WUSF PUBLIC MEDIA UNVEILS LINEUP OF NEW PROGRAMS ON WUSF 89.7

New weekday and weekend programs bring fresh voices and new ideas to the region

[TAMPA, September 15, 2020] —WUSF Public Media is adding as series of exciting new weekend and weekday programs for listeners, bringing fresh voices and new perspectives that enlighten and delight. New programs include “Here & Now” and “Latino USA,” plus the popular “TED Radio Hour” and “Freakonomics.”

“These new programs give WUSF the opportunity to introduce new voices and new perspectives to the airwaves,” said WUSF General Manager JoAnn Urofsky. “While we say a fond farewell to two national programs, this new lineup of voices enable us to better serve our community with new shows that inform, engage and enlighten; bringing new perspectives, breaking news and fascinating discussions.”

Weekends

With so much changing in society so quickly, WUSF is adding new programs that shed light and bring insight into understanding the direction of our world, and they establish the station as a place for news and conversation about important issues. The new lineup includes bright young producers, new diverse voices, old favorites, great storytelling and remarkable journalism both Saturday and Sunday.

The nationally distributed show “Latino USA” will join WUSF and air from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. Saturday, hosted by Maria Hinojosa, a longtime reporter whose voice will be familiar to many NPR listeners. Besides hosting the show, Hinojosa is president, CEO and executive producer for the Harlem, NY-based Futuro Media Group that produces the show. Over a 30-year career, Hinojosa was often the first Latina in many
newsrooms, and she dreamt of a space to create independent multimedia journalism that gives a critical voice to the diverse American experience.

“Central Florida is one of the areas of the country that has always fascinated me,” Hinojosa said. “I am so thrilled to be part of the WUSF family. I know the campus and I know the community and I love the thought that Latino USA will be in the homes of the Tampa area.”

Among recent story topics were programs that delved into voting rights and Puerto Rico’s actions to address problems during its primary election.

Based on the best-selling book, the “Freakonomics” radio program will explore the unusual or bizarre dynamics of how money works in society. One recent show told the story of Maria Konnikova, a Ph.D. in psychology who decided to become a professional poker player as a tactic to explore whether life is driven more by skill or chance. Another recent show explored the overscheduling of the American worker, with an estimated 55 million meetings per day, and attempts to make meetings better for everyone. “Freakonomics” will air Sundays from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

New to WUSF, the “Ted Radio Hour” will air Sundays from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. This is a radio project by the widely acclaimed “TED Talk” organization. Recent shows delved into topics such as joy – what is joy, what triggers joy and how can society and individuals discover more of it. TED’s curators will explore talks that surprise, inspire and delight.

The wildly popular podcast and radio program “The Moth” is moving from Sunday at 3 p.m. to Saturday at 1 p.m., and “Snap Judgment” moves to a little later in the afternoon, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Saturdays at 4 p.m., WUSF continues to air the national program “NPR Coronavirus Report” that is scheduled to run through October 25. The show addresses the emerging pandemic and has been extended several times as impacts from the virus continue. “Fresh Air Weekend” is moving from 4 p.m. on Saturday to 3 p.m. Sunday.

The new and expanded shows join a weekend afternoon lineup that offers listeners a dynamic range of ideas and establishes WUSF as a place for news and conversation about the important issues facing our country and the world. Meanwhile, the music review program “Sound Opinions” will move from its
afternoon spot to the 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. time slot. The show “Live From Here with Chris Thile” is sunsetting nationwide.

**Weekdays**

On weekdays, WUSF’s freshened lineup keeps the station live on the air for the bulk of the day, with local and national shows that give WUSF the ability to respond to breaking news so hosts can change the flow of conversation to respond to immediate needs.

The current WUSF show “1A” will now air live from 10 a.m. – noon and includes a new host, Jenn White, who joined on May 7. White is a seasoned journalist and podcast host, who has worked in public radio since 1999. She joins the show from Chicago’s WBEZ where she hosted the midday show “Reset with Jenn White.”

A live daily news roundup and discussion, “Here & Now” will debut on WUSF weekdays from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Produced by NPR and WBUR in Boston, the show explores topics big and small, covering everything from Supreme Court rulings to breaking news.

Hosts include Tonya Mosley, based in Los Angeles. Tonya also hosts the podcast “Truth Be Told” and has covered a wide range of national topics, including covering Silicon Valley for KQED.

The national show “On Point” is shortening to one hour nationally, and on WUSF is moving from its prior spot at 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., and will now be heard weekdays 8 p.m. – 9 p.m. The show “Q with Tom Power” is ending its run on WUSF. The bulk of WUSF’s best-loved programs will continue their places in the broadcast lineup, including “Morning Edition,” “All Things Considered,” “Wait Wait, Don’t Tell Me,” “BBC News Hour,” “Splendid Table,” “Marketplace,” “Science Friday,” “All Night Jazz,” and many others.
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About WUSF Public Media
WUSF Public Media is a comprehensive media organization that provides media services to the community and businesses through public broadcasting and multi-media production services. Licensed to the University of South Florida, WUSF Public Media has been serving the public interest through programming, educational outreach and community partnerships for 50 years. For more information, visit www.wusf.org.

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