



WyomingPBS

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WYOMING PBS FOUNDATION RECEIVES \$15,000 TO FUND DOCUMENTARY

Wednesday, April 2

(Riverton, Wyoming) – The Wyoming PBS Foundation has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Unrestricted Endowment Fund held by the Wyoming Community Foundation (WYCF) to fund a one-hour, television documentary titled "Artists in Yellowstone."

The Wyoming PBS Foundation is a nonprofit organization which provides funding for Wyoming PBS, the only public television station in Wyoming, which serves about 85% of the state's citizens.

Wyoming PBS and independent producer Raechel Donahue from Sheridan, Wyoming are working together to produce this documentary in high-definition format, which will depict the history of art in Yellowstone, as well as revealing Yellowstone's inspirational power and its unique creative heritage. By examining the work of early artists such as Thomas Moran and Albert Bierstadt, the documentary will show how Yellowstone artists had a significant role in persuading Congress to set aside Yellowstone as the nation's first national park. Interviews of various scholars and contemporary artists will complement past and present footage from the Park, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, the National Museum of Wildlife Art, the Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian.

According to Wyoming PBS General Manager Ruby Calvert, "The station has been fundraising for this project for over two years, and we're grateful to the Wyoming Community Foundation for helping us with a significant part of the production funding". Calvert went on to state that this show promises to be a work of art in many ways – with scenic beauty, important history and examples of some of the most important Western art -- and the fact that this program will be in high definition should make it highly attractive for distribution to all PBS stations across the country. "Wyoming PBS is planning to distribute "Artists in Yellowstone" nationally to coincide with the newest series being produced by Ken Burns titled "National Parks", which is scheduled for national broadcast in fall, 2009. And stations across the country have already expressed an interest in airing our program", said Calvert.

The Wyoming Community Foundation is a charitable organization that builds and preserves funds established by individuals, families, corporations, agencies and private foundations. The Community Foundation uses the earnings from these funds to benefit community needs across the state of Wyoming. For information call 307-721-8300 or visit their website at www.wycf.org.

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