



**WESTERN  
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PUBLIC MEDIA

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news release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Western Reserve PBS's NewsNite to Explore Downtown Arts Programs

*Sept. 28 program will feature Akron Artwalk  
and Canton First Friday events*

NORTHEAST OHIO — Sept. 25, 2012 — Every month, the downtowns of both Akron and Canton come alive with separate arts-centric programs that bring people, enthusiasm and dollars into both areas. This Friday on **NewsNite**, host Jody Miller learns more about the two events and welcomes guests who are closely involved in their successes. **NewsNite** airs Fridays at 8:30 p.m. on Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1) and repeats on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

If you have been to downtown Akron on the first Saturday of each month between 5-10 p.m., you may have joined with many taking Akron's free trolley to stop at different art galleries, viewing the extraordinary works of creativity and enjoying the camaraderie along the way. **NewsNite** host Jody Miller talks with Suzie Graham, president and CEO of Downtown Akron Partnership, who offers more information about Akron Artwalk.

In downtown Canton on the first Friday of each month from 6-10 p.m., attendees experience the energy and fun generated from the city's Canton First Friday event. Miller talks with Robb Hankins, president and CEO of ArtsinStark, and Tricia Ostertag, ArtsinStark community arts manager, about the lively party that features music, performance and visual arts events.

Regarding both Canton First Friday and Akron Artwalk, **NewsNite** looks at the impact — economically, socially and collectively — that the events have had on both central cities.

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## **About Western Reserve Public Media**

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. It serves the largest population (5.13 million people) of Ohio's eight PBS member stations.

Western Reserve PBS (WNEO 45.1/WEAO 49.1), a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio. It is available to 5.13 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average month, more than 1 million people tune in. The organization also operates three standard definition channels: Fusion (WNEO 45.2/WEAO 49.2), MHz Worldview (WNEO 45.3/WEAO 49.3) and V-me (WNEO 45.4/WEAO 49.4).

Through funding from eTech Ohio, Western Reserve Public Media provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about the organization, visit [www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org](http://www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org) or call 1-800-554-4549.

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