



OCTOBER 2025

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A MESSAGE FROM DEANNA MACKEY

Last month KPBS celebrated its 65th birthday and what a joyous occasion it was! I have been reflecting on the birthday event we held at Hangar 858 and how so many of you joined us to mark the milestone. From listening to our own Maya Trabulsi interview PBS News Hour's Amna Nawaz in a deeply moving and inspiring conversation, to delicious food and drink, and dancing, the energy in the air was like that of a family reunion. My team and I definitely felt the love and I hope you did too. Here is a [photo gallery](#) of select photos from the evening.

Since we last saw each other another milestone was reached. This time a very sad one. October 1st was the first day of the federal government's new fiscal year — and for the first time in over 50 years, there is no federal funding available for public broadcasting. KPBS now officially moves forward with an annual \$4.3 million gap in our budget.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) is winding down its operations. It has laid off 70% of its staff and will rely on a smaller team of employees to close existing grants and fulfill contractual obligations. It was difficult to say goodbye to our CPB colleagues, some we have been working with for years.

I feel deeply sad that the federal government's support — that KPBS' own first general manager helped to secure in the 60s — is gone.

Many of you have asked how you can help. Here are two ways (other than renewing your PC membership, of course!):

- **Tell a Friend**

- Talk to your friends, family and neighbors and help us add more new members. Today, only 1 in 17 households in San Diego County are KPBS members. With your help, we're hoping to increase that number to 1 in 10 households. We believe in the power of community!

- **Connect with Protect My Public Media**

• Visit protectmypublicmedia.org to learn more about how we can restore federal funding in the future. Many of my colleagues across the nation have heard from their members of Congress in both parties that they want to find a way to restore funding to local stations. Time is of the essence to have this conversation and find a solution.

However, I want to make it clear that we are defunded, but not defeated. We will carry on and continue to be here for you.

Next month's PC event will be with the "A Way With Words" team, long-time partners of KPBS and a listener favorite. Read more information in the event later in this newsletter.

We have also updated our [Voter Hub](#) to provide information about the November 4th election, including an explainer on Prop 50 and how district maps would be affected.

I am grateful for your support. It was this community's support that allowed KPBS to grow from a radio station that began in a closet in 1960, to the multiplatform, community-focused media organization you rely on today. You should feel immense pride in what you have helped to create. Thank you!



Deanna Mackey

Deanna Mackey
KPBS General Manager

PRODUCERS CLUB EVENT

Producers Club Welcomes A Way With Words



Join us for a special Producers Club event featuring Martha Barnette and Grant Barrett, co-hosts of the hit public radio show A Way With Words. Enjoy an

engaging conversation about language, word origins, and how we communicate, plus buffet dinner at the beautiful Catamaran Hotel on Mission Bay. Meet the hosts, mingle with fellow language lovers, and enter to win a signed book!

Tuesday, November 18

6 p.m.

The Catamaran Hotel

3999 Mission Blvd, San Diego, CA 92109

Cost: \$25

Fair market value: \$40

RSVP

EVENT RECAP



65th Birthday Celebration

KPBS celebrated its 65th Birthday with an unforgettable evening celebration featuring Amna Nawaz, PBS NewsHour Co-Ancor and Co-Managing Editor. Guests enjoyed lively conversations, delicious food and drinks, and a special program reflecting on KPBS's history and impact in the San Diego community. Amna was joined in conversation with Maya Trabulsi, KPBS Evening Edition Anchor. The two shared inspiring remarks about the power of public media and the importance of trusted journalism. It was a joyful night of connection, storytelling, and gratitude for 65 years of service to our region. Here is a [photo gallery](#) of select photos from the evening.

gratitude collective

Introducing The Gratitude Collective

The Gratitude Collective is a community of women who support KPBS' vision to connect, reflect, and serve the San Diego region. This initiative provides a space for lifelong learning and connection, such as speaking engagements with women leaders in various fields, social events and KPBS community meetings.

The Gratitude Collective has a required giving level of \$2,500 a year. [If you would like to join The Gratitude Collective, please click here to fill out a short form.](#) and a member of our team will reach out to help you join this amazing group of KPBS women.

Upgrading your membership not only strengthens the future of KPBS but also brings you closer to the heart of our mission as a Gratitude Collective member. For more information, please visit kpbs.org/collective.



Cartober 2025

Each October, KPBS participates in Cartober, a national vehicle donation campaign that brings the community together in the drive for change. Donating a car, truck, motorcycle, RV, or boat is more impactful than ever as we work to fill the \$4.3 million budget gap left by the loss of federal funding, and another way to help keep KPBS strong.

Donating is quick and free, with complimentary pick-up and potential tax benefits.

Here's how it works:

1. Fill out the car donation form.

Our vehicle donation support team is available seven days a week and will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

2. Schedule your free pick-up.

We'll coordinate with a licensed towing company to retrieve your vehicle at a time convenient for you, and this service comes at no expense to you. When the tow truck arrives, you'll receive a donation receipt, making you eligible for a tax deduction!

3. Get your donation receipt.

Once your vehicle is sold, the funds generated will be directed toward maximizing both your tax benefit and our essential cause. Within 30 days of the sale, you'll receive a thank-you letter that also serves as your donation tax receipt.

Even if you don't have a vehicle to give, you can still support KPBS by sharing this opportunity with friends and family during Cartober. For more information visit kpbs.careasy.org.

COMMUNITY EVENT



KPBS Kids Event: Molly of Denali

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. For Museum admission pricing, please [visit our Admission & Pricing page](#). [For more details, please click here.](#)

****This is a ticketed event. Pre-registration is required.**

STAY CONNECTED WITH KPBS

Local News

Public Matters

National News

Radio Shows

TV Highlights

TV Schedules

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

DONATE

 Don't want to receive Producers Club emails anymore? **Manage your email preferences.**

 Treat your inbox. **Subscribe to our newsletters.**

 KPBS has lost federal funding. **Learn more here.**

 **Donate to KPBS**

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