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**WNET's Original PBS Digital Studios Series,  
*First Person*, Returns With New Programming That  
Explores Issues of Gender Identity, Sexuality and Queer  
Community for Pride Month**

*Series features live social media events and new short documentaries on  
Facebook Watch beginning June 14, 2018*

Watch now at [Facebook.com/FirstPersonPBS](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPersonPBS)

**Synopsis:**

***First Person***, WNET's original digital series exploring sexuality and gender identity, is now available on [Facebook Watch](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPersonPBS), the [PBS Digital Studios YouTube network](https://www.pbs.org/digital-studios) and all PBS video platforms.

The series' new programming will continue to incorporate diverse viewpoints and issues in an effort to inspire thoughtful conversations around timely and important topics impacting queer and trans communities. Topics for the new documentary episodes include immigration, counseling, trans youth and phobia, and will reflect the personal narratives for which ***First Person*** is known.

***First Person*** will also host three New York events to bring communities together to discuss LGBTQ+ issues covered by the series and more. These events will be livestreamed via Facebook Watch so all audiences can participate.

**Hosts:**

- **Aaryn Lang**, trans activist and artist
- **Donald Shorter**, activist, choreographer, dancer, singer, actor, gender nonconformist and drag queen,
- **Kirya Traber**, award-winning writer, performer, cultural worker and queer woman, and
- **Tonilyn Sideco**, genderqueer writer, director, and educator for stage and film

- **Educator Resources:**

To supplement *First Person*'s new programming, WNET's Children's and Educational Media Department has enhanced [The LGBTQ+ Identity: A Toolkit for Educators Collection](#) on PBS LearningMedia, offering a series of free digital media resources to help administrators, guidance counselors and educators understand and effectively address the nuanced experiences of their LGBTQ+ students. The collection aims to promote understanding, awareness and self-esteem, and features videos from *First Person* with resources to facilitate their use in education settings. The collection is made possible by the NYC Department of Education.

### **Series Overview:**

*First Person* is an original digital series exploring gender identity and sexuality by covering LGBTQ-related issues through first-person narratives. With messages of acceptance and celebration, the series aims to humanize issues that are often underrepresented in the media or presented as political, moral or religious issues, detached from the people who are living them on a day-to-day basis.

### **Production Credits:**

*First Person* is produced by WNET's Interactive Engagement Group. Conde Nast's [them.](#) is the official media partner for new episodes premiering June 2018.

For WNET's Interactive Engagement Group: Daniel B. Greenberg and Joe Harrell are executive producers. Erin McIntyre and Sophia Clark are producers and directors. Alex Lora is cinematographer and editor.

### **Underwriters:**

Funding for *First Person* is provided by the New York City Council and PBS Digital Studios.

### **Websites:**

[FirstPersonPBS.org](http://FirstPersonPBS.org)

Facebook: [FirstPersonPBS](#) / [ThirteenWNET](#)

Twitter: [@FirstPersonPBS](#) / [@ThirteenNY](#) / [@wnet](#)

Instagram: [@FirstPersonPBS](#)

### **Promotional Assets:**

Embeddable trailer:

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstPersonPBS/videos/173090713532674/>

OR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lk2gfXMJhnU>

Social toolkit:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5za8u2fry97nzf7/AAALnGusDRbCjdjKaQLksBzea?dl=0>

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### **About WNET**

WNET is America's flagship PBS station and parent company of [THIRTEEN](#) and [WLIW21](#). WNET also operates [NJTV](#), the statewide public media network in New Jersey. Through its broadcast channels, three cable services (THIRTEEN PBSKids, Create and World) and online streaming sites, WNET brings quality arts, education and public affairs programming to more than five million viewers each week. WNET produces and presents such acclaimed PBS series as [Nature](#), [Great Performances](#), [American Masters](#), [PBS NewsHour Weekend](#) and a range of documentaries, children's programs, and local news and cultural offerings. WNET's groundbreaking series for children and young adults include [Get the Math](#), [Oh Noah!](#) And [Cyberchase](#) as well as [Mission US](#), the award-winning interactive history experience. WNET highlights the tri-state's unique culture and diverse communities through [NYC-ARTS](#), [Theater Close-Up](#), [NJTV News with Mary Alice Williams](#) and [MetroFocus](#), the daily multi-platform news magazine focusing on the New York region. In addition, WNET produces online-only programming including the award-winning series about gender identity, [First Person](#). Through multi-platform initiatives [Chasing the Dream: Poverty and Opportunity in America](#) and [Peril and Promise: The Challenge of Climate Change](#), WNET showcases the human stories around these issues and promising solutions. In 2015, THIRTEEN launched Passport, an online streaming service which allows members to see new and archival THIRTEEN and PBS programming anytime, anywhere: [www.thirteen.org/passport](http://www.thirteen.org/passport).