

## FACT SHEET

**TITLE:** **MIKE DOUGLAS – MOMENTS AND MEMORIES**  
[Stereo] [TV-G] [CC]

**LENGTH:** 1/58

**NOLA CODE:** MIDA

**CATEGORY:** Music and Entertainment

**OFFERED:** Premium Service 19 offer, June 2007

**RELEASE DATE:** November 23, 2007

**CONTRACT TERMS:** Unlimited use through December 31, 2010.

**PROGRAM SUPPLIER:** Corridor Group Productions Inc.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** **MIKE DOUGLAS – MOMENTS AND MEMORIES** is a nostalgic look back at talk-show-host extraordinaire Mike Douglas and his tenure on *The Mike Douglas Show*. The program features interview segments with his wife and former guests, including Bill Cosby, Bob Newhart and Yoko Ono. Archival clips guide viewers through Douglas' career and the "who's who" of stars featured on the original show which aired in syndication from 1961 to 1982. With first-time access to the full catalog of episodes and Douglas' personal memorabilia, this program provides an entertaining and heartwarming reminder of a bygone era.

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS:** Use the above program description for guide listing. A press kit, including fact sheet, press release, and song list will be posted to PBS Connect and [APTonline.org](http://APTonline.org). Color photos will be available via email and on [APTonline.org](http://APTonline.org).

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**MIKE DOUGLAS: AFTERNOON MEMORIES / 2**

**FACT SHEET**

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**PRODUCTION CREDITS:** Executive Producers: E. V. Di Massa, Jr.,  
Barbara Hall  
Producers: Gregory Hall, Al Greenfield  
Director: Al Greenfield  
Writer: Michael Friedman

**BROADCAST HISTORY:** U.S. television debut

**RELATED MERCHANDISE:** Individual viewer purchase: Recordings by Mike Douglas are available in retail outlets nationwide.

Pledge:  
Program DVD - with extended clips and extra features; related CD: "Mike Douglas – The Men in My Little Girl's Life."

**VIEWER INQUIRIES:** American Public Television  
Viewer Services  
55 Summer Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
617-338-4455 ext. 202

**WEB SITE:** [www.themikedouglasshow.com](http://www.themikedouglasshow.com)

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Charming and Gifted TV Host, Mike Douglas, Remembered in Nostalgic Public Television Special

**“Before there was Oprah or Dr. Phil or Ellen, or any of these people, there was Mike Douglas.”**

- Jay Leno, remembering Mike Douglas on *The Tonight Show*

Legendary daytime talk show host Mike Douglas influenced many of today’s biggest stars, including Barbara Walters, Jay Leno, Regis Philbin, and Rosie O’Donnell, among many others. He ruled daytime talk from 1961 to 1982, reaching as many as 15 million people with a single show and averaging an astounding seven million viewers a day. Beginning November 23, 2007, a new public television special, **MIKE DOUGLAS – MOMENTS AND MEMORIES**, takes a look back at Douglas’ tenure as talk-show-host extraordinaire. The program, distributed by American Public Television (APT), unlocks a plethora of amazing performances and interviews from the show’s vaults, including Tiger Woods’ first appearance on television and Marlon Brando’s personal commentary on his role as *The Godfather*.

“This is an exciting project that will resonate with public television viewers,” says Eric Luskin, APT’s vice president of Premium Service. “Our special will whet the viewer’s appetite for more – and there will be lots of bonus footage on the program DVD not included in the broadcast.”

Douglas’ charming disposition drew in the viewers while also setting his high-profile guests at ease. Almost every major celebrity who hit it big in the ’60s and ’70s appeared on the show either as a guest or co-host. John Lennon and Yoko Ono co-hosted the program for a week in 1972, producing several poignant and memorable moments such as the duo’s live performance of “Imagine” and their collaboration with Chuck Berry on the rock ‘n’ roll classic “Johnny B. Goode.” A 2-

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year-old Tiger Woods also charmed the crowds like a seasoned performer, showcasing his early talent for golf while unknowingly matching wits with comedic heavyweight Bob Hope.

Priceless moments like these captured the hearts and imaginations of viewers throughout the country. But it was Douglas' innate charm that endeared him to his fans. He frequently sang on the show, crooning out classic numbers like "The Men in My Little Girl's Life." Douglas also kept the show light-hearted and entertaining, frequently choosing silly and outlandish stunts to make his audience laugh. Throughout the course of the program, Douglas wrestles with Andre the Giant, talks to a chimpanzee and clowns around with a variety of comedians.

**MIKE DOUGLAS – MOMENTS AND MEMORIES** gathers all these clips and more, taking viewers back to a bygone era filled with all the fun outfits, hairstyles, songs and attitudes of the '60s and '70s.

**MIKE DOUGLAS – MOMENTS AND MEMORIES** is presented by Corridor Group Productions Inc. in association with American Public Television's Premium Service. The program is executive produced by E. V. Di Massa, Jr. and Barbara Hall, produced by Gregory Hall and Al Greenfield, directed by Al Greenfield, and written by Michael Friedman

**About American Public Television**

For 46 years, American Public Television (APT) has been a prime source of programming for the nation's public television stations. APT distributes more than 300 new program titles per year and has 10,000 hours of programming in its library. It is responsible for many public television milestones including the first HD series and the 2006 launch of the Create channel featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming. APT is known for its leadership in identifying innovative, worthwhile and viewer-friendly programming. It has established a tradition of providing public television stations with program choices that strengthen and customize their schedules such as *Winged Migration*, *Battlefield Britain*, *Globe Trekker*, *Rick Steves' Europe*, *Great Museums*, *Jacques Pépin: Fast Food My Way*, *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated*, *Broadway: The Golden Age*, *Lidia's Family Table*, *California Dreamin' – The Songs of The Mamas & the Papas*, *Rosemary & Thyme*, *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home*, *The Big Comfy Couch*, *Monarchy*, and other prominent documentaries, dramatic series, how-to programs and classic movies. For more information about APT's programs and services, visit [APTonline.org](http://APTonline.org).

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### Mike Douglas

Michael Delaney Dowd thought he had it made in 1946 when he landed a job as a big band singer with Kay Kyser's "Kollege of Musical Knowledge." Kyser, a well-known radio star, thought the young man needed a new stage name, and he surprised Dowd by introducing him to the audience one night as "Mike Douglas." It was under that name that the big band singer would become the most beloved personality in daytime television.

Kyser retired in 1951, but Douglas stayed in show business, trying to carve out a career as a nightclub singer while supporting his family with real estate investments. Finally, in 1961, he landed a job as host of an afternoon television show in Cleveland. Himself a veteran performer, Douglas understood intuitively how to bring out the best in his guests. He crafted a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere that drew the biggest names in entertainment, sports and politics to his show, which moved to Philadelphia in 1965.

Douglas thought of himself as a singer first and foremost. He had several hits with Kyser's band, was the singing voice of Prince Charming in the Walt Disney movie *Cinderella*, and made the Top 40 in 1966 with the sentimental hit "The Men in My Little Girl's Life." Nevertheless, it was his talent as an interviewer that made him a household name. During its 20-year run, the *Mike Douglas Show* attracted more than its share of stars like John Wayne, Bob Hope, Marlon Brando and Bette Davis, but Douglas went beyond the Hollywood "A-list." He brought Malcolm X, Mother Teresa, Ralph Nader and the Rolling Stones into America's homes, and introduced Billy Crystal, Jay Leno, David Letterman and Barbra Streisand to the national television audience.

Douglas was a gifted comedy performer, and had a flair for on-camera stunts, but his greatest skill was in bringing together different personalities and points of view. His co-hosts might be Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire, Johnny Cash, or John Lennon and Yoko Ono. Sports legends like Jack Nicklaus and Muhammad Ali visited his show, along with authors and activists. Never one to advance his own views, Douglas provided a civilized forum in which political figures could explain their ideas to everyday Americans in everyday language. Spanning the tumultuous years of the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, feminism, and Watergate, the *Mike Douglas Show* was relevant without rancor.

Viewers rewarded Douglas with the highest ratings in daytime television history—as many as 15 million tuned in for a single show, and he averaged an astounding seven million viewers a day, about what today's most popular daytime shows draw in a week.

Douglas ended his show in 1981, although he continued to make occasional appearances. He died on his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday, and was remembered that night by one of his successors, Jay Leno, who said: "... any young people, if you ever think of being a talk show host, you couldn't find a better role model than Mike Douglas. So to his family and friends, God bless you – and say a little prayer for Mike. A great, great guy."

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