



Our mission is to educate, inform, entertain and engage the communities we serve through programming and partnerships.

Chippewa River District Library and WCMU Hold Film Preview: “THE VIETNAM WAR”

A Landmark Documentary Event by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick



Marines marching in Danang. March 15, 1965.

Mount Pleasant MI – The **Chippewa River District Library** and **WCMU Public Media** will host a film preview of **THE VIETNAM WAR**, a landmark documentary series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, on **Sunday, Oct. 29 at 2 p.m.** The 90-minute event will occur at Veterans Memorial Library, 301 S. University Street in Mount Pleasant. The evening includes a presentation by David Lee who served as a Huey helicopter pilot in Vietnam.

Earlier in the day, WCMU staff will be on hand to collect letters* that were sent home during the Vietnam War and to record Vietnam vets or their family members reading one of the letters*.

THE VIETNAM WAR is accompanied by a **public engagement program** from WCMU Public Media, including free film preview events and the creation of a travelling exhibit, “Letters Home.” WCMU is asking that veterans and their families submit letters and photos sent home during the war for placement in the exhibit. After travelling to sites around Michigan, the exhibit will become a permanent piece in the Michigan Military Heritage Museum’s Vietnam collection. WCMU will also produce video and audio recordings of individuals reading the material they submit. Recordings will be selected to air on WCMU Public Media and reside at www.wcmu.org. Individuals interested in participating in the “Letters Home” project should contact Linda Dielman at 800.727.9268. WCMU Public Radio is involved in this engagement effort as well weaving Vietnam War-themed content into their music and news programming.

THE VIETNAM WAR, a new 10-part, 18-hour documentary film series directed by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, will air on WCMU Public Television beginning Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 9:00 p.m. The series will air one episode per week through Nov. 28. ([see clips here](#))

MORE ABOUT “THE VIETNAM WAR” PBS SERIES

In an immersive narrative, Burns and Novick tell the epic story of the Vietnam War as it has never before been told on film. THE VIETNAM WAR features testimony from nearly 100 witnesses, including many Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as Vietnamese combatants and civilians from both the winning and losing sides.

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“The Vietnam War was a decade of agony that took the lives of more than 58,000 Americans,” Burns said. “Not since the Civil War have we as a country been so torn apart. There wasn’t an American alive then who wasn’t affected in some way — from those who fought and sacrificed in the war, to families of service members and POWs, to those who protested the war in open conflict with their government and fellow citizens. More than 40 years after it ended, and we are still arguing about why it went wrong, who was to blame and whether it was all worth it.”

THE VIETNAM WAR features new, original music written and recorded by Academy Award-winning composers Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross. The film also features new music arranged and performed by Grammy Award-winning cellist Yo-Yo Ma and The Silk Road Ensemble. The series also features more than 120 popular songs that define the era, including tracks from The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, Simon & Garfunkel, Janis Joplin and many more.

THE VIETNAM WAR is a production of Florentine Films and WETA, Washington, DC. Directed by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick. Written by Geoffrey C. Ward. Produced by Sarah Botstein, Lynn Novick and Ken Burns.

For images and additional up-to-date information on this and other PBS programs, visit [PBS Press Room at pbs.org/pressroom](https://www.pbs.org/pressroom).

ABOUT WCMU PUBLIC MEDIA

WCMU’s mission is to educate, inform, entertain and engage the communities it serves through programming and partnerships.

As one of Central Michigan University’s principal public service commitments, WCMU Public Media has provided television and radio programming and other outreach activities for over 50 years to residents of 52 counties in central and northern Michigan and portions of Ontario. WCMU Public Media is the largest university-owned public broadcasting network in the nation and is a vital community resource.

WCMU Public Television includes WCML 6 Alpena, WCMU 14 Mt. Pleasant, WCMW 21 Manistee, WCMV 27 Cadillac and WCMZ 28 Flint. In addition, WCMU Public Television offers the lifestyle channel “Create,” as well as WCMU PBS Kids, a commercial-free 24/7 channel featuring PBS Kids programming.

WCMU Public Radio includes WCMU-FM 89.5 Mt. Pleasant, WUCX-FM 90.1 Bay City, WCML-FM 91.7 Alpena, 95.1 FM Traverse City, WCMB-FM 95.7 Oscoda, WWCM-FM 96.9 Standish, WCMZ-FM 98.3 Sault Ste. Marie and WCMW-FM 103.9 Harbor Springs. In addition, WCMU News and Talk can be heard at 89.5-2 HD Mt Pleasant; 90.1-2 HD Bay City; 91.7-2 HD Alpena, 103.9-2 HD Harbor Springs and streaming at wcmu.org, through the free WCMU android app, and on NPR One and Apple Music.

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