



APRIL 2026

1. GM Message | 2. PC Event: KPBS Newsroom Roundtable | 3. Sustaining Members Update | 4. \$21,000 a day | 5. GI Film Festival | 6. Station Tours | 7. Be My Neighbor Day

A MESSAGE FROM DEANNA MACKEY

In the book “The Art of Gathering,” author Priya Parker talks about the need for and power of being together with others in person. I have been reflecting upon this book following a very busy couple of months of events. We’ve come together as a KPBS community to celebrate Ken Kramer’s 100th episode, learn behind-the-scenes secrets of America’s Test Kitchen, discuss the legacy of Barbara Jordan in the Independent Lens film “The Inquisitor,” feel inspired at [The Gratitude Collective](#) women’s leadership panels, listen to two regional leaders model civil discussion as part of our [One Small Step](#) initiative, and casually sit together during our monthly Coffees and Happy Hours with KPBS.

At every event there was a joy felt in the room and an enthusiasm towards experiencing something together. Many of you pulled me aside and spoke to how important KPBS is to you and that these events make you feel closer to our mission and a sense of belonging. I feel that way too, which is why we will continue to host events of varying types, topics and timing. You may have noticed that we are now hosting some ticketed events. These events are helping bring in revenue, and are a new way for people to support the station. That is critical in light of the funding gap we still face.

More events are coming up. This weekend is [Be My Neighbor Day](#), a free outdoor event for young children and families to celebrate what it means to be a community helper. The [GI Film Festival](#) is May 6-8 and tickets are available now. Our next [Coffee with KPBS](#) is April 29. The [April PC](#) event is April 23rd and will feature a roundtable discussion with members of our newsroom.

Speaking of news, you may have seen headlines about a March 31st district court ruling that President Trump’s May 2, 2025 Executive Order against PBS and NPR violated the First Amendment. This court decision is important for the freedom of the press, particularly at a time when more media outlets are bowing to pressure and blurring the lines on editorial independence.

What the decision does not do is reinstate federal funding to public media. That decision was made by Congress and its passage of the Rescission Act. We remain impacted by a \$4.3 million annual budget loss.

While the ruling does not turn back the clock and restore funding, it does something powerful in this moment - it reaffirms freedom of the press. The essential service KPBS and our national partners PBS and NPR are providing right now, has more value than ever.

I hope to see you at the PC event and discuss how our newsroom is keeping the promise of the First Amendment alive for us all.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for choosing to gather with us in community. You truly power public media.



Deanna Mackey

Deanna Mackey
KPBS General Manager

PRODUCERS CLUB EVENT



VINNEE TONG



KATIE ANASTAS



KORI SUZUKI



JAKE GOTTA

KPBS Newsroom Roundtable: Behind the Byline

We are excited to announce that additional spots have opened up for our upcoming KPBS Newsroom Roundtable. We'll dive into recent compelling projects, including **Katie Anastas's** insightful series on the rising cost of living in San Diego. A deep investigation into the local impacts of the environmental and economic challenges facing the Imperial Valley by **Kori Suzuki**. As well as innovative ways the KPBS news team is leveraging social media platforms to reach new and more diverse audiences with stories that truly matter with social media host and reporter **Jake Gotta**. This is your chance to hear directly from the journalists, explore their reporting process, and gain a unique perspective on the critical issues affecting the San Diego region.

Thursday, April 23, 2026

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Bahia Resort Hotel

998 W Mission Bay Dr, San Diego, CA 92109

Cost: Free

Fair Market Value: \$40

Sustaining Members Update

As previously announced, the Producers Club Silver level is now at \$1,500/year or \$125/month. Existing Silver Level (\$100/month) sustaining members are grandfathered through 12/31/2026, but you have the opportunity to upgrade your support now to \$125/month or more.

[If you are a Sustaining Producers Club Silver member and would like to update your sustaining monthly pledge now, please click here.](#)

It takes \$21,000 each day to deliver the local news coverage San Diegans depend on. That's more than \$150,000 every week invested in your community's voice.

Your support makes sure local stories are told with depth, balance, and integrity.

GI Film Festival Ticket Offer



Join KPBS, film lovers, veterans and their supporters for a collection of amazing stories, insightful conversations and exciting film premieres. KPBS Producers Club members can attend any film screening during the festival, May 6 to 8 for free (use code KPBS-PC).

Each showtime includes a post-screening discussion with filmmakers, film subjects, local experts and/or actors. Films are meant to be enjoyed together, and on the big screen. Join us for a transformative event! Please limit two tickets per membership.

Wednesday, May 6 through Friday, May 8, 2026

[Check the schedule.](#) [Explore the films.](#)

All screenings take place at the Museum of Photographic Arts at the San Diego Museum of Art, Balboa Park*

Cost: FREE (tickets required for entry)

Use code: KPBS-PC during checkout

GET TICKETS

Visit the [GI Film Festival San Diego website](#) for more information and to get tickets. (Fair Market Value: \$10-\$25 per ticket)

*Parking fees may apply. [Visit the parking information page for Balboa Park.](#)

KPBS Station Tours

We are excited to announce that KPBS station tours have opened back up, as a benefit to our members. These behind-the-scenes experiences offer a closer look at how your support helps bring trusted news, compelling stories, and vital resources to communities across San Diego every day.

Learn more about our upcoming tours [here](#). Stay tuned for more information about Producers Club-specific tours!



STAY CONNECTED WITH KPBS

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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