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## **New Original Web Series from WNET and PBS Digital Studios Explores the Worlds of Tech and Pop Culture**

***The ChatterBox**, hosted by intergenerational duo **Kevin and Grandma Lill Droniak**, to premiere new episodes weekly beginning **October 8, 2015***

*Preview the series in the newly released trailer at <http://to.pbs.org/thechatterbox>*

WNET, New York's flagship PBS station, and PBS Digital Studios have announced the launch of ***The ChatterBox with Kevin and Grandma Lill***, an original digital series exploring the worlds of tech and pop culture. The series, the second to result from the previously announced strategic partnership between WNET's Interactive Engagement Group and PBS Digital Studios, will debut on a new channel within the PBS Digital Studios YouTube network on Thursday, October 8, 2015, and will release a new episode every week.

Featuring the hilarious intergenerational duo of 18-year-old **Kevin Droniak** and his **Grandma Lill** as they test the newest gadgets and games and they comment on the latest pop culture trends, ***The ChatterBox*** will bridge the generational—and technological—gap through the shared experience of discovery.

The series – which combines practical information with quirky humor – will launch with topics including Dubsmash, unboxing videos, slang and gifs, and will feature conversations with guest experts including Vanessa Hill from the PBS Digital Studios series “BrainCraft”; *Mashable* illustrator Bob Al-Greene; *CNET* editor Dan Ackerman; “Ask Amy” advice columnist Amy Dickenson; “The Score” senior reporter Rod “Slasher” Breslau; *Engadget* senior editor Nicole Lee; *Flama* video creator, writer and producer Joanna Hausmann and others.

“From teens to octogenarians, we think viewers of any age will find ***The ChatterBox*** both informative and amusing,” said Diane Masciale, Executive Producer of ***The ChatterBox*** and the General Manager of WLIW.

“***The ChatterBox*** is fun and irreverent, while also having an element of discovery—a combination that the PBS Digital Studios audience has come to expect from our videos,” said Brandon Arolfo, Senior Director, Content Development, PBS Digital Studios. “We’re thrilled to welcome Kevin and Grandma Lill to PBS Digital Studios and know ***The ChatterBox*** will be a great addition to our network.”

“It’s been a blast working with PBS Digital Studios for our web series, ***The ChatterBox!***” said Kevin Droniak. “The show has brought my grandma and me closer and has allowed us to spend even more time together.”

Diane Masciale is executive producer. Hillary Sieber is producer. Vanessa McDonnell is editor. Marisa Wong is multimedia producer. Sophia Clark is associate producer.

***The ChatterBox with Kevin and Grandma Lill*** is produced by WLIW LLC for PBS Digital Studios under the strategic partnership between WNET’s Interactive Engagement Group and PBS Digital Studios. [WNET](#) is the parent company of [THIRTEEN](#) and [WLIW21](#), New York’s public television stations and operator of [NJTV](#).

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### **About WNET**

As New York’s flagship public media provider and the parent company of [THIRTEEN](#) and [WLIW21](#) and operator of [NJTV](#), WNET brings quality arts, education and public affairs programming to over 5 million viewers each week. WNET produces and presents such acclaimed PBS series as [Nature](#), [Great Performances](#), [American Masters](#), [PBS NewsHour Weekend](#), [Charlie Rose](#) and a range of documentaries, children’s programs, and local news and cultural offerings available on air and online. Pioneers in educational programming, WNET has created such groundbreaking series as [Get the Math](#), [Oh Noah!](#) and [Cyberchase](#) and provides tools for educators that bring compelling content to life in the classroom and at home. WNET highlights the tri-state’s unique culture and diverse communities through [NYC-ARTS](#), [Reel 13](#), [NJTV News with Mary Alice Williams](#) and [MetroFocus](#), the multi-platform news magazine focusing on the New York region. WNET is also a leader in connecting with viewers on emerging platforms, including the [THIRTEEN Explore iPad App](#) where users can stream PBS content for free.

### **About PBS Digital Studios**

The PBS Digital Studios network on YouTube includes more than 30 online original series, including more than a dozen co-productions with PBS member stations across the country, designed to engage, enlighten and entertain online audiences. The PBS Digital Studios network has more than six million subscribers and its channels have generated more than 450 million views. Series include the multiple Webby Award-winning PBS Idea Channel, as well as popular series such as Blank on Blank, It’s Okay To Be Smart, Everything But the News and more.

**About PBS**

[PBS](#), with over 350 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches more than 103 million people through television and over 33 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS' broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS' premier children's TV programming and its website, [pbskids.org](#), are parents' and teachers' most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at [www.pbs.org](#), one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or through our [apps for mobile devices](#). Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](#) or by following [PBS Pressroom on Twitter](#).