

JUNE 2026

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A MESSAGE FROM DEANNA MACKEY

It has been nearly a year since Congress defunded public media, destabilizing a trusted media industry. While moments like this could cause us to question the value of our work, we believe when we keep going we protect San Diegan's stories. Especially when the work we do educates our children and grandchildren, shapes culture, builds connection, and helps define a community, even a democracy.

This has been our north star as we have worked through the devastating loss of federal funding over the past 11 months. And this community has responded. More than 20,000 new members have joined us since July 2025. This amazing member growth, combined with increased donations from long-time supporters, has filled our budget gap through June 2026. Making up the gap has allowed us to retain the level of service you value and expect from us during a tumultuous time.

Many of you have asked me what happens next. You may have noticed I said we raised the funds to cover us through June 2026. That is the end of our fiscal year, then we start over again, pursuing 100% community-funding. The key to our long-term stability is to maintain this level of giving. We know the reality of "crisis giving." The further we get from the crisis, the less people give. However, I am optimistic that both our long-time and new members believe in the same thing — KPBS provides an essential service and it must continue.

One such public service is our [Voter Hub](#). More than 370,000 people used our Voter Hub in last week's primary election, more than double the number from 2024. We clearly met a community need in helping inform voters in making ballot decisions that reflect their values. We will continue to update the Voter Hub through the general election in November.

This year marks another important milestone for our democracy: 250 years since 13 British colonies claimed their independence and stood united for the values of freedom, liberty and democracy. In light of this milestone, KPBS is curating an America 250 collection of stories, programs and events that help us reflect upon the ideals we aspire to for the next generation. The landing page is [kpbs.org/america250](https://www.kpbs.org/america250).

As part of our America 250 project, "Historic Places with Elsa Sevilla" is producing a special episode looking at our region during the time of the American Revolution,

particularly through the lens of our local Native American tribes. The episode broadcasts this Thursday, June 11 at 9 p.m. at KPBS-TV and streams on [KPBS+](#).

I also want to share that we were honored with two special awards last month. Assemblymember Chris Ward named KPBS the [2026 Nonprofit of the Year Honoree](#) for the 78th Assembly District. Assemblymember Ward said, “KPBS is the backbone of the San Diego region, providing reliable news and programming for the area, keeping the people of San Diego informed. The public programming KPBS provides is critical infrastructure in our day-to-day lives.”

Also, North Coast Repertory Theatre honored KPBS with its Champion of the Arts award at the 2026 Spotlight Gala. KPBS has long been committed to helping San Diego celebrate artists and creators by making space for them to be seen so people can discover, connect and share the creativity that flows within this region we call home.

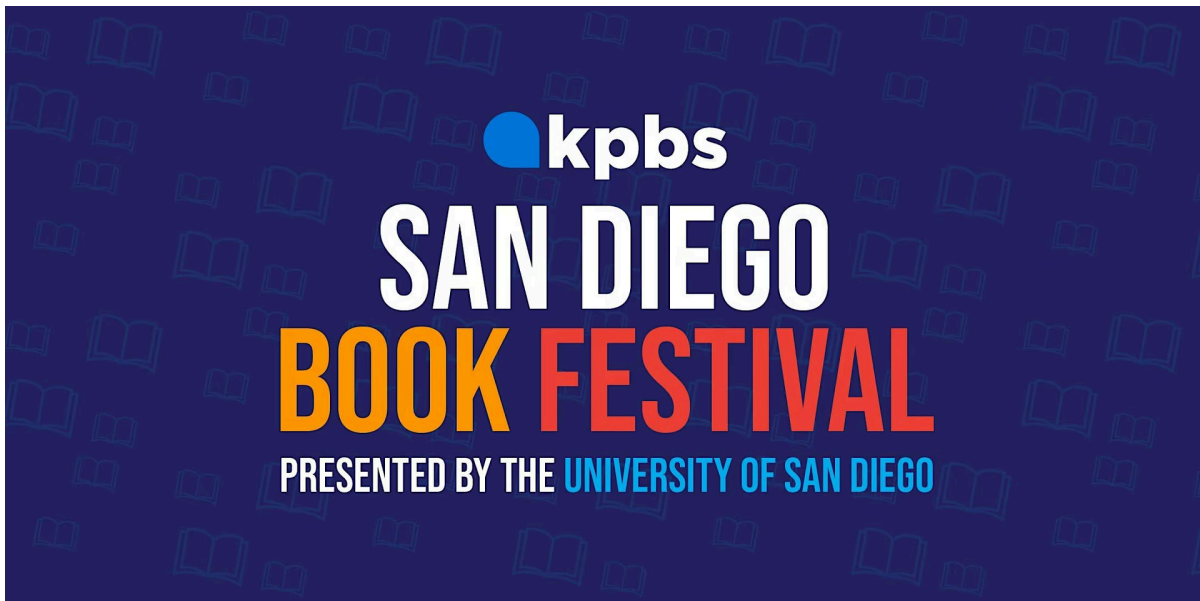
It is with deep gratitude that I thank you for being part of our story. Your support as a PC member directly makes all we do possible. We will continue to be your partner in discovery, in visibility, and in joy.



Deanna Mackey

Deanna Mackey
KPBS General Manager

**PRODUCERS CLUB LOUNGE
AT THE 2026 KPBS SAN DIEGO BOOK FESTIVAL**



KPBS San Diego Book Festival

Let's bring our community closer together through the shared experience of reading and discussing great books! The second annual KPBS San Diego Book Festival on the University of San Diego campus is a free event for book lovers of all ages. Attendees will enjoy panel discussions with award-winning authors, activities, live entertainment, exhibitors including independent booksellers, and more.

If you're attending, please stop by the Producers Club member-only hospitality lounge for a break from the heat, sip a cold soft-drink, munch on a sweet snack and mingle with fellow PC members and KPBS staff. Add the code, ["PC" at checkout to reserve your spot.](#)

Saturday, August 22, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(PC member-only lounge from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

University of San Diego

5998 Alcala Park Way, San Diego, CA 92110

Cost: Free (some ticketed author panels)

RSVP

PRODUCERS CLUB GIFT



KPBS Mini Totes

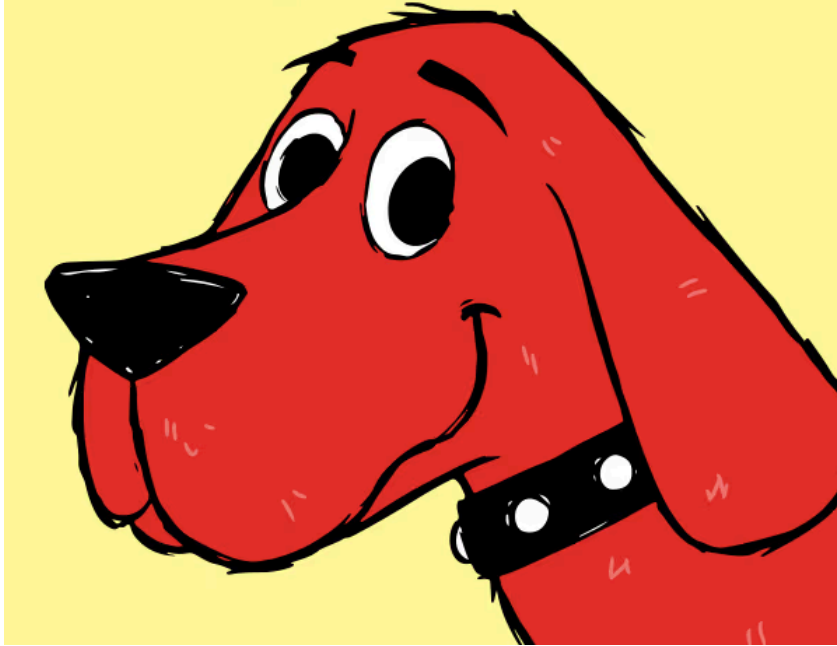
KPBS has hopped on the mini tote trend! We are pleased to offer this exclusive KPBS merchandise item to our Producers Club members. If you are interested in receiving a mini tote bag, please fill out the form below. One mini tote per PC household, and subject to availability. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

Once you get your bag, take a photo of your mini tote "in the wild." Use the hashtag #kpbspctote in your Facebook/Instagram posts, or email us at producersclub@kpbs.org!

Request your tote!

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 Kids

Join us at the Children's Museum of Discovery with Clifford the Big Red Dog! Join us Saturday, June 20, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. for storytime, crafts, and a costume character photo opportunity.*

This event is free with Museum Admission.

*Photo opportunity with the costume character is subject to availability and weather permitting.

Visit [KPBS.org/kpbskids](https://www.kpbs.org/kpbskids) for the events calendar and more!

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Your Producers Club membership brings trusted news and high-quality programs to the whole community.

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