

Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission

The Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission (MPBC) began in 1966 as the Maryland Educational-Cultural Television Commission, adopting its current name in 1969, the same year in which public television in Maryland first was broadcast from an initial analog transmitter in Owings Mills, MD.

By legislation, the commission is charged with operating a system for educational and cultural television programming throughout Maryland and is also responsible for programs for the general public and, with the approval of the State Board of Education, for programs used in public schools. The MPBC holds the federal license for the six statewide broadcasting stations operated by Maryland Public Television. The commission's 11 members are appointed for five-year terms by the governor.

MPT Foundation, Inc.

The MPT Foundation, Inc. is the 501(c)(3) fundraising affiliate of Maryland Public Television, a state-licensed network and member of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). Incorporated in 1981 as the Maryland Public Broadcasting Foundation, Inc., the foundation today comprises approximately two dozen members drawn from Maryland business, civic, and cultural communities to assist MPT in securing private contributions and foundation grants. In 1999, the foundation established a charitable endowment whose investment income benefits MPT.

Foundation Endowments

In 1999, Maryland Public Television and its 501 (c)(3) charitable foundation established a charitable endowment which now consists of four distinct endowment funds:

- **Maryland Public Television General Endowment Fund**, the disbursements from which benefit MPT as a whole.
- **Maryland Public Television Regional Programming Endowment Fund**, the disbursements from which support programming, outreach, and/or Web-based services relevant to the history, arts, sciences, nature, or other subjects of the Maryland region, including Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- **Maryland Public Television Educational Programming Endowment Fund**, the disbursements from which support programming, outreach, and/or Web services chosen by MPT with a primary purpose being the education of the viewer/user. Children's programming is an example of the sort of service this endowment fund supports.
- **Maryland Public Television Program Acquisition Endowment Fund**, the disbursements from which purchase special events programming and other programming from production companies and other distributors.