

AUGUST 2026

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A MESSAGE FROM DEANNA MACKEY

The phrase “lazy, hazy days of summer” does not apply to KPBS, and it is particularly true this summer. There has been so much activity throughout the station and we wouldn’t have it any other way.

[The KPBS newsroom was busy last month taking you inside Comic-Con.](#) We shared stories from San Diegans alongside the fans, creators and communities who bring the iconic pop culture convention to life. Stories ranged from reflections of a long-time fan to parents sharing how to bring small children, to KPBS Roundtable going live from the convention to an amazing selection of photos capturing what it’s like inside and outside one of the largest events held in San Diego.

We also celebrated the one year anniversary of [The Gratitude Collective](#) in June. I had a feeling the idea of a donor community that centers women super fans of KPBS would resonate with many of you. But what truly brought it to life was the leadership of our two co-chairs and Producers Club members Nishma Held and Valerie Attisha. They both embraced this group wholeheartedly and committed themselves to making this a space where we can feel KPBS’ values. Through their leadership we have grown to nearly 200 members. I thank them for the impact they have made with The Gratitude Collective and for their passion. Read below for a recap of the first year. I encourage you to consider joining this engaging community.

Have you grabbed a ticket to the Book Festival yet? KPBS is thrilled to bring the festival back for a second year on August 22 at USD. This event will feature panel discussions with award-winning authors, activities, live entertainment, exhibitors including independent booksellers, local authors, food trucks and more. We will also announce the One Book, One San Diego 2026 book selections, celebrating our 20th chapter of this community reading program. [The team has been hard at work for months to create a reader’s paradise and you won’t want to miss it.](#)

Sadly, I will miss the Book Festival this year but for a good reason. I will be sailing the enchanting Dalmatian Coast with 40 KPBS members, aboard the National Geographic Orion. We will be journeying through Croatia, Albania, and Greece,

I am excited to go on this specially curated experience alongside many members. It will be an unforgettable voyage blending history, nature, and discovery. Offering tours like

this is a unique fundraiser that aligns well with what we know public media fans appreciate. You are tireless lifelong learners.

While it is a busy summer with little slow down, it is all done in service to our mission - helping San Diegans think, dream and feel connected. Your support of KPBS makes it possible. Thank you!



Deanna Mackey

Deanna Mackey
KPBS General Manager

PRODUCERS CLUB EVENT



Save the Date: Fall Program Preview

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 20, from 5–7 p.m.* for the Fall Program Preview event. Held at the Carlsbad City Library, we will give a sneak preview of the programs premiering on KPBS during the fall. **More information and details to RSVP will come in the September PC Post.**

*Please note that in alignment with Carlsbad City Library operations, the 5 p.m. start time for this event is earlier than usual for Producers Club events.

THE GRATITUDE COLLECTIVE



One-Year Anniversary

Looking back on our journey since launching *The Gratitude Collective*, it's breathtaking to see how a shared dream has blossomed into such a vibrant, passionate community of women dedicated to championing KPBS' mission of connecting, reflecting, and serving San Diego.

Thanks to your incredible generosity, that vision has become a source of inspiration, connection, and opportunity, in ways we once only imagined. From our powerful kickoff on women's philanthropy and cozy, festive holiday teas, to exploring local history over our *One Book, One San Diego* brunch and sharing dynamic leadership panels, we have celebrated so much together. And the best part? We're just getting started!

Check out photos from our past events and discover new ways to keep the momentum going at www.kpbs.org/collective.

We invite you to join us for our next milestone [on Saturday, August 22, at 10:00 a.m. at the 2nd Annual KPBS San Diego Book Festival](#), where members will enjoy exclusive access to the Producers Club Hospitality Lounge, complimentary refreshments, author talks with Christina Lauren, Rachel Khong, and Claudette Zepeda, and our annual One Book celebration.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCH



TheFinestSD.org

We're happy to share the preview of the new arts & culture site TheFinestSD.org!

As you know, KPBS has been covering arts and culture for decades. Back in the spring of 2025, KPBS proudly launched [The Finest podcast](#) - highlighting the artists, advocates and ideas pushing boundaries in the region's cultural landscape and deepening our understanding of why we are America's Finest.

You are being invited to take a sneak peek at the new site as part of our soft launch phase. During this phase we are only sharing the link with trusted family and friends - that's you! The public launch will happen in about two weeks after we incorporate feedback from the survey and finetune content workflows.

Here's how to access the [site](#):

Username: thefinest

Password: thefinest

How can you help? Glad you asked! We need feedback. What do you like? What's missing? What isn't working as intended? And what platform are you accessing the site from? Once you've had a chance to explore the site, [please complete this survey](#). We want helpful input as we continue to refine TheFinestSD and prepare it for a public launch. **Please do NOT share this website with others or on social media.** We will let you know when the site is public. So take a look around and let us know what you think!

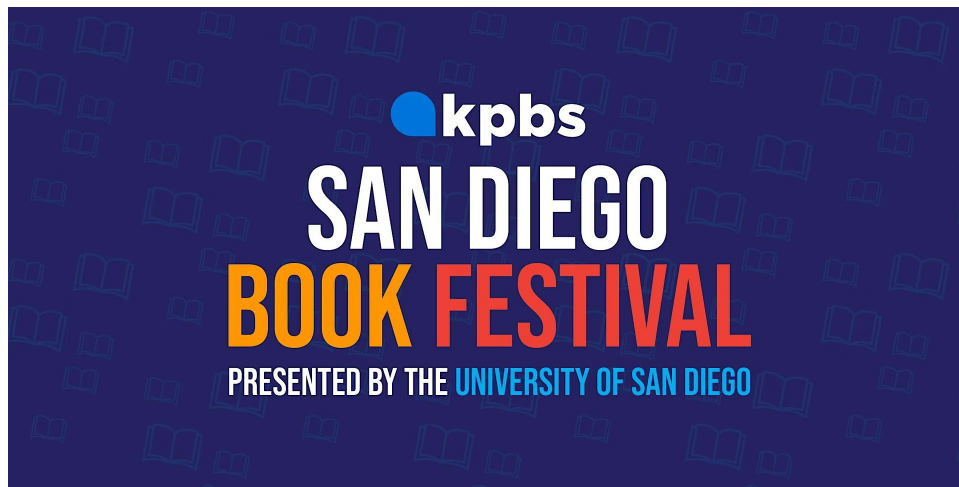


National Make-A-Will Month

August is National Make a Will Month, making it the perfect time to secure your legacy, and our refreshed website now makes it easier than ever to [create or update your will online](#) at no cost. It is also a great moment to get the most out of your Producers Club membership with **GiftLegacy**, our bi-weekly newsletter. Sent every other weekend, each issue begins with exclusive updates on KPBS projects, station news, and community impact. You will also gain expert-backed insights on tax and estate planning, practical finance updates, and *Savvy Living* lifestyle tips to empower your financial future. If you joined PC recently or haven't signed up yet, [sign up today](#) to start receiving these valuable updates straight to your inbox.

The Producers Club Silver level has increased to \$1,500 annually or \$125 monthly, though existing members are grandfathered at their current rate through 2026. If you wish to update your sustaining pledge to the new level early, please [click here](#).

COMMUNITY EVENT



KPBS San Diego Book Festival

The second annual KPBS San Diego Book Festival on the University of San Diego campus (5998 Alcala Park Way, San Diego, CA 92110) **on Saturday, August 22, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Although the PC member-only lounge is open from 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is a free event for book lovers of all ages. This year is especially meaningful as we celebrate the 20th chapter of [One Book, One San Diego](#).

If you're attending, be sure to visit the exclusive Producers Club member hospitality lounge, where you can relax with a cold soft drink, enjoy a sweet treat, and mingle with fellow Producers Club members and KPBS staff. [Simply enter the code "PC" at checkout to reserve your spot.](#)

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