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The WNET Group's *Camp TV* Brings Day Camp to Children Nationwide on Public Television Beginning July 13 (check local listings)

Today, The WNET Group announced the launch of *Camp TV*, a new one-hour public television series that brings the day camp experience to children nationwide weekdays beginning Monday, July 13 on public television (check local listings). In the New York metro area, *Camp TV* premieres Monday, July 13 at 10 a.m. on WLIW21; 11 a.m. on THIRTEEN; and 12 p.m. on NJTV. Episodes will also be available to stream at camptv.org.

Providing ideas for fun activities to kids who can't go to camp this summer, *Camp TV* is hosted by a head counselor played by **Zachary Noah Piser**, a Broadway performer ("Dear Evan Hansen," "Wicked") who guides campers as they learn through play.

"During this challenging time, we hope we're able to bring kids some of the magic, learning and fun of summer camp through *Camp TV*," said Neal Shapiro, President & CEO of The WNET Group.

"Public media stations have stepped forward to fill gaps in creative ways to help children learning at home during the pandemic," said Pat Harrison, president and CEO of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. "CPB is proud to support this public media effort, which brings the camp experience to children sheltering at home, while also helping to prevent a 'summer slide' in student learning."

Head counselor Zach kicks off each episode with a welcome song and announces the day's theme: silly hat day, camping day, rhyme day, silly sock day, backwards day and more. Zach then guides campers through a variety of activities — exploring nature, math, science, the arts, movement, storytelling, writing and more. For example, kids will learn about surface tension while making bouncing bubbles and discover shapes while creating a flying origami star. They will learn how to do magic tricks, turn sneakers into tap shoes, create an oboe from a straw and make

guacamole. They will meet all kinds of animals, from a playful bearcat to chickens who like classical music. Every episode also includes a storytelling segment that features a different book of the day.

Confirmed *Camp TV* content partners include Bedtime Math, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn Children's Museum, Brooklyn Public Library, Chamber Music Society, Children's Museum of the Arts, Franklin Institute, Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, *Let's Learn NYC!*, Liberty Science Center, Lincoln Center, Macmillan, Memphis Zoo, National Dance Institute, New Victory Theater, New York Botanical Garden, New York Public Library, New York Road Runners, Playworks, ReadWorks, Story Pirates, and Wildlife Conservation Society. Additional content is provided by teachers who participated in The WNET Group's *NJTV Learning Live* series.

Camp TV is a production of THIRTEEN PRODUCTIONS LLC for WNET. The program is distributed nationally by The WNET Group. Sandra Sheppard is executive producer. Melinda Toporoff is series producer and writer. Kevin Di Salvo is coordinating producer. Maria Stoian is producer.

Major funding for *Camp TV* is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Additional funding is provided by Joan Ganz Cooney.

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About WNET

WNET is America's flagship PBS station: parent company of New York's <u>THIRTEEN</u> and <u>WLIW21</u>, WLIWWorld and WLIWCreate and operator of <u>NJTV</u>, the statewide public media network in New Jersey. Through its new <u>ALL ARTS</u> multi-platform initiative, 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 month. WNET produces and presents a wide range of acclaimed PBS series, including *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, *PBS NewsHour Weekend*, and the nightly interview program *Amanpour and Company*. In addition, WNET produces numerous documentaries, children's programs, and local news and cultural offerings, as well as multi-platform initiatives addressing poverty and climate. Through THIRTEEN Passport and WLIW Passport, station members can stream new and archival THIRTEEN, WLIW and PBS programming anytime, anywhere.