

FACT SHEET

TITLE: **HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS (3rd Release)**
[TV-G] [Mono] [CC]

LENGTH: 1/61

NOLA CODE: HPHL

CATEGORY: Music & Entertainment

OFFERED: Premium Service 19 offer, June 2008

RELEASE DATE: November 28, 2008

CONTRACT TERMS: Six releases to be completed by December 28, 2010. A release is defined as unlimited use within seven days.

PROGRAM SUPPLIER: Crew Neck Productions

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: **HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS (3rd release)** features classic clips from Andy Williams' Christmas specials. Filling homes with seasonal cheer, the specials became a cherished holiday family tradition. The digitally re-mastered production numbers are complete with magnificent sets and costumes and a cast of singers, dancers and skaters. Quintessential moments include Williams' solos on "Silent Night" and "Ave Maria," as well as performances with his brothers on "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and with the Osmonds on "Silver Bells." Interviews with Williams, his son Bobby and Donny Osmond are interwoven with the show clips.

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- PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS:** Use the above program description for guide listing. A press kit, including fact sheet, press release, performance rundown and biography will be posted to PBS Connect and APTonline.org. Color photos will be available via email and on APTonline.org.
- COPYRIGHT:** © 2001 Moon River Enterprises
- PRODUCTION CREDITS:** Written, produced and directed by David Leaf and John Scheinfeld.
- BROADCAST HISTORY:** APT, 11/23/01-12/31/03, 11/05 – 12/06
- SCHEDULING SUGGESTION:** Consider for pledge during the holiday season.
- RELATED MERCHANDISE:** Individual viewer purchase: Various recordings by Andy Williams are available in retail stores nationwide.
- Pledge: Program DVD, related 2-CD set: “Live - Treasure From His Personal Collection,” related CD: “Andy Williams Live - Christmas Treasures.”
- VIEWER INQUIRIES:** American Public Television
Viewer Services
55 Summer Street, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
617-338-4455 ext. 202
- WEB SITE:** www.andywilliams.com
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PRESS RELEASE

APT Re-releases a Family Holiday Favorite: HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS

"It never ceases to amaze me, to this day people come up to me and say, 'Oh I wish the Andy Williams Christmas Shows were back on the air.' "

— Donny Osmond

The holiday magic is back! Snuggle up with the family and enjoy the lively Christmas spirit in **HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS (3rd release)**. The legendary singer and television personality serves up a big dose of seasonal merriment in this compilation of the greatest moments from his Christmas specials. Viewers are able to recapture the once-cherished holiday tradition of families watching and enjoying the shows together. Timeless music, festive sets and touching family moments highlight classic shows. Actors don bright, vintage Christmas costumes and the musical numbers involve a delightful ice-skating routine and a "high-flying" sled ride. Along with the show clips, Williams, his son Bobby and Donny Osmond fondly reminisce about the joy of making and performing in the shows. The special airs on public television stations nationwide beginning November 28, 2008 (check local listings).

Williams contends that his favorite part of the experience was simply singing with his brothers. The quartet performs holiday classics including "Winter Wonderland," "Jingle Bells" and "I'll Be Home for Christmas." Enjoying the spirit of family and togetherness, Andy Williams invited another talented group of brothers to join the celebrations – the Osmond Brothers. In a charming and prophetic moment, the two sets of brothers come together, with an older Williams brother warning the Osmonds to stay away from show business because the boys won't know what to do if one of the

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS ... /2 PRESS RELEASE

brothers leaves to pursue a solo career. Little Donny Osmond responds that he will invite his brothers on *his* show after he pursues a solo career.

The importance of family was evident in Williams' decision to showcase musical numbers with his family rather than filling his show with big-name guest stars. A true family affair, **HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS** includes scenes with his children, wife and parents. Touching clips and personal anecdotes from Andy and Bobby Williams relate their enduring affection for the holiday shows; as Bobby Williams says, "they are the best home movies you could have." Though often flanked by backup singers, Andy Williams unleashes his velvety voice in solo renditions of "Silent Night," "O Holy Night" and "Ave Maria."

With a soundtrack of Christmas classics, **HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS** combines humor, family charm and warm holiday cheer, bringing back the memories of Christmas past.

Written, produced and directed by David Leaf and John Scheinfeld. Produced by Crew Neck Productions and Moon River Enterprises, **HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS** is distributed to public television stations nationwide by APT's Premium Service.

About American Public Television

With more than 10,000 hours of programming in its library, American Public Television (APT) has been a prime source of programming for the nation's public television stations for 47 years, distributing more than 300 new program titles per year. In 2006, APT launched Create – the TV channel featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming. Known for its leadership in identifying innovative, worthwhile and viewer-friendly programming, APT has established a tradition of providing public television stations with program choices that strengthen and customize their schedules, such as such as *Rick Steves' Europe*, *Worldfocus*, *Globe Trekker*, *Simply Ming*, *Sara's Weeknight Meals*, *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated*, *Doc Martin*, *Broadway: The Golden Age*, *Lidia's Family Table*, *Rosemary and Thyme*, *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home*, *The Big Comfy Couch*, *Celine Dion: A New Day*, *Queen Rock Montreal*, *Monarchy With David Starkey*, *Spain...on the road Again*, and other prominent documentaries, dramatic series, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies. For more information about APT's programs and services, visit APTonline.org.

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PERFORMANCE RUNDOWN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOWS

“It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year”

“It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas”

“The Christmas Song”

“Christmas Bells Are Ringing”
with the Williams Brothers

“A Time to Shine”
with the Williams Brothers

“Sleigh Bells”

“Winter Wonderland”
with the Williams Brothers

“Silver Bells”
with the Osmond Brothers

Medley: “Happy Holidays and It’s the Holiday Season”
with the Williams and Osmond Brothers

“Silent Night”

“White Christmas”

“Jingle Bells”
with the Williams Brothers

“Christmas Is Here”
with the Williams Brothers

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS: THE BEST OF THE ANDY... /2 PERFORMANCE RUNDOWN

“I’ll Be Home for Christmas”
with the Williams Brothers

Caroling Medley: “Here We Come a Caroling, Joy to the World, Deck the Halls, We
Wish You a Merry Christmas”
The Osmond Brothers

“White Christmas”

“O Holy Night”

“We Need a Little Christmas”

“Skater’s Waltz”

“Mary’s Boy Child”

“Ave Maria”

“Santa Claus Is Coming to Town”
with the Williams Brothers

“Christmas Song”
with the Williams Brothers

“You Meet the Nicest People”

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ANDY WILLIAMS

Andy Williams began singing in his hometown, Wall Lake, Iowa, performing with his three brothers in a local Presbyterian church choir that was established by his parents. At age eight, Williams made his professional singing debut as the youngest member of the Williams Brothers Quartet. The brothers became regulars on the radio station in Des Moines, Iowa, and were prominently featured on national radio stations. The widespread radio exposure caught Bing Crosby's attention. With Crosby, Williams and his brothers made their first professional recording, "Swinging on a Star," which became a hit in 1944. But in 1951, the group disbanded and each brother went his own way. Williams moved to New York City and continued his singing career.

While in New York, Williams performed regularly on Steve Allen's *Tonight Show*, which led to his first recording contract with Cadence Records. Williams had his first top-10 hit with "Canadian Sunset." Many more hits were to follow, but none would become more associated with Andy Williams than "Moon River," the Oscar-winning song from the film *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

The Andy Williams Show debuted on September 16, 1963, on NBC and lasted for nine years, making Williams a superstar with three Emmy awards. As one of NBC's top-rated programs, the show began a holiday tradition with the classic Christmas episodes that featured the entire Williams family. By the time *The Andy Williams Show* ended in 1972, Williams had achieved international fame.

In spring 1999, Williams found himself back on the record charts once again. In England, a commercial for the Fiat automobile company featured Williams' version of "Music to Watch Girls By." The ad became so popular that the record company re-released the song and this time it was a top-10 hit. Williams toured throughout England, Ireland and Scotland. Every theater sold out in hours after tickets went on sale.

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