

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WGTE Public Media and WBGU-TV Announce New Partnership for PBS Programming in Northwest Ohio

WGTE to assume broadcasting responsibilities for WBGU's PBS programming beginning July 1, providing continued access to service for viewers across the region

TOLEDO — Following months of coordinated planning, WGTE Public Media and WBGU-TV today announced a new broadcasting partnership that will provide continued delivery of trusted PBS programming for viewers across northwest Ohio.

Beginning July 1, WGTE Public Media will assume broadcasting responsibilities for PBS programming from WBGU, following the conclusion of the station's PBS affiliation.

The partnership comes after the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's closure earlier this year due to federal funding cuts, which impacted public broadcasters nationwide, including WBGU and led to the decision to end the station's PBS affiliation after June 30. Since then, WBGU has proactively engaged in discussions with WGTE to develop alternatives and solutions to ensure continued, uninterrupted access to PBS programming in its 19-county viewing area.

As WBGU's existing PBS broadcasting arrangement concludes, this partnership provides WBGU viewers continued access on Channel 27 to the PBS programming they rely on. WGTE Public Media, northwest Ohio's established public media organization, operating both PBS and NPR services, is well-positioned to support WBGU's mission of serving the Bowling Green community and beyond.

"At WGTE, our mission has always been to serve our community. This partnership is a natural extension of that commitment," said Dale Thornton, Interim President and CEO of WGTE Public Media. "We believe this is the right step for both audiences, our donors, and the communities we are privileged to serve together. We are proud to assume this responsibility and look forward to what this means for public media in northwest Ohio in the foreseeable future."

The partnership reflects the shared values of both organizations and their commitment to the communities of northwest Ohio. Both WGTE Public Media and Bowling Green State University believe this collaboration represents the best path forward for their respective PBS audiences and look forward to its positive impact on the region's public media landscape.

"For more than six decades, WBGU-TV has served northwest Ohio with educational and engaging programming, and we are proud to partner with WGTE Public Media to continue providing sought-after PBS programming to our viewers," said Tom Cummings, general manager of WBGU-TV. "Through this collaboration, we will continue serving the community with uninterrupted access to quality PBS programming on

channel 27 that so many people rely on and turn to for information and entertainment. We look forward to next steps with WGTE Public Media and are thrilled for this new opportunity to continue the delivery of PBS programming on WBGU.”

WBGU will continue to remain a broadcasting unit at Bowling Green State University with limited operations, focused on livestreaming services, including Commencement, athletic and arts events and more. WBGU will also continue to identify new learning opportunities for students while leveraging its broadcast capabilities in continued service to the community.

In the near future, current WBGU members will receive additional information from WGTE and WBGU about this new agreement and their PBS membership.

About WGTE Public Media

Founded in 1952, WGTE Public Media is a four-time Emmy Award–winning public media organization serving northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Owned by the Public Broadcasting Foundation of Northwest Ohio, WGTE operates PBS member station WGTE-TV (channel 30) and NPR member station WGTE-FM (91.3) from its studios in Toledo. Rooted in education and discovery, WGTE delivers quality programming, community educational opportunities and local productions that enlighten, enrich and engage the communities it serves. Learn more at wgte.org.

About WBGU-TV

Since 1964, WBGU-TV (channel 27) has served 19 counties across northwest Ohio with educational and community-focused programming. As a service of Bowling Green State University, WBGU-TV also provides valuable learning experiences and opportunities for students interested in broadcast communications and video production careers. As its legacy continues to evolve, WBGU-TV will remain a broadcasting and video production unit within the University and will identify new learning opportunities for students while leveraging innovative ways to continue serving the community. Learn more at WBGU.org.