



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 1, 2015

**Contacts: Jennifer Bradley**

[jbradley@VegasPBS.org](mailto:jbradley@VegasPBS.org)

702.799.1010 X5452

**Tammy McMahan**

[tmcman@VegasPBS.org](mailto:tmcman@VegasPBS.org)

702.799.1010 X5450

**VEGAS PBS ANNOUNCES GARSIDE TEACHER SELECTED FOR  
2015 PBS LEARNINGMEDIA DIGITAL INNOVATORS PROGRAM**

*Robert Coggan Recognized for Use of Digital Media and Technology in the Classroom*

(Las Vegas)- Vegas PBS announces Robert Coggan from Garside Junior High School as one of the 100 educators selected for the 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators Program. The program, which is in its third year, recognizes tech-savvy K-12 educators who are serving as leaders in education technology and incorporating digital media in classrooms.

“Vegas PBS is proud to recognize Robert Coggan who was chosen from a nationwide pool of talented and innovative educators who are using technology and digital media in the classroom,” said Vegas PBS General Manager Tom Axtell. “Coggan will represent Vegas PBS and the entire Clark County School District community as he continues to enhance his skills with these one-of-a-kind resources, tools and trainings from PBS LearningMedia.”

Coggan has taught for 16 years in the Clark County School District. He enjoys storytelling and using technology, such as iPads and computer-based programs, to emphasize the importance of digital applications for classroom instruction. His students are encouraged to create podcasts, comics and videos to indicate understanding of lessons and show the ability to apply what is learned. Coggan’s favorite PBS LearningMedia resource is “The Secret Life of Scientists and Engineers,” which profiles the “human side” of these technology professionals. “The best part of my job is to build student’s excitement about learning,” explained Robert Coggan. He continued, stating that “the key to engaging students is to find creative ways to connect academic lessons to individual students’ lives and passions outside of the classroom.” Coggan’s winning video focuses on learning by using props, different voices and connecting the entire story, including the essential subjects of math, English, history and science. In 2014, another CCSD instructor, Stephanie Berry, an English teacher at Basic High School, was selected as a Lead Digital Innovator.

The 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators will receive year-long professional development opportunities that include virtual trainings, access to premium and exclusive resources from PBS LearningMedia Custom service, invitations to special events, and access to a free PBS TeacherLine course. PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators will also receive ongoing support in their community from their local PBS member stations.

The full list of the 2015 PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovators is available at [pbslearningmedia.org/collection/digitalinnovators](http://pbslearningmedia.org/collection/digitalinnovators).

PBS LearningMedia received hundreds of applications from leading teachers throughout the U.S. and its territories. Judges selected the 100 educators based on submissions of videos and written essays that addressed how they are creatively using digital technology and tools in the classroom to drive student achievement.

### **About Vegas PBS**

Dedicated to enriching the lives of those who call Southern Nevada home, Vegas PBS Channel 10 is one of America's most watched PBS stations on a per capita basis. Five additional channels are available over the air or on cable and satellite including Create, Vme, Worldview, Rewind and Jackpot!

Vegas PBS expands its television broadcast impact through supplemental materials on Vegas PBS.org, PBS.org, PBSKids.org, PBSParents.org, PBSTeachers.org and NextAvenue.org. Vegas PBS also offers extensive online distance education for workforce training and economic development through *Global Online Advanced Learning (GOAL)*.

Vegas PBS provides K-12 educational resources to teachers and students in public, private, charter and home schools including professional development courses; *One Place*, a curriculum-correlated online media service; the *Described and Captioned Media Center (DCMC)* containing materials for deaf, hard of hearing, blind and vision impaired individuals and those who assist them; and *Ready To Learn* literacy and health community workshops based on curriculum materials in daytime children's programs.

For more information on programming and services, please visit [VegasPBS.org](http://VegasPBS.org), like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/VegasPBS](https://Facebook.com/VegasPBS), or follow us on Twitter at [Twitter.com/VegasPBS](https://Twitter.com/VegasPBS).

### **About PBS LearningMedia**

As America's largest classroom, PBS offers digital content and services for teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS LearningMedia, a partnership of PBS and WGBH Educational Foundation, is a free and paid media-on-demand service offering educators access to the best of public media and delivers research-based, classroom-ready digital learning experiences to engage students in exploring curriculum concepts that align with National and Common Core State Standards. Nationwide, more than 1.6 million educators and users have registered access to more than 100,000 digital resources available through PBS LearningMedia. More information about PBS LearningMedia is available at [www.pbslearningmedia.org](http://www.pbslearningmedia.org) or by following PBS LearningMedia on [Twitter](https://Twitter.com/PBSLearningMedia) and [Facebook](https://Facebook.com/PBSLearningMedia).

###