

Some of the top stories recently featured on STL TV Visit us at <http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/>

The Best of 2009 Close-Up

What a year for STL TV and the City of St. Louis Communications Division! Viewers were treated to stars from the movies, television and sports worlds while enjoying the best music, the best authors, the best cooks and St. Louis's most interesting people. Stay tuned in 2010, because WE'VE GOT MORE!

Here's a look back at some of the highlights of 2009:

Will Smith proves he really is the "prince"



Just before the first of the year, STL TV'S Sande Stevenson snagged an interview with film star Will Smith at the red-carpet preview of "Seven Pounds" at Creve Coeur Cinema.

Cassandra goes a round with the Champ



STL TV engineer Ken Roberts compares fists with boxer Evander Holyfield.

Our own Cassandra Walker, one of the hosts of the Best of the STL, recently visited with four-time boxing world champion Evander Holyfield when he was here to promote a new music video created in his honor. The tribute to Holyfield, "Bomaye", is performed by KM, featuring Tenise A. and Jayhut, and is

Holyfield's theme song when he enters the ring. The song was written by St. Charles resident Quentin Stephenson.

Genocide documentary airs on STL TV

April 2009 was designated Genocide Prevention Month because the tragedies of Darfur, Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia, the Holocaust and Armenia all have major anniversaries in April. STL TV aired "The Last Survivor," a preview of the feature-length documentary film that follows the lives of survivors of four different genocides and mass atrocities. "One of the people featured in this documentary - Justin, a refugee from the Congo - has been re-settled in St. Louis and actually goes to my church," noted STL TV producer April Houston.

An All Star summer in St. Louis



STL TV scored a home run at the biggest event to hit St. Louis in decades, the 2009 Major League All Star Game July 14. During the weekend STL TV's coverage featured our own Kim Hudson, Jeff Vernetti and Melanie Streeper (above) and was coordinated by video veteran Rick Davis. In case you didn't hear, the National League lost, again.

STL TV Celebration rocks the Old Rock House!

STL TV's first annual Jewel Awards and Season Premiere filled the Old Rock House in Soulard Sept. 10 with celebrities, dignitaries and winners in the station's biggest night of the year. "We've Got More!" was the theme of the spectacular party, which featured a VIP reception, live entertainment, food, beverages and previews of upcoming STL TV productions that include the current affairs show "Issues" with Debbie Monterrey, and a new morning show called "AM!" hosted by Sarah Thompson. Highlighting the evening was the presentation of the first annual STL TV "Community Star" awards to individuals, associations and companies who have done much for the St. Louis area this past year, and special "Jewel" awards to outstanding STL TV staff members and talent.



Jeremy Maclin: From JFL to NFL



Missouri All-American and Philadelphia Eagles receiver and return specialist Jeremy Maclin sat down with STL TV in August to reflect on his days in the St. Louis Junior Football League. His interview with our own Schalene Houston was aired during the opening game of the 2009 JFL season.

EXCLUSIVE! Gilberto y Julio



In December STL TV hosted Gilberto Pinela landed an exclusive interview with singer Julio Iglesias during his visit to Powell Symphonia Hall last week. Iglesias's visit to St. Louis was his last stop of a U.S. tour before heading to Asia to continue to celebrate 40 years of singing romantic classics. He does not grant television interviews and has not since at least 2003 or so, said Gilberto. STL TV is the only television station to get access to Iglesias during the entire North American leg of the tour.

By the way, the interview was conducted entirely in Spanish. Photo by Geraldine Cols.

STL TV's "krewes" covered the Mardi Gras



Best of the STL hosts Ivy Hartman and Gilberto Pinela braved the cold to bring viewers all the fun of the colorful parade.

Second only to New Orleans, St. Louis boasts a huge Mardi Gras celebration each year. STL TV was there on the main stage in February as the Lumiere Place Grand Parade rolled and strolled by, and captured highlights of the celebration. Our own Kim Hudson was one of the parade judges. Speaking of beads, Kim had to use her judge's clipboard as a shield to fend off those that were thrown her way. The parade winner this year was an enormous smoke-blowing ox float piloted by the Mystic Knights of the Purple Haze.

Going Like 60 wins award

Hosted by the affable Ray Killebrew, Going Like 60 is an upbeat and exciting series of some sensational St. Louis seniors and the activities that keep them going. In May, Killebrew, a professor at Missouri Baptist University, was honored in Nashville, Tenn., by the Baptist Communicators Association for his program, taking home second place in the Feature Production-Broadcast competition.



Meet the STL TV Ambassadors



In June STL TV announced its first "ambassadors." Front row, from left: Sarah Thompson, Ivy Hartman, Gilberto Pinela, Kara Kaminsky, Rick Edlund; back row: Todd Thomas, Cassandra Walker, Debbie Monterrey and Steve Potter. Rick Edlund and Debbie Monterrey joined the STL TV family in 2009. Call on our talented Ambassadors to host your next event. For more information phone 314-552-2900.

St. Louisans' "Shadowland" is No. 1 horror film



STL TV is a media sponsor for the premiere of "Shadowland," a vampire thriller filmed entirely in St. Louis with local actors and crew. The movie made its red carpet debut at the Tivoli Theater hosted by STL TV on July 24.

Having a Black and White Ball



STL TV's Sande Stevenson with R&B singer Mario at Nelly's 2009 Black and White Ball in November. Highlights of the event were broadcast on STL TV.

Hut, hut! JFL kicks off season on STL TV and now KPLR

For the fourth year in a row, the St. Louis Junior Football League appeared on STL TV with network-quality broadcasts of the games complete with two play-by-play announcers and instant replays. This year the JFL celebrates 50 years in the community and what better way to celebrate than to display some of St. Louis' finest talents on STL TV and, for the first time, on KPLR-CW11. Now the games can be seen throughout the metro area.



The JFL was founded in 1960 to give children between the ages of 7 and 14 the opportunity to play organized tackle football. Each year, the JFL teams up with youth sports organizations to provide fundamental coaching for more than 3,000 youths in the metro area. The JFL is a registered non-profit organization made up entirely of volunteers.

Lodge of Four Seasons "Top 10" contest winners



From left, Susan Koplak and Mark Brown of the Lodge of the Four Seasons congratulate Rick and Michelle Ankoviak, winners of STL TV's "Top 10 Reasons for a stay at The Lodge of Four Seasons."

Healthy Marriages wins Telly Award

Healthy Marriages, a series on STL TV produced with Laura Slay and Slay Media, won a prestigious Telly Award in September. The Telly Awards honor the very best local, regional and cable television commercials and programs, as well as the finest video and film productions and work created for the Web.

Now Showing ON STL TV

Check our program guide for air times
Aldermen visits the Lewis Reed - Our President of the Board of
Behind the Scenes with Lewis Reed - Our President of the Board of
Aldermen visits the dinosaurs at our nationally famous St. Louis
Science Center

Also watch for:

Hard at Work - One of our newest shows spotlights people on the job. Currently working are episodes featuring a city health inspector and one showing the man behind the computers that help run Lambert St. Louis International Airport

Laugh Out Loud comedy show - There's a lot of funny business at STL TV. Catch our new LOL (Laugh Out Loud) Comedy Special featuring some of the St. Louis area's top comedians

JFL Monday Night Football - They're mini, but they're mighty! St. Louis youth football gets the prime time treatment with play-by-play and more. During the holidays tell your family and friends to check out St. Louis's future football stars. Tune in and catch the JFL Super Bowl games on STL TV



Pathways to Healing - This special episode, "Abusers," offers insight, hope and advice for victims

And now, a word from our viewers:

"Hi. I did make it to the Best of the STL show and it was great. You and your team are doing an amazing job. Kudos! Thanks" - Priscilla V.