In the Community

CELEBRATING IDAHO
JOIN US IN TWIN FALLS FOR A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK at how we put together our Idaho Public Television productions. IdahoPTV producers, directors, and others will share about what makes Idaho so unique and the stories that connect and enrich our communities.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21
Reception: 6:00–7:00 PM • Presentation: 7:00 PM–8:30 PM
Twin Falls Center for the Arts • 195 River Vista Place, Suite #100 • Twin Falls, ID 83301
FREE EVENT! PLEASE REGISTER BY AUGUST 14 AT: IDAHOPTV.ORG/EVENTS
For questions, please call 800-543-6868

GET AN EXCLUSIVE SNEAK PEEK OF OUR NEW SEASONS!

LIMITED SEATING!
Education

IdahoPTV in the Classroom
Where can students experience the life of a logger on northern Idaho’s Clearwater River, understand the Chinese immigrant experience in early Idaho, and learn what it’s like to be a state wildlife agent?

Idaho teachers create media-based classroom activities on these topics and many more, and Idaho Public Television publishes them on PBS LearningMedia, a free, national online library of more than 120,000 digital media resources across all K-12 curriculum areas.

It’s not always easy to find Idaho Standards-based content for use in the classroom, says Moscow teacher Lacey Watkins. This is especially true for fourth grade history, which focuses on the Gem State.

When Watkins discovered PBS LearningMedia lesson plans on Idaho historical figures and events featured in the historical documentary series Idaho Experience, she was excited to share them with her colleagues. “I feel like more fourth grade teachers need to know about this.”

The Idaho Standards-aligned lessons use short videos and other media to encourage student engagement in the classroom. Students can complete and submit assignments through the platform, and teachers can check progress on their work.

“I was so delighted to find this massive portal of all of these resources,” says Molly Loayza, English Language Learner (ELL) teacher at Lewis and Clark Elementary in Caldwell. “There is a plethora of well-planned, standards-aligned resources for all grade levels.”

Idaho Public Television’s content on the platform also includes Outdoor Idaho, Science Trek, Know Vape: The Dangers of Youth Vaping, Native Voices (Kessler Keener Foundation), and Moments in Time From the Journals of Lewis and Clark.

Watch tutorials on how to make the most of PBS LearningMedia in the classroom at https://www.idahoptv.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/pbs-learningmediatutorials.

Our IdahoPTV Productions

“Chemistry”
Chemistry is the science that deals with the substances that make up everything on earth. This month’s videos from Science Trek show how chemists study these substances and how they combine and change them to make new things like medicines and plastics. Additional videos demonstrate at-home experiments to learn about how chemicals dissolve and how to use chromatography to separate components of a mixture.

Explore the Timeless Craftsmanship of Leather Braiding With ‘createid’

To watch Mike “Hooey” Storch braid leather is to watch someone who has found his calling. For hours on end, Storch painstakingly cuts, bevels and knots narrow strips of leather, working in tiny fractions of an inch. Pairs of reading glasses with additional magnification cluster on tables throughout his cabin. Rolls of leather crowd a spare room.

“It’s just something inside,” he says of the feeling he gets when he braids. “It makes you feel at peace with yourself.”

Storch, who lives in Donnelly, Idaho, started tying knots and braiding the way many people do, by learning macramé as a hobby. But his skillset quickly progressed when he worked on a tall ship and then on ranches, two jobs for which knowing how to tie knots is essential. When he started helping a rancher take hunters on pack trips, they noticed him braiding and wondered if they could buy his work.

“They’d come to me and say, ‘Here’s an elk tooth, an elk ivory. Here’s a bear claw. Can you do something with that?’” says Storch.

Over time, Storch, who was nicknamed “Hooey” by a friend, began specializing in braiding bands for cowboy hats. Ad hoc commissions eventually turned into a full-fledged small business, with Storch now selling his work to high-end hat companies. “I can’t keep up with the demand during the busy season,” he says.

Hooey’s “bible” is the classic “The Ashley Book of Knots,” first published in 1944. Wherever he’s moved, a well-worn copy has traveled with him.

“You go in any store now, everything you buy was made by a machine,” Storch says. “Everything is mass-produced and disposable. When you buy something of mine, it’s made to last. It’s made the traditional way, and it’s made with care.”

You can watch this episode at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqbAdllpXaY.