

For: Immediate Release
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National Disability Employment Awareness Month Spotlighted on WORLD Channel in October

September 25, 2019 – During National Disability Employment Awareness Month, WORLD Channel will feature two new films in America ReFramed, the award-winning documentary series co-produced with American Documentary, Inc. These films, in addition to four others, tell inspiring stories about people with disabilities who have destroyed stereotypes and knocked down barriers to achieve seemingly impossible personal goals.

Intelligent Lives shares the story of three young adults with intellectual disabilities who challenge perceptions of intelligence as they navigate high school, college, and the workforce. The film, narrated by Academy Award-winning actor Chris Cooper, contextualizes the lives of these central characters through the emotional personal story of Cooper's son Jesse, who had cerebral palsy. The film unpacks the unfortunate missteps in intelligence testing as young people defy labels that seek to limit them. *Intelligent Lives* airs Tuesday, October 22 at 8pm ET on WORLD Channel.

Perfectly Normal for Me is an intimate and joyful verité documentary that follows four charismatic kids ages 5 to 15, who despite profound challenges, strive for acceptance in a world that is often indifferent to them. The film begins in a unique after-school dance program in Queens, New York, and follows each child as they discover creative self-expression in working together to emerge as eloquent, energized and unique voices for inclusion. *Perfectly Normal for Me* airs Tuesday, October 29 at 8pm ET on WORLD Channel

“The amazing individuals in these films, who overcome society’s limiting pre-conceptions, are inspiring as they redefine the horizons of the human spirit,” said Liz Cheng, WGBH and WORLD Channel General Manager. “These films defy stereotypes, barriers, and the notion that we should be limited by the assessment of so-called experts.”

Other highlights for the month include:

- **P.O.V: Still Tomorrow** is a film about a rural poet who suddenly becomes a star in China and whose writings ponder life, love and pain. *Airs Tuesday, October 22 at 7pm ET on WORLD Channel*
- **Dreamers Theater** follows a group of teens and young adults with a variety of developmental disabilities as they rehearse and stage an original musical that dramatizes their challenges of employment, transportation, housing, relationships and more. *Airs Tuesday, October 22 at 9:30pm ET on WORLD Channel*
- **Reel South: Jonah Stands Up** combines humor, political action, and a sense of urgency in this film about Jonah Bascle, an unconventional mayoral candidate who challenges

stereotypes associated with differently-abled individuals in New Orleans. *Airs Wednesday, October 23 at 7pm ET on WORLD Channel*

- **Soar** explores the relationship between two sisters: Kiera, a quadruple amputee who lost her limbs at age two, and Uriah, who was born a month before her sister contracted pneumococcal sepsis, and the deeply loving and powerful bond they share. *Airs Tuesday, October 29 at 7pm ET on WORLD Channel*

Thirteen new films featuring those with different abilities will be featured on WORLD Channel this October. For a complete list of October schedule highlights on WORLD Channel, click [here](#).

Follow WORLD Channel on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates on all upcoming series/films. For a complete list of original WORLD Channel programming, visit worldchannel.org/show/.

About WORLD Channel

WORLD Channel tells stories that humanize complex issues. WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content offers national broadcast, online and social media platforms to makers examining issues too often ignored by mainstream media. These emerging and master filmmakers spotlight a diversity of voices, telling stories not heard elsewhere. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award and numerous national honors—including 1st and 2nd place Native Media Awards, an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, and an Asian American Journalists Award. Carried by 157 partner stations in markets representing nearly 65% of US TV households, WORLD can also be experienced via and social media platforms.

About WGBH

WGBH Boston is America's preeminent public broadcaster and the largest producer of PBS content for TV and the Web, including Masterpiece, Antiques Roadshow, Frontline, Nova, American Experience, Arthur and more than a dozen other primetime, lifestyle and children's series. WGBH's television channels include WGBH 2, WGBX 44, and the digital channels World and Create. WGBH TV productions focusing on the region's diverse community include Greater Boston, Basic Black and High School Quiz Show. WGBH Radio serves listeners across New England with 89.7 WGBH, Boston's Local NPR®; 99.5 WCRB Classical Radio Boston; and WCAI, the Cape and Islands NPR® Station. WGBH also is a major source of digital content and programs for public radio through PRI/PRX, including The World and Innovation Hub, a leader in educational multimedia with PBS LearningMedia, providing the nation's educators with free, curriculum-based digital content, and a pioneer in services that make media accessible to deaf, hard of hearing, blind and visually impaired audiences. WGBH has been recognized with hundreds of honors: Emmys, Peabodys, duPont-Columbia Awards and Oscars. Find more information at wgbh.org.