

NET Television Features Programs about Television's Success and History in January

LINCOLN, Neb. (Dec. 19, 2007) -- A variety of NET Television programs about television will entertain and inspire you in January 2008.

Early in the month, enjoy the funniest television sitcom classics in the first episode of the four-part series "Pioneers of Television" series, airing Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 7 p.m. CT on NET1. This episode focuses on five key sitcoms: "I Love Lucy," "The Honeymooners," "Make Room for Daddy," "The Andy Griffith Show" and the phenomenal success of "The Dick Van Dyke Show" starring Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore.

The remaining "Pioneers of Television" programs air throughout the month at 7 p.m. CT and include looks at "Late Night" (Thursday, Jan. 10), "Variety" (Wednesday, Jan. 16) and "Game Shows" (Wednesday, Jan. 23).

On Saturday, Jan. 19, at 8:30 p.m. CT on NET1, "On Stage at the Kennedy Center: The Mark Twain Prize" salutes Lorne Michaels, creator of NBC Television's "Saturday Night Live" and the recipient of the Kennedy Center's annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

An all-star cast pays tribute to Michaels, including Dan Aykroyd, Candice Bergen, Steve Martin, Conan O'Brien, Paul Simon, David Spade and Christopher Walken. The program features television clips from the "SNL" series and never-before-seen screen tests of some of the original "Not Ready for Primetime Players."

The NET Television production "Don't Touch That Dial!" airs Thursday, Jan. 24, at 7 p.m. CT on NET1. It spans three decades of Nebraska television, featuring new and archival interviews, behind-the-scenes photographs and vintage film clips -- some of which haven't been seen for more than 50 years. The original documentary weaves the stories of pioneering broadcasters such as Nebraska's own Johnny Carson and Tom Brokaw with the rich history of how television came to thrive in our state.

NET1 is part of NET Television, a service of NET. For more information about NET programming, go to netNebraska.org/television.

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NET Television:

NET1 is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming; **NET2** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral and other news, public affairs, history and science programs; **NET3** is a 24-hour channel featuring the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.