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## **WEDU Awarded Grant from S.L. Gimbel Foundation for Production of Local Arts and Culture Program**

***WEDU Arts Plus* Premieres on Thursday, February 28 at 8pm on WEDU**



**Tampa, FL** — **WEDU**, West Central Florida's leading PBS television station, has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the **S.L. Gimbel Foundation**, a fund at The Community Foundation serving the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, in support of a new local weekly arts and culture series championing the arts in West Central Florida and across the country.

***WEDU Arts Plus*** will premiere on **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 8pm** on WEDU. This new weekly series will shine the spotlight on arts organizations in West Central Florida, as well as share a diverse range of cultural and educational experiences through WEDU's partnership with other major market PBS affiliates.

***WEDU Arts Plus*** is a result of a collaborative effort of a group of innovative large market PBS stations to launch the "Major Market Group Arts Initiative." This collaboration allows PBS stations like WEDU to share their local arts and culture features with one another. The weekly series will feature a myriad of performing and visual arts and cultural experiences both locally and nationally, allowing West Central Florida's arts and culture institutions to get their stories out to a national audience.

### **ABOUT WEDU**

WEDU is West Central Florida's leading PBS station and public media company reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of multi-media platforms including: television programming, station's website, [wedu.org](http://wedu.org) and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine *Premiere*, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU's focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (Harris Interactive Trust QuickQuery, February 2012). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit [wedu.org](http://wedu.org); WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter or call 813.254.9338.

**-WEDU-**

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