up as an armadillo to teach his son Ben about Christmas and Hanukkah, is a favorite.

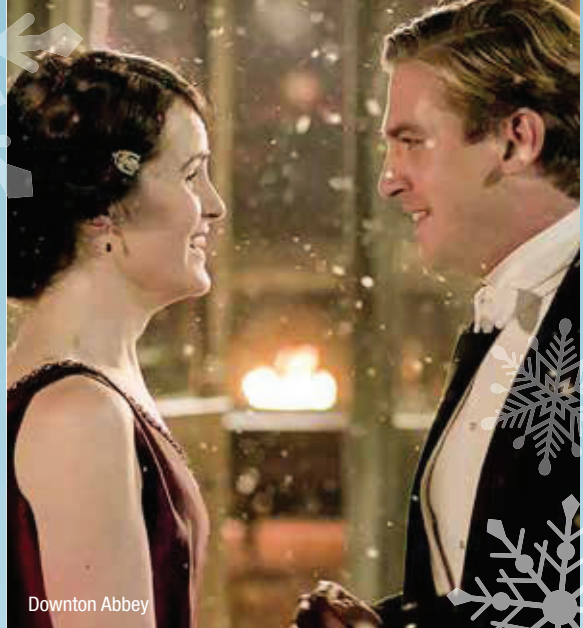
**The O.C.: "The Best Chrismukkah Ever"** [original airdate Dec. 3, 2003, Season 1, Episode 13] – Ryan is introduced to the holiday Seth created to honor both of his parents, one of whom is Jewish and the other Catholic.

**Arrested Development: "Afternoon Delight"** [original airdate Dec. 19, 2004, Season 2, Episode 6] – Gob delivers a sexual harassment speech at the Bluth Company Christmas party, but it's the karaoke to the song "Afternoon Delight" that makes this one memorable.

**The Office: "Christmas Party"** [original airdate Dec. 6, 2005, Season 2, Episode 10] – Boss Michael Scott spearheads an office Secret Santa but is disappointed when his gift for Ryan is too extravagant. Despite corporate policy, Michael buys alcohol for the entire staff.



The Office



Downton Abbey

## Best of the 2010s

**Community: "Abed's Uncontrollable Christmas"** [original airdate Dec. 9, 2010, Season 2, Episode 11] – Abed's world has been entirely rendered in stop-motion animation, and he believes this means he must rediscover the meaning of Christmas. The study group undergoes hypnosis to understand Abed's new wonderland.

**Parks and Recreation: "Citizen Knope"** [original airdate Dec. 8, 2011, Season 4, Episode 10] – Every year Leslie gets everyone the most unique and personal gifts, so this year the group attempts to get her the perfect gift instead.

**Downton Abbey: "Christmas at Downton Abbey"** [original airdate Dec. 25, 2011, Season 2, Episode 9] – It's Christmas in 1919, and the house is hosting a lavish party. Sybil announces her pregnancy and Bates is on trial for murder, but the episode is most remembered as the one where Mary and Matthew finally get together.

**Black Mirror: "White Christmas"** [original airdate Dec. 16, 2014, Season 2, Episode 4] – Manipulative and a little scary, Jon Hamm stars in this episode that uses the tales of two men in a remote outpost to show how technology can go very wrong.



Parks and Recreation

3. In a memorable scene in *Scrooged*, the Ghost of Christmas Present (Carol Kane) grabs the lip of Frank Cross (a modern version of Ebenezer Scrooge played by Bill Murray) so hard that Kane accidentally tore Murray's lip, and filming had to be delayed for several days.

4. In the film *Home Alone*, the glass ornaments that Marv (Daniel Stern) steps on were made of candy.



# Oh What Fun!

Your Guide To New & Favorite Holiday TV



## LIFE-SIZE 2

Tyra Banks Reprises Her Role To Inspire A New Generation Of Girls. By Kellie Freeze

The 2000 Disney Channel original movie *Life-Size* centered on teenager Casey Stuart (Lindsay Lohan), who, while mourning the death of her mother, accidentally brings her Barbie-esque fashion doll Eve (played by supermodel Tyra Banks) to life. In the sequel, *Life-Size 2* (airing Dec. 2 on Freeform), Eve comes to life again, this time to help a young professional woman learn to love the holidays, and herself.

"We're growing up with our audience," says *grown-ish* star Francia Raisa, who headlines the film alongside Banks. "Tyra knew that a lot of the original fans had grown up. So now Eve is coming back to life to help someone older get through a tough time and re-find her confidence."

Raisa shares, "I play the CEO of Marathon Toys, the creators of the Eve doll. My mother created the doll, and she had to go away, so I'm taking over the company." The actress explains that her character, Grace, has come to resent the holiday season because it reminds her of her mother spending time at work, instead of with her. "Eve comes back to life, advises me through my own personal trauma and emotions, and helps me save the company."

Raisa reveals that she was a massive fan of the original film and is thrilled to continue its legacy. "When I was 12 years old, I was a huge fan of *Life-Size*. The idea of having a doll come to life was like a dream come true," she says. But now, her dream come true is being able to add to the story that meant so much to her. "I could have never believed that I would someday be working with Tyra Banks on the sequel to one of my favorite movies. Working alongside her and getting to be a role model for young audiences is an honor."

Raisa won't confirm the rumor that Lindsay Lohan makes an appearance in the film, but she does tease several moments that are playful references to the original. "We have a brunch scene when Eve comes back to life, and there is an original *Life-Size* moment that happens, and I just couldn't stop laughing!"

Did you know...

5. The cotton balls that Will Ferrell's character Buddy ate in *Elf* while visiting the doctor were actually made of undyed cotton candy.

6. The 1974 Rankin/Bass classic *The Year Without a Santa Claus* was based on a short story by Phyllis McGinley that was published in *Good Housekeeping* magazine in 1956.



“My favorite Christmas songs are ‘Last Christmas’ by Wham! and ‘All I Want for Christmas Is You’ by Mariah Carey. Mariah isn’t easy to attempt to sing along to, but that sure doesn’t stop me from trying!”

– Tiya Sircar, who stars in *Christmas Lost and Found* (Lifetime, Dec. 7)

### Mariah Carey TV Premiere Part Of AMC’s Best Christmas Ever

AMC is turning television extra merry by becoming the exclusive home to some of the most beloved holiday movies and specials. You now can catch family favorites like *Elf*, *National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation* and *The Polar Express*; several rare Rankin/Bass television specials like 1974’s *The Year Without a Santa Claus*, 1976’s *Frosty’s Winter Wonderland* and 1976’s *Rudolph’s Shiny New Year*; and more on AMC. In addition, this month the network also hosts the TV premiere of *All I Want for Christmas Is You* (Dec. 7), a sweet animated tale from superstar songstress Mariah Carey. The family-friendly flick not only gets its name from Carey’s hit holiday song and features her voice as its narrator, but also features three of her classic Christmas songs in addition to the original song “Lil Snowman.” You can find all of AMC’s holiday offerings in our daily TV listings – just look for the present symbol!



### Sutton Foster And Hugh Bonneville Celebrate The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year With The Tabernacle Choir

The world-renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra welcomed Tony Award-winning actress Sutton Foster and *Downton Abbey*’s Hugh Bonneville for their 15th annual *Christmas With the Mormon Tabernacle Choir* (airing on PBS Dec. 17). Filmed last year, the performance is a spectacular showcase of holiday favorites, cherished memories and Victorian-themed storytelling. Foster’s vibrant vocals and endearing insights make it more than memorable as she beautifully sings “Christmas Time Is Here” from *A Charlie Brown Christmas* for her newly adopted daughter, as well as powerful arrangements of “Joy to the World,” “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year” and “Angels From the Realms of Glory.” “I love performing at intimate spaces like this,” Foster joked about the 21,000-seat Conference Center. As for the beloved event, Bonneville added: “The love and the commitment that these people who are volunteering give to this program for the single purpose of celebration through music, word and dance – it’s a rare and extraordinary experience.”

### Ellen Creates Her Own Winter Wonderland

Ellen DeGeneres is spreading her holiday cheer with a special seasonal edition of *Ellen’s Game of Games* (Dec. 12 on NBC). The show’s set will be transformed into a winter wonderland of fun where contestants will compete in holiday editions of favorites like “It’s a Wonderful Wife,” “Danger Word,” “Blindfolded Musical Packages,” “Dizzy Dasher” and more.



### The 12 Pops Of Christmas

Rejoice, popaholics! Even Dr. Sandra Lee is getting her own holiday special. *The 12 Pops of Christmas* (Dec. 13 on TLC) is a one-hour pop-a-ganza featuring the famed dermo – Dr. Pimple Popper – as she tries to remedy her patients’ skin issues before the holidays. Dr. Lee and her elves will ensure a merry good time for all as they squeeze, pop and extract their way to better-looking skin.



“About 20 years ago, I bought my mom a new car.

When I gave it to her, at first she thought the gigantic bow was the present!”

– Jasmine Guy, on what Christmas gift she was most excited to give. She stars in *The Christmas Pact* (Lifetime, Dec. 2).

7. When the script for *Miracle on 34th Street* was first written, it was titled *The Big Heart*.

8. Actor Thurl Ravenscroft, who sang “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch” in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, also provided the voice of Kellogg’s Tony the Tiger.



### Candace Cameron Bure Celebrates The Season In “Christmas Across America”

Actor and producer Candace Cameron Bure presents a charming look at holiday celebrations across the country in her new Hallmark Channel special *Christmas Across America* (Dec. 17). Bure takes viewers coast to coast to enjoy surprising ways that communities celebrate Christmas.

The idea for the special came from Bure’s discovery of America’s unique holiday customs. “I’ve traveled all over the world, and a lot within the United States,” she says, “and I found that there are so many Christmas traditions I had no idea that went on!

“There’s all kinds of really fun and goofy and outrageous things,” says Bure, “and then there are very heartwarming things. So we’re gonna spotlight all of those, and just show a glimpse of how people celebrate Christmas in America.”

The wide range and wonderful variety of America’s Christmas celebrations is an affirmation of our country’s diversity. “There’s no wrong way to celebrate Christmas,” says Bure. “When it comes down to it, I think it’s all about being with family and friends. The way we do it – depending on our weather, and where we live, and our surroundings – just makes it all the more fun and interesting.” – *Kellie Freeze*

“The dollhouse my grandfather built for me when I was 8 is a Christmas present I will never forget. I still have it and have been refurbishing it for my daughter!”

– Alexandra Breckenridge, who stars in *Christmas Around the Corner* (Lifetime, Dec. 14)



*Did you know...*

9. The song “Silver Bells,” composed by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans, was originally titled “Tinkle Bell” – until Livingston’s wise wife explained the other meaning of “tinkle.”

10. “White Christmas” is the top-selling song of all time, and it was written by Irving Berlin, a Jewish immigrant from Russia.

“We have a box of nutcracker decorations that we’ve been putting on the tree since I was little, so that’s one of the things that I look forward to every year.” – Christina Milian, who stars in *Memories of Christmas* (Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, Dec. 8)



### Hallmark Networks Bring Us The Biggest Holiday Lineup In Their History

The feel-good TV networks that spread sunshine, love and romance all year round – that’s Hallmark Channel and Hallmark Movies & Mysteries – kicked off the holidays back in October and have been nonstop since. Viewers continue to flock to Hallmark Channel to get their Yuletide fix, as the network’s Countdown to Christmas is an annual ratings winner.

#### Here’s just a handful of the new movies on Hallmark Channel ...

**Mingle All the Way** (Dec. 1) Stars Jen Lilley (*Days of Our Lives*), Brant Daugherty (*Fifty Shades Freed*) and Lindsay Wagner (*The Bionic Woman*).

**Homegrown Christmas** (Dec. 8) Stars Lori Loughlin (*When Calls the Heart*) and Victor Webster (*Chesapeake Shores*).

**Welcome to Christmas** (Dec. 9) Stars Eric Mabius (*Ugly Betty*) and Jennifer Finnigan (*Salvation*).

**Entertaining Christmas** (Dec. 15) Stars Jodie Sweetin (*Fuller House*).

**A Gingerbread Romance** (Dec. 16) Stars Tia Mowry-Hardritt (*Sister, Sister*) and Duane Henry (*NCIS*).

**When Calls the Heart** Two-hour special event (Dec. 25). Stars Erin Krakow (*Army Wives*), Lori Loughlin and Jack Wagner (*Melrose Place*).

#### And just a sampling of what’s new on Hallmark Movies & Mysteries ...

**Once Upon a Christmas Miracle** (Dec. 2) Stars Aimee Teegarden (*Friday Night Lights*) and Brett Dalton (*Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*).

**Memories of Christmas** (Dec. 8) Stars Christina Milian (*Grandfathered*).

**Time for Me to Come Home for Christmas** (Dec. 9) Stars Josh Henderson (*Dallas*) and Megan Park (*The Secret Life of the American Teenager*).

# December's Best Holiday Programming



**1** The Year Without a Santa Claus  
AMC, 5:45pm  
Disney Parks Presents a 25 Days of Christmas Holiday Party  
Disney Channel, 8pm  
Mingle All the Way  
Hallmark Channel, 8pm  
A Twist of Christmas  
Lifetime, 8pm

<p><b>2</b> Pinocchio's Christmas AMC, 11am Rudolph's Shiny New Year AMC, 3:30pm A Very Brady Christmas MeTV, 6pm The Christmas Pact Lifetime, 8pm Life-Size 2 Freeform, 9pm</p>	<p><b>3</b> The Nativity Story AMC, 9:30am Planes, Trains and Automobiles AMC, 1:30pm The Santa Clause Freeform, 7:25pm The Santa Clause 2 AMC, 8pm Pop Up Santa Holiday Special Freeform 9:30pm</p>	<p><b>4</b> To Grandmother's House We Go AMC, 9am A Holiday to Remember AMC, 11am The Polar Express AMC, 8pm The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause Freeform, 8:55pm</p>	<p><b>5</b> I'll Be Home for Christmas Freeform, 7am The Nightmare Before Christmas Freeform, 5:10pm The Polar Express AMC, 6pm Elf AMC, 8pm</p>	<p><b>6</b> Christmas in Connecticut (1992) AMC, 9am A Charlie Brown Christmas ABC, 8pm National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation AMC, 8pm The Great American Baking Show: Holiday Edition ABC, 9pm</p>	<p><b>7</b> Rudolph's Shiny New Year AMC, 4:30pm Merry Madagascar AMC, 7:30pm Mariah Carey's All I Want for Christmas Is You AMC, 8pm Christmas Lost and Found Lifetime, 8pm</p>	<p><b>8</b> Disney's Fairy Tale Weddings: Holiday Magic Freeform, 8pm Homegrown Christmas Hallmark Channel, 8pm Santa's Boots Lifetime, 8pm Holiday Inn TCM, 8pm Memories of Christmas Hallmark Movies &amp; Mysteries, 9pm</p>
<p><b>9</b> Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! (1966) TBS, 7:30pm Welcome to Christmas Hallmark Channel, 8pm A Christmas in Tennessee Lifetime, 8pm Time for Me to Come Home for Christmas Hallmark Movies &amp; Mysteries, 9pm</p>	<p><b>10</b> CMA Country Christmas ABC, 8pm Holiday Baking Championship Food Network, 8pm No Sleep 'Til Christmas Freeform, 9pm The Great Christmas Light Fight ABC, 10pm Last Holiday AMC, 11:30pm</p>	<p><b>11</b> Winnie the Pooh and Christmas Too Freeform, 7am Prancer AMC, 1:30pm Rudolph's Shiny New Year AMC, 4:30pm Elf AMC, 7pm</p>	<p><b>12</b> Nestor, the Long-Eared Christmas Donkey AMC, 9:30am Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas Freeform, 3pm Mr. Popper's Penguins AMC, 5pm "Ellen's Game of Games" Holiday Episode NBC, 8pm</p>	<p><b>13</b> One Magic Christmas AMC, 11am The Christmas Star AMC, 1pm A Holiday to Remember AMC, 3pm Disney Prep &amp; Landing ABC, 8pm White Christmas (1954) AMC, 11:30pm</p>	<p><b>14</b> Mickey's Once Upon a Christmas Disney Channel, 10am Ernest Saves Christmas AMC, 3pm The 87th Annual Hollywood Christmas Parade The CW, 8pm Christmas Around the Corner Lifetime, 8pm</p>	<p><b>15</b> Prancer AMC, 11:30am Entertaining Christmas Hallmark Channel, 8pm Christmas Pen Pals Lifetime, 8pm Northern Lights of Christmas Hallmark Movies &amp; Mysteries, 9pm</p>
<p><b>16</b> Happy Days: "Christmas Time" MeTV, 5:30pm iHeartRadio Jingle Ball The CW, 8pm A Gingerbread Romance Hallmark Channel, 8pm Hometown Christmas Lifetime, 8pm</p>	<p><b>17</b> Candace Cameron Bure's Christmas Across America Hallmark Channel, 7pm Christmas With the Mormon Tabernacle Choir PBS, 9pm "Last Man Standing" Christmas Episode Marathon WGN America, 10pm</p>	<p><b>18</b> Greatest Holiday Commercials Countdown 2018 The CW, 8pm Greatest Holiday Video Countdown The CW, 9pm Lidia Celebrates America: "A Heartland Holiday Feast" PBS, 9pm</p>	<p><b>19</b> Buster &amp; Chauncey's Silent Night AMC, 9am Olaf's Frozen Adventure ABC, 8pm Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer The CW, 8pm Shrek the Halls ABC, 8:30pm</p>	<p><b>20</b> White Christmas (1954) AMC, 9am Miracle on 34th Street (1947) AMC, 11:45am Life-Size 2 Freeform, 1:30pm The Santa Clause 2 AMC, 7pm A Charlie Brown Christmas ABC, 8pm</p>	<p><b>21</b> 'Twas the Night Before Christmas (1974) AMC, 9:30am The Year Without a Santa Claus AMC, 4:45pm A Christmas Carol (1999) TNT, 10:15pm</p>	<p><b>22</b> Disney Prep &amp; Landing Freeform, 2:25pm Jingle Around the Clock Hallmark Channel, 8pm A Golden Christmas Lifetime, 8pm Small Town Christmas Hallmark Movies &amp; Mysteries, 9pm Fred Claus TNT, 10:15pm</p>
<p><b>23</b> Scrooge (1935) TCM, 6am 3 Holiday Tails Lifetime, 8pm The Holly and the Ivy TCM, 8pm Gingerbread Giants 2 Food Network, 9pm A Christmas Carol (1951) TCM, 10pm</p>	<p><b>24</b> "Friends" Christmas Episode Marathon TBS, 8am It's a Wonderful Life NBC, 8pm 24 Hours of "A Christmas Story" TNT, 9pm A Christmas Carol (1938) TCM, 10pm</p>	<p><b>25</b> Disney Parks Magical Christmas Day Parade ABC, 10am Disney's A Christmas Carol (2009) Freeform, 12:40pm Father Knows Best: Home for Christmas getTV, 4pm</p>	<p>It Happened on 5th Avenue TCM, 5:45pm "When Calls the Heart" Christmas Special Hallmark Channel, 8pm "Call the Midwife" Holiday Special PBS, 9pm</p>			



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

# GARTH: LIVE AT NOTRE DAME!

Watch The Concert Special  
And Preview His New Tour.

By Taylor Neumann

Country legend Garth Brooks added another first to his storied career when he took the stage at Notre Dame Stadium in October for the first ever live concert at the university's 88-year-old famous football field. The sold-out event was captured for the CBS special *Garth: Live at Notre Dame!* Despite cold and wet weather, nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of over 84,000 fans filling the historic stadium.

Brooks was playful at the press conference prior to the concert and laughed as he teased the Fighting Irish locals: "I'm going to work you like a rented mule now – I have to." He was referencing the particulars involved in filming a concert special versus just playing a regular concert on tour, including having to play some of his hit songs twice to get it just right for the CBS special. That proved to be no problem during the show, as the passionate crowd roared when Brooks sang repeats of "Two Piña Coladas," "Standing Outside the Fire" and emotional favorite "The River," as well as some unexpected covers.

Brooks also hinted before the show that CBS is going to "attempt to do something I've never seen on TV with a crowd before ... from the helicopter shots, if they pull it off, it'll be the most epic thing you've ever seen done in a stadium."

When asked why he decided to perform at the legendary University of Notre Dame, Brooks enthused, "Everybody wants to be here. This place is representative of who we truly are: sweet people that want to do good and want to see good things happen to other people." He continued, "That's the world I want to live in, and I think that is this place."

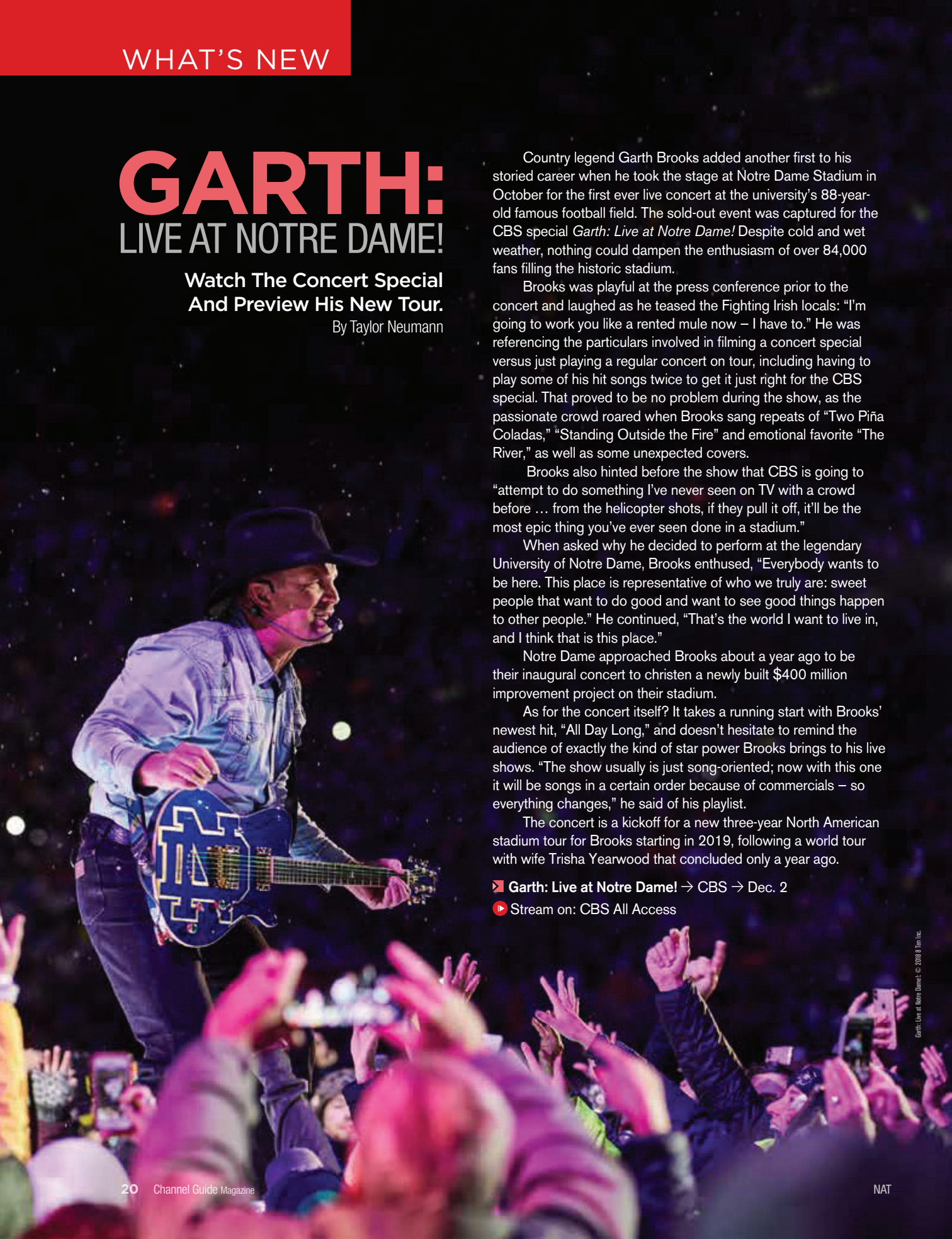
Notre Dame approached Brooks about a year ago to be their inaugural concert to christen a newly built \$400 million improvement project on their stadium.

As for the concert itself? It takes a running start with Brooks' newest hit, "All Day Long," and doesn't hesitate to remind the audience of exactly the kind of star power Brooks brings to his live shows. "The show usually is just song-oriented; now with this one it will be songs in a certain order because of commercials – so everything changes," he said of his playlist.

The concert is a kickoff for a new three-year North American stadium tour for Brooks starting in 2019, following a world tour with wife Trisha Yearwood that concluded only a year ago.

▶ **Garth: Live at Notre Dame!** → CBS → Dec. 2

▶ Stream on: CBS All Access



# NIGHTFLYERS

“Game Of Thrones” Author George R.R. Martin’s Sci-Fi/  
Horror Classic Comes To Syfy. By Jeff Pfeiffer

Author George R.R. Martin is, of course, best known for his epic *A Song of Ice and Fire* series of fantasy novels, thanks to their adaptation into HBO’s megahit *Game of Thrones*. But another of Martin’s works is ready to spring onto television and into the awareness of viewers beyond the niche audience of fantasy readers who may already know of it.

The author’s Hugo Award-nominated 1980 novella *Nightflyers* comes to Syfy this month in a 10-episode event series adaptation starring Eoin Macken, David Ajala, Gretchen Mol, Jodie Turner-Smith, Angus Sampson, Sam Strike, Maya Eshet and Brian F. O’Byrne. *Nightflyers* will air all of its episodes over the course of two weeks, not only on Syfy’s cable channel, but also on Syfy On Demand, online at [syfy.com](http://syfy.com) and on the Syfy app.

For people only familiar with Martin’s fantasy creations from watching *GoT*, *Nightflyers* shows he is also an expert in creating sci-fi and horror scenarios. Fans of *Alien*, *Event Horizon* and other works that combine those genres should take readily to this series, which is also described as a psychological thriller.

Set in the year 2093, the story follows a team of scientists aboard the *Nightflyer*, the most advanced ship ever built, as they seek out other life forms. But their mission takes them not only to the edge of the solar system, but also to the edge of sanity as they realize true horror isn’t waiting for them

in outer space – it’s already on their ship.

*Nightflyers* was adapted into a film in 1987 by writer/producer Robert Jaffe, and this series also uses that film as an inspiration, with Jaffe himself back as a producer here. Other notable names listed among the series’ behind-the-scenes crew are actor/filmmaker Andrew McCarthy and Doug Liman (*Edge of Tomorrow*, USA Network’s *Suits*).

Martin is also listed as an executive producer. The author wrote in his blog late last year that he is pleased with the casting of Turner-Smith as Melantha Jhirl, indicating she more accurately represents the tall, muscular woman with “coal-black skin” he described in his story than her depiction in the original film, which cast white actress Catherine Mary Stewart.

“At long last I can say: Now, *that’s* Melantha Jhirl,” Martin enthused near the end of his blog post, and that has to be a good sign for fans.

▶ **Nightflyers** → Syfy → Dec. 2-6 (Episodes 1-5); Dec. 9-13 (Episodes 6-10)

▶ Stream on: [syfy.com](http://syfy.com)



Jodie Turner-Smith

## PARIS TO PITTSBURGH

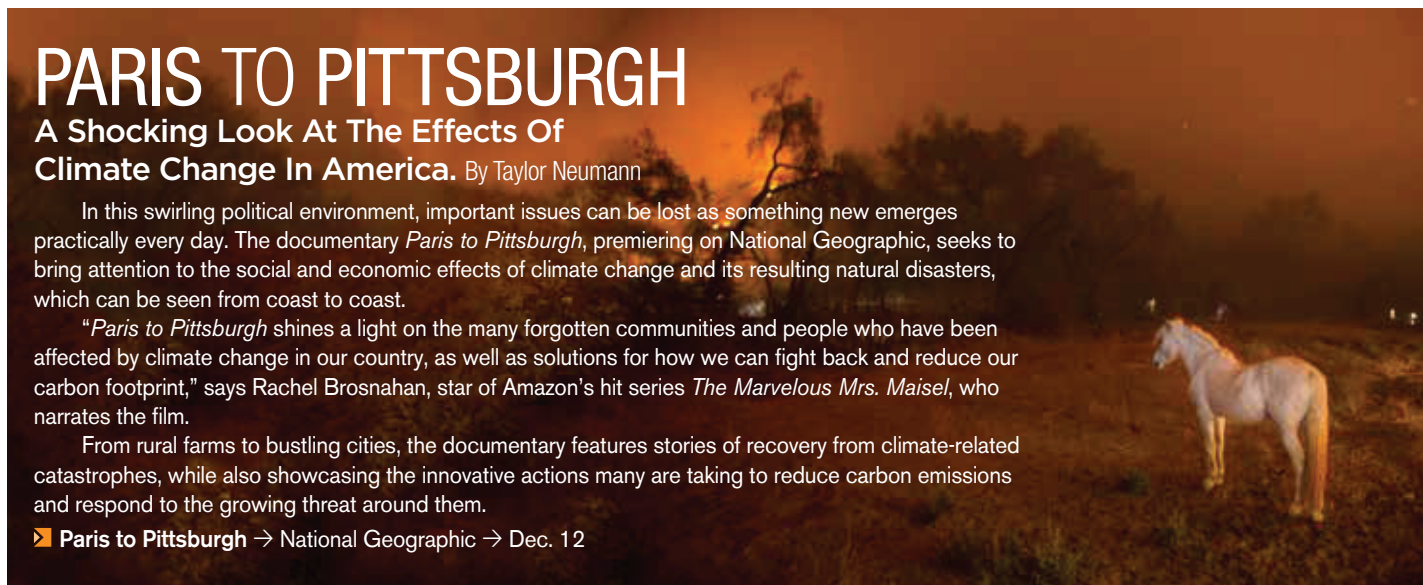
A Shocking Look At The Effects Of  
Climate Change In America. By Taylor Neumann

In this swirling political environment, important issues can be lost as something new emerges practically every day. The documentary *Paris to Pittsburgh*, premiering on National Geographic, seeks to bring attention to the social and economic effects of climate change and its resulting natural disasters, which can be seen from coast to coast.

“*Paris to Pittsburgh* shines a light on the many forgotten communities and people who have been affected by climate change in our country, as well as solutions for how we can fight back and reduce our carbon footprint,” says Rachel Brosnahan, star of Amazon’s hit series *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, who narrates the film.

From rural farms to bustling cities, the documentary features stories of recovery from climate-related catastrophes, while also showcasing the innovative actions many are taking to reduce carbon emissions and respond to the growing threat around them.

▶ **Paris to Pittsburgh** → National Geographic → Dec. 12



Nightflyers: © 2018 Syfy Media, LLC. Credit: Jonathan Messner/Syfy. Paris to Pittsburgh: Credit: Getty Images/Chrispinian.



# DEAL OR NO DEAL?

Howie Mandel Pops The Question Again.

By Ryan A. Berenz

When the concept of *Deal or No Deal* was pitched to him in a Los Angeles-area deli in 2005, Howie Mandel was thoroughly unimpressed.

"There's no game. There's no trivia. There's no skill. You're just asking me to pick numbers. And how is that going to engage an audience for an hour?" he wondered. Still, NBC would be airing *Deal or No Deal* in primetime over five nights, and Mandel figured the opportunity was worth the risk.

He remembers taping the first show, and how his humanity took over as he stood by the contestant who was facing a life-altering choice in the most pressure-packed environment. "My whole focus became, 'I just need you to make good decisions. And I just need you to walk out of here much better off than when you walked in, because this means so much more to you than it means to me.'"

*Deal or No Deal* was an unexpected hit, and Mandel's expressively pronounced "Deeeeeeal ... or no deal?" became a pop-culture catchphrase. It ran for four seasons on NBC and for two more in syndication.

Now, *Deal or No Deal* is back with Mandel hosting 30 new episodes on CNBC. "*Deal or No Deal* 2.0 is bigger. It's even more exciting, and I think just because it's a different time in the world," Mandel says. "It is a place to escape and watch people's hopes and dreams come true and their lives change forever. I think that's what *Deal or No Deal* offers people, but with even more takeaways. Not everybody can sing a song. Not everybody can dance. But everybody, whether you're 5 or 95, can make a decision that can change their lives."

Twists on the original series include a new female Banker. While she'll still work in shadow, some of the rationale for her decisions will be revealed. "You never heard before the reasoning for the offers or the counters or the deals or the no deals, and now you get to hear it," Mandel says, noting that contestants will now have one opportunity to pitch an offer to the Banker.

Many of the original briefcase models are also returning, but you can probably count one out. Former case model and *Suits* star Meghan Markle is enjoying her current role as the Duchess of Sussex. "We may not see the Duchess," Mandel says. "She was busy."

▶ **Deal or No Deal** → CNBC → Wednesdays beginning Dec. 5

# TOP CHEF

Judge Graham Elliot Spills The Tea About Cooking, Kentucky And Cranberry Sauce.

By Taylor Neumann

The culinary juggernaut *Top Chef* enters its 16th season, this time in the rolling hills of Kentucky. We talked with one of the judges, chef Graham Elliot (who you may also know from another food competition show, *MasterChef*), about the new season.

**What can viewers expect from Season 16 of *Top Chef*?**

**Graham Elliot:** This season gives you a glimpse of what's going on when it comes to cooking in America at this moment. A perfect blend of country and metropolis and everything in between. The contestants this year provide a wide array of different culinary styles, as they are not simply from large cities but from different states from all over the nation. You really get a glimpse of what people are cooking in the U.S.

**Where was your favorite place to film in Kentucky?**

Hands down, the Kentucky Derby! I had never been to a horse race before, so to have this cathedral be the first place to experience that, it was amazing.

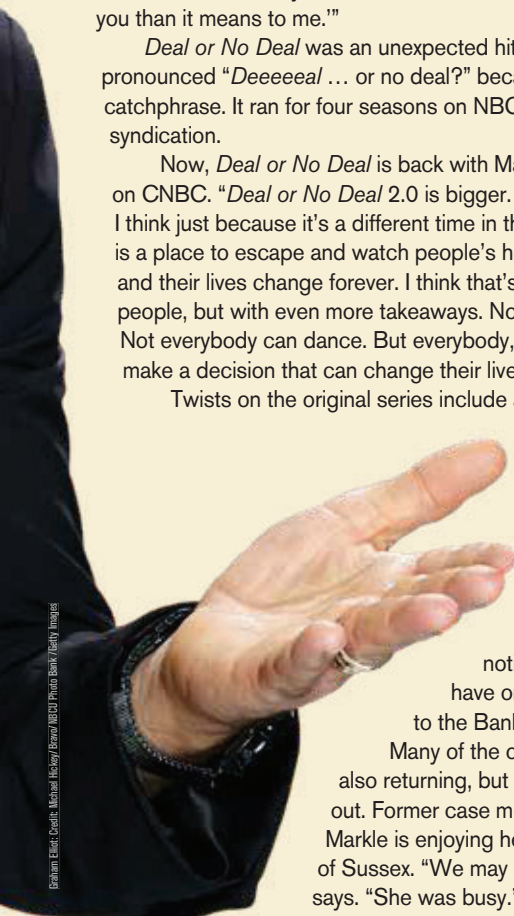
**What advice do you have for home cooks this holiday season?**

When it comes to the holidays, the most important thing is time management! Don't expect to bake a pie, make mashed potatoes plus a thousand different sides, and cook up a turkey all at the same time on the day of the big event. Prep some items a day or two before so that you can enjoy the holiday with your friends and family and simply finish things last second.

**Favorite holiday dish?**

Cranberry sauce. It was the first thing I was ever put in charge of cooking at my house, and I relish it to this day. Get it, "relish"?! #dadjoke

▶ **Top Chef** → Bravo → Thursdays beginning Dec. 6



Benjamin E. Brant / Credit: Michael Hickey / Bravo / NBCU Photo Bank / Getty Images



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**Mission Impossible — Fallout**

(Action) Ethan Hunt is back alongside his IMF team. In Hunt's latest excursion, there is more action, more thrills and more mission, including the fallout from some of Hunt's past choices. *Tom Cruise, Henry Cavill, Ving Rhames* (PG-13, 2:27) (HD) Premieres Dec. 4



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**White Boy Rick**

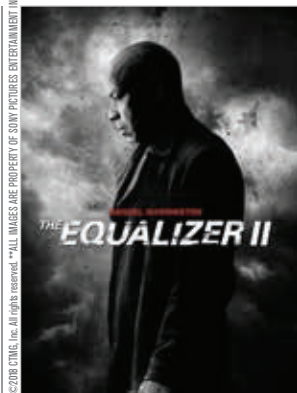
(Drama) The tale of a teenager who was a street hustler, FBI informant and drug kingpin – all before he turned 16. Based on the true story of Ricky Wershe Jr. *Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Richie Merritt* (R, 1:51) (HD) Premieres Dec. 25



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**The Nun**

(Horror) A prequel to *The Conjuring* and *Annabelle*. Travel to Romania alongside a priest with a haunted past and a nun who is about to make her final vows. There, they will confront a demonic force embodied in a nun. *Demian Bichir, Taissa Farmiga, Jonas Bloquet* (R, 1:36) (HD) Premieres Dec. 4



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**The Equalizer 2**

(Thriller) Robert McCall is back, and he is dishing out his unique brand of justice to help the exploited and oppressed. His advocacy for those less fortunate is unmatched, but what extremes will he go to when someone he loves is impacted? *Denzel Washington, Pedro Pascal, Bill Pullman* (R, 2:01) (HD) Premieres Dec. 11



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**Smallfoot**

(Animated) The legend of a creature with small feet has run rampant in the Bigfoot community. When Migo is banished for insisting that he has seen a smallfoot, he sets out to prove the existence of the mythical creature known to you and me as a human. *Voices of Channing Tatum, James Corden, Zendaya* (PG, 1:36) (HD) Premieres Dec. 11



© Universal Pictures.

**Night School**

(Comedy) Teddy is back in school – night school. Intense and unique, his teacher will help the entire class get their GEDs. *Kevin Hart, Tiffany Haddish, Rob Riggle* (PG-13, 1:51) (HD) Premieres Dec. 28



© 2018 Langlois Films.

**A Simple Favor**

(Mystery) Emily had it all – or so one may think – but when she goes missing, everyone looks to new friend and fellow mom Stephanie Smothers to find out what happened. *Anna Kendrick, Blake Lively, Henry Golding* (R, 1:57) (HD) Premieres Dec. 18



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**The Predator**

(Action) The world's most lethal hunters come to Earth, and it will take everyone to stop them, including a group of elite ex-soldiers and a disgruntled science teacher, to name just a few. *Boyd Holbrook, Trevante Rhodes, Sterling K. Brown* (R, 1:47) (HD) Premieres Dec. 18





Titles available same day as DVD release



© 2018 Sony Pictures Distribution Co., LLC

## The House with a Clock in Its Walls

(Comedy) Lewis Barnavelt wants his uncle Jonathan to teach him magic. Jonathan obliges, and once Lewis learns, the pair must find out why the mysterious clock in the house's walls is counting down and do battle against anything that crosses their path. *Jack Black, Cate Blanchett, Owen Vaccaro* (PG, 1:45) (HD)

Premieres Dec. 18



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## Peppermint

(Action) A young mother and wife has her entire life ripped apart by three violent criminals. When the justice system can't help her, she takes matters into her own hands. *Jennifer Garner, John Gallagher Jr., Annie Ilonze* (R, 1:41) (HD)

Premieres Dec. 11

# At-A-Glance

## December Movies On Demand

### PREMIERES

### BEGINS

All the Creatures Were Stirring . . . . .	12/4
Along With the Gods:	
The Last 49 Days . . . . .	12/11
American Renegades . . . . .	12/24
Asher . . . . .	12/7
Assassination Nation . . . . .	12/18
A.X.L. . . . .	12/21
Bar Talks . . . . .	12/11
Beautifully Broken . . . . .	12/4
Bernie the Dolphin . . . . .	12/7
Between Worlds . . . . .	12/18
Beyond White Space . . . . .	12/14
Cecil . . . . .	12/11
Christmas & Co. . . . .	12/1
Christmas Blood . . . . .	12/4
Colette . . . . .	12/11
The Constitution . . . . .	12/1
The Dawn Wall . . . . .	12/4
Deadman Standing . . . . .	12/11
Digimon Adventure Tri.: Future . . . . .	12/4
Divide and Conquer:	
The Story of Roger Ailes . . . . .	12/7
Elon Musk: The Real Life Iron Man . . . . .	12/4
The Equalizer 2 . . . . .	12/11
God Bless the Broken Road . . . . .	12/4
The Happytime Murders . . . . .	12/4
The Hitman Never Dies . . . . .	12/4
Holly Star . . . . .	12/4
House of Ravens . . . . .	12/11
The House With a Clock in Its Walls . . . . .	12/18
Howard Lovecraft and the	
Kingdom of Madness . . . . .	12/4
I'll Be Next Door for Christmas . . . . .	12/4
Kusama – Infinity . . . . .	12/11
La Quietud . . . . .	12/11
Letter From Masanjia . . . . .	12/4
Little Women . . . . .	12/18
Lizzie . . . . .	12/11
Mission: Impossible – Fallout . . . . .	12/4
Night School . . . . .	12/28
Nightshift . . . . .	12/4

The Nun . . . . .	12/4
Operation Finale . . . . .	12/4
Out on Stage: The Movie . . . . .	12/18
The Party's Just Beginning . . . . .	12/11
Peppermint . . . . .	12/11
Pope Francis: A Man of His Word . . . . .	12/4
The Predator . . . . .	12/18
The Quake . . . . .	12/14
Rudy Ruettiger: The Walk On . . . . .	12/4
Runnin' From My Roots . . . . .	12/11
The Salted Egg . . . . .	12/11
Science Fair . . . . .	12/18
Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero . . . . .	12/11
A Simple Favor . . . . .	12/18
Slay Belles . . . . .	12/4
Smallfoot (3D) . . . . .	12/11
Snowflake . . . . .	12/4
Somm 3 . . . . .	12/1
Song of Back and Neck . . . . .	12/4
Steve Lemme & Kevin Heffernan:	
The Potential Farewell Tour . . . . .	12/4
Supergrid . . . . .	12/11
Tyrel . . . . .	12/7
Un Traductor . . . . .	12/11
Unbroken: Path to Redemption . . . . .	12/11
United We Fan . . . . .	12/4
Weightless . . . . .	12/18
White Boy Rick . . . . .	12/25
You & Me . . . . .	12/4
Yugo & Lala:	
Saving the Red Crown Forest . . . . .	12/4

### ALSO AVAILABLE

### ENDS

Alpha . . . . .	2/27
BlackKkKlansman . . . . .	3/27
Christopher Robin . . . . .	3/4
Crazy Rich Asians . . . . .	4/5
Dog Days . . . . .	2/4
Incredibles 2 . . . . .	1/29
Kin . . . . .	3/28
The Meg (3D) . . . . .	3/29
Mile 22 . . . . .	3/31
Searching . . . . .	3/26

## How To Order On Demand Movies:

1. Using your digital remote, tune to your Movies On Demand channel
2. Choose the title you wish to view and select "BUY/ORDER"
3. Use your arrow keys on remote to pause, play, fast-forward or rewind

# ON A ROLL



Alabama quarterback Tua Tagovailoa hopes to hoist the Heisman Trophy and another national title for the Crimson Tide

## Will It Be Back-To-Back Championships For Alabama? By Ryan A. Berenz

Say what you will about the Alabama Crimson Tide's wave of dominance. They win a lot, but at least they keep it interesting.

Since the College Football Playoff began in 2014-15, the Tide have appeared in all four playoffs and have won two national championships, including a thriller in last season's title game. After a second-half comeback against the Georgia Bulldogs, Bama QB Tua Tagovailoa tossed a perfect 41-yard touchdown to DeVonta Smith in overtime to seal the 26-23 win.

Tagovailoa and the Tide are back at it again this season and are near locks to make their fifth CFP appearance, with Clemson and Notre Dame also in the mix. Michigan, Georgia, Oklahoma, Washington State,

Kentucky and Ohio State have an outside chance to get a nod from the selection committee. It will become clear (and probably controversial) when the final CFP rankings are revealed Dec. 2.

The year's most outstanding player is awarded the Heisman Trophy in a ceremony Dec. 8 on ESPN, with Tagovailoa, Oklahoma QB Kyler Murray, Ohio State QB Dwayne Haskins, Washington State QB Gardner Minshew and Clemson RB Travis Etienne among the possible invitees.

The CFP semifinals are earlier than past years, as the Cotton and Orange Bowl playoff games will be played Saturday, Dec. 29. The National Championship game is Jan. 7 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif.

## College Football Postseason Highlights

- Dec. 2 — **Playoff Selection Show**, ESPN
- Dec. 8 — **2018 Heisman Trophy Ceremony**, ESPN
- Dec. 28 — **Valero Alamo Bowl**, ESPN
- Dec. 29 — **Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl**, ESPN
- Dec. 31 — **Hyundai Sun Bowl**, CBS  
**TaxSlayer Gator Bowl**, ESPN
- Jan. 1 — **Outback Bowl**, ESPN2  
**PlayStation Fiesta Bowl**, ESPN  
**Citrus Bowl**, ABC  
**Rose Bowl**, ESPN  
**Allstate Sugar Bowl**, ESPN

## College Football Playoff

- Dec. 29 — **Semifinal: Capital One Orange Bowl**, ESPN
- Semifinal: Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic**, ESPN
- Jan. 7 — **National Championship**, ESPN

Kevin Durant and the Warriors host LeBron James and the Lakers on Christmas

## The DEPTH CHART

### Christmas Day NBA

NBA games under the tree on Dec. 25 are Milwaukee at New York (**ESPN**), Oklahoma City at Houston (**ABC**), Philadelphia at Boston (**ABC**), L.A. Lakers at Golden State (**ABC & ESPN**) and Portland at Utah (**ESPN**).

### NFL Football

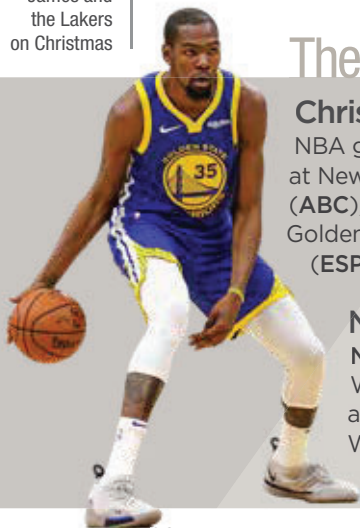
**NFL Network's** Saturday game schedule in Weeks 15-16 has Houston at the N.Y. Jets and Cleveland at Denver on Dec. 15, and Washington at Tennessee and Baltimore at the L.A. Chargers on Dec. 22.

### ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating

**NBCSN** and **NBC** share coverage of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Finals from Vancouver Dec. 7-9.

### 30 for 30: "42 to 1"

One of the most famous upsets in sports history gets the *30 for 30* treatment on Dec. 11 as **ESPN** looks back on Buster Douglas' KO win over Mike Tyson in 1990.



# Dec.

We Break Down The Month's Biggest And Best Programming So You Never Miss A Must-See Minute.

**1**  
**Mingle All the Way**, Hallmark Channel  
– Original Film

**2**  
**Garth: Live at Notre Dame!**, CBS  
**Berlin Station**, EPIX – Season Premiere  
**College Football Playoff Selection Show**, ESPN

**Life-Size 2**, Freeform – Original Film  
**Once Upon a Christmas Miracle**,  
Hallmark Movies & Mysteries  
– Original Film

**The Christmas Pact**, Lifetime  
– Original Film

**Nightflyers**, Syfy – New Series

**3**  
**Vanderpump Rules**, Bravo  
– Season Premiere  
**Always at the Carlyle**, Starz

**4**  
**The Profit**, CNBC – Season Premiere

**5**  
**The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel**, Amazon  
– Season Premiere  
**Deal or No Deal**, CNBC  
– Season Premiere

**6**  
**The Great American Baking Show: Holiday Edition**, ABC  
– Season Premiere  
**Top Chef**, Bravo – Season Premiere  
**Botched, E!** – Season Premiere

**7**  
**Mariah Carey's All I Want for Christmas Is You**, AMC  
**Christmas Lost and Found**, Lifetime  
– Original Film  
**Love After Lockup**, WE tv  
– Season Premiere

**8**  
**2018 Heisman Trophy Presentation**,  
ESPN

**Homegrown Christmas**, Hallmark  
Channel – Original Film

**9**  
**Welcome to Christmas**, Hallmark  
Channel – Original Film  
**Time for Me to Come Home for Christmas**, Hallmark Movies &  
Mysteries – Original Film  
**Counterpart**, Starz – Season Premiere

**11**  
**30 for 30: "42 to 1,"** ESPN

**12**  
**Paris to Pittsburgh**, National  
Geographic  
**"Ellen's Game of Games" Holiday Episode**, NBC ↓



**13**  
**The 12 Pops of Christmas**, TLC

**14**  
**Christmas Around the Corner**, Lifetime  
– Original Film  
**Fuller House**, Netflix  
– Season Premiere  
**Roma**, Netflix – Original Film

**15**  
**Entertaining Christmas**, Hallmark  
Channel – Original Film  
**Springsteen on Broadway**, Netflix  
**The Price of Fame**, REELZ Channel  
– Season Premiere

**16**  
**A Gingerbread Romance**,  
Hallmark Channel – Original Film

**17**  
**Candace Cameron Bure's Christmas Across America**, Hallmark Channel  
**Christmas With the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Featuring Sutton Foster and Hugh Bonneville**, PBS

**20**  
**Timeless**, NBC – Series Finale

**21**  
**Marvel's Runaways**, Hulu  
– Season Premiere  
**Bird Box**, Netflix – Original Film  
**Diablero**, Netflix – New Series  
**3Below: Tales of Arcadia**, Netflix  
– New Series

**25**  
**NBA Basketball**, ABC & ESPN  
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Channel  
**"Call the Midwife" Holiday Special**,  
PBS

**26**  
**NOVA: "Apollo's Daring Mission,"** PBS  
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**28**  
**College Football: Valero Alamo Bowl**,  
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**Selection Day**, Netflix – New Series

**29**  
**College Football Playoff Semifinals**,  
ESPN

**30**  
**The Orville**, FOX – Season Premiere

**31**  
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CBS  
**College Football: TaxSlayer Gator Bowl**, ESPN

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