



JANUARY 2026

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A MESSAGE FROM DEANNA MACKEY

Happy new year from KPBS! I hope you were able to enjoy the wintry feeling of slowing down and being in the moment with loved ones. I did, and also took time to reflect upon why I am heading into 2026 with hope and gratitude.

KPBS is here to help you, whether it be news that provides an understanding of economic impacts on your quality of life, or events that celebrate what makes San Diego unique. Exciting plans are already underway to bring you more news, events and experiences to connect you to our community. Keep an eye out for information on how we will be commemorating and exploring America250; tickets to a "Wait Wait, Don't Tell Me" live taping show in April at the Civic Center; a special celebration event for the 100th episode of "Ken Kramer's About San Diego;" a cost of living series by our news room; and One Book, One San Diego's 20th anniversary.

Just reading that list of activities reminds me of the breadth and impact of KPBS as a community service. We are in all aspects of San Diego residents' lives and we take that responsibility very seriously.

The vibrant continuation of our public service is because of you. There is no doubt 2025 was difficult for KPBS. However, your tremendous outpouring of support has contributed to my unbridled optimism that KPBS will continue to be an essential service for generations to come.

We went into the federal funding loss in a strong financial position and we have made good progress against the \$4.3 million budget gap this fiscal year. I am now planning for the next 2-5 years addressing how we will fill this annual funding gap. The momentum you have helped create has put us in a place to not only survive but thrive.

I'm excited to enter this year with you, our superfans and supporters, by my side and look forward to seeing you at upcoming Producers Club events. So let's get 2026 started!



Deanna Mackey

Deanna Mackey
KPBS General Manager

PRODUCERS CLUB EVENT



'The Recipe' at La Jolla Playhouse

Before she became a culinary icon, Julia Child was a restless young woman rebelling against the narrow expectations of her Pasadena upbringing. This lively new play traces her journey across the world to Paris's Cordon Bleu, where she found her passion, her confidence, and her partner, Paul Child, charting a delicious path from uncertainty to self-discovery.

Due to the popularity of previous Producers Club events at the La Jolla Playhouse, we are offering TWO evenings for what is going to be an inspirational performance of "The Recipe".

The \$45 price per ticket will cover a Producers Club reception with light bites and drinks, an artistic chat with members of the production and the performance of "The Recipe". We ask you to limit your purchase to two tickets. If registering for two, please include the names of both attendees.

Parking is not included in the \$45 ticket price. For directions and parking information, [click here](#).

Questions in the meantime? Please email gcruzmaldonado@kpbs.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2026 & Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026

6 p.m.

La Jolla Playhouse

2910 La Jolla Village Dr, La Jolla, CA 92093

Cost: \$45

Fair market value: \$125

RSVP for Feb. 25

RSVP for Feb. 26

DONATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The dedicated KPBS Development team wants to be able to thank you for your generosity and support and acknowledge you with a tax receipt. We have received stocks and IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)/Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) checks recently that are missing donor names.

If you haven't done so already, please email producersclub@kpbs.org with the date, quantity and name of the stocks, or the name of your IRA administrator/bank and the amount of your distribution, so we can correctly identify and acknowledge your gift. We can be reached at 619-594-2028.

Sustaining (monthly) Members: Your 2025 tax receipts will be mailed at the end of January or early February.

EVENT RECAP



Producers Club Trivia Night & Mixer

In December, KPBS Producers Club members and staff came together for a festive night of trivia, mingling and friendly competition at our second annual Trivia & Mixer Night. Guests showed off their public media knowledge, competed for KPBS swag, and enjoyed pizza, salad, beer and wine throughout the evening. With holiday sweaters, team spirit and plenty of laughs, it was a fun-filled night that celebrated community, play, and connection.

Did you know?



Did you know that KPBS Listens? Over the past two years, KPBS staff have interviewed more than 300 community members to learn how the station can better serve and engage their neighborhoods. With a particular emphasis in demographically diverse communities of Southeastern San Diego and South Bay, these interviews uncovered that a large portion of respondents are concerned about cost of living issues, escalating housing processes, and homelessness. For more information, [click here](#).

COMMUNITY EVENT



An Evening with 'America's Test Kitchen'

Join KPBS and fans of "America's Test Kitchen" on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026, at 7 p.m. at The Legacy Resort Hotel & Spa in Mission Valley for an on-stage experience and a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into the series. Hosts Julia Collin Davison and Bridget Lancaster will share the science behind cooking and what they've learned after 25 years on set, including techniques and tips, favorite recipes and what they can't live without in their own kitchens. It's a night for food lovers filled with ideas and inspiration with two of the culinary world's best.

Tickets are still available for \$65 for general admission, which includes a copy of the companion book. Our Producers Club members get \$15% off when they enter PCATK15 at checkout!



KPBS Kids Event: Buddy from 'Dinosaur Train'

Meet Buddy from "Dinosaur Train" on **Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at the Children's Museum of Discovery! Visit <https://www.kpbs.org/events/kpbs-kids> for more information.

Each month, join KPBS Kids and the [San Diego Children's Discovery Museum](#) for a costume character meet-and-greet and hands-on workshops.

Join us at the museum for a visit by the costume character, a special story time, book giveaway, and special activities throughout the Museum.

The price of KPBS Kids Events is included in Museum admission.

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