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WEDU PBS Premieres Original Documentary Featuring Ruth Eckerd Hall's *Project: Shattered Silence*



Tampa, FL — WEDU PBS, in partnership with **Ruth Eckerd Hall**, presents a candid, in-depth look at the remarkable real life stories of 46 teenagers in the Tampa Bay Area.

WEDU's newest original documentary ***Project: Shattered Silence*** captured the catharsis of a group of courageous teenagers who were willing to bare their souls, and share their intriguing stories of struggle

and survival, rejection and acceptance, and ultimately, unwavering hope.

Inspired and guided every step of the way by artistic director and creator of the project, Jared O'Roark, the 46 teens' 10-month journey culminated with the riveting production "Project: Shattered Silence – In the Blue Hour" at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater, Florida.

Already winning acclaim, ***Project: Shattered Silence*** will premiere **Thursday, January 30 at 9:00 p.m.** on WEDU.

Project: Shattered Silence Producer Colleen Hamilton, Photographer Brad Clore, and Editor Mark Harris were honored by Suncoast Regional Emmy® Awards for a WEDU Arts Plus segment featuring Project: Shattered Silence, which already aired on WEDU in May 2013. The Emmy® Award winning segment and more about the original documentary can be found online at: www.wedu.org/projectshattered Silence.

ABOUT WEDU PBS

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 media platforms including: television programming, station's website, www.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, January 2013). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit www.wedu.org; WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter or call 813.254.9338.

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