

# NEWS RELEASE



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**PBS HAWAII REBROADCASTS  
A CONVERSATION WITH AMERICA'S POET LAUREATE: W.S. MERWIN  
PROGRAM BOUND FOR NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION**

Creativity. Conservation. Communication. W.S. Merwin shares his thoughts on these topics and more in "A Conversation with America's Poet Laureate: W.S. Merwin," airing June 30 at 8:30 pm with an encore at 11:00 pm on PBS Hawaii.

Merwin, the first Poet Laureate named from Hawaii, discusses his upbringing, his literary and philosophical influences and his kinship with the Hawaiian culture in this intimate one-hour interview with PBS Hawaii President and CEO Leslie Wilcox.

Set against the lush, serene background of his Maui home, Merwin expounds on the meaning of language and the practical purpose that poetry serves for humankind, sharing his own poems from various stages in his career.

A tour through his property on Maui reveals a passionate and dedicated conservationist as we walk through the world's largest collection of endangered palm trees, tended to by Merwin and his wife, Paula.

The result is an indelible portrait of Merwin the artist, the man, the conservationist, the philosopher and lover of words.

PBS Hawaii has submitted A Conversation with America's Poet Laureate: W.S. Merwin to American Public Television for national distribution.

Hawaii's only public television station, PBS Hawaii, reaches viewers across the island state. Locally owned and independent, we are evolving on-air and online to best serve the people of Hawaii. Through quality programming and community interaction, we connect with citizens of all ages to share lifelong learning, culture and the arts, and trustworthy information.

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