

# Original Kermit the Frog donated to Smithsonian

By Brett Zongker  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON — The original Kermit the Frog, his body created with an old dull-green coat and his eyes made of pingpong balls, has returned home to the nation's capital, where the puppet got his start.

The first Kermit creation from Jim Henson's Muppet's collection appeared in 1955 on the early TV show "Sam and Friends," produced at Washington's WRC-TV. Henson's widow Jane Henson on Wednesday donated 10 characters from the show to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

She said the original characters provided five minutes of fun each night after the local news.

"I think people realized that if you put Kermit's face up there, it was just as powerful," Jane Henson, 76, said. "We were mostly just doing it to entertain ourselves."

The Hensons attended the University of Maryland and got into the TV business with Willard Scott and other pioneers while in college. Their connection to the area makes the Smithsonian a perfect home for Henson's original puppets, friends said.

"It's not just the puppets coming home, but in a way it's Jane and Jim coming home," said Arthur Novell, executive director of the nonprofit Jim Henson Legacy in New York City. "They started their careers, their lives in Washington."

Even though they were in Washington, Kermit deliberately did not do politics or dabble in religion, Jane Henson said.

The Smithsonian already has a familiar Kermit the Frog puppet made famous on "Sesame Street" and "The Muppet Show." But the original Kermit was more lizard-like, and a duller green. His body was made from an old coat thrown out by Henson's mother.

Some of the other early Muppets donated to the museum include the puppets that inspired Cookie Monster and Oscar the Grouch, as well as Sam from "Sam and Friends." The group also includes Henson's oldest surviving puppet, Pierre the French Rat. The puppets mostly named on the show and would lip-sync to popular music.

Their first hit was "I've Grown Accustomed to Your Face," by Rosemary Clooney. Donning a wig, Kermit took the lead as "Kermina," Jane Henson said. In 1969, Kermit made it big and joined "Sesame Street."



Jane Henson donates some of Jim Henson's early puppets to the Smithsonian.

Curator Dwight Blocker Bowers said the Muppets will be a boon for the museum's collection.

"It certainly shows the Muppets at the beginning of the career of a large family of entertainers," he said. "More than anything, I think it shows the genius of Jim Henson."

Bowers said the museum plans to have the original Muppets on display by November in the pop culture gallery.

Visitors will recognize the original Kermit, though he didn't have his trademark collar and webbed feet. But they probably won't recognize the other characters, so the museum will help introduce them, Bowers said.

Future plans call for adding clips of their early shows.

A traveling Smithsonian exhibit of Muppets opens Sept. 24 at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry.

Novell, who was Henson's publicist for more than 20 years, said the puppeteer was a history buff and fond of the Smithsonian.

Other puppets from Henson's collection will eventually be given to the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta to create a Henson gallery there, perhaps as soon as 2014, Novell said.

"We would like very much to get them out while they're still in relatively good condition," Jane Henson said.

"I think when you grow up in Washington, you get the feeling that everything important in the country goes to the Smithsonian."

# Apple's TV rental proposal may not be a game changer

By Ryan Nakashima  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LOS ANGELES — Apple Inc.'s iTunes store may have revolutionized the music business, but its recent push to let people rent TV shows for 99 cents won't amount to a game changer for how people watch TV.

The idea to offer episodes of hit shows for rental a day after their broadcast may be great for people with busy lifestyles, and it could help Apple sell more iPhones and iPads, but only a few of the major media companies support the plan.

That's because they already make money from TV shows in a number of ways, and compared with those, the planned price of 99 cents is seen as a big cut, according to some people familiar with Apple's proposal.

Media companies already sell episodes on iTunes, but currently for \$1.99 or \$2.99, and sometimes more than a day after the broadcast.

Because most people watch such shows just once, the cheaper rental model might end up cutting into revenue, rather than boosting it.

Also, media companies sell advertising, and coming out of the recession, prices have been going up for those 30-second commercial spots on TV.

Allowing people to avoid those ads by paying 99 cents the next day doesn't make sense if it means a smaller audience and smaller advertising revenue on the day of the broadcast.

Still, The Walt Disney Co.'s ABC and News Corp.'s Fox network are nearing a deal on such a rental plan, according to several people familiar with Apple's proposal.

That means shows such as "Modern Family" or "Glee" could soon be available the day after they air for less than the cost of buying a permanent download.

Rentals would typically be available for 48 hours after the purchase.

The people familiar with the discussions spoke on condition of anonymity because no deal had been finalized.

If a deal is cut soon, Apple could announce it at a media event next Wednesday, though music appears to be the focus of that.

Offering a rental model would expand options for viewers.

It's now possible to watch many of the shows for free with ads on

Hulu and the sites of broadcasters.

But those shows are streamed and require an Internet connection while viewing.

A rental model would give people the ability to download files to take with them on planes or other places; the files would automatically expire after the 48 hours.

Those who buy shows for children, or who tend to watch shows multiple times, would likely continue to buy them in various ways.

Media companies are experimenting with new ways of selling their content over the Internet but want to avoid jeopardizing existing business models.

Those include the billions of dollars that cable TV providers, satellite TV companies and telecommunications firms pay to media companies to carry their channels.

Those so-called affiliate fees are a huge and growing source of revenue and have helped media companies withstand the downturn during the recession.

Media companies are not about to turn their backs on Comcast Corp. or DirecTV Inc. by making content available elsewhere for less than it would cost for a monthly subscription.

Time Warner Inc. is even trying to make it more worthwhile to continue paying your monthly cable bill by offering its TV shows for free online as long as you're a paying subscriber.

Its "HBO Go" service also allows online viewing of HBO programming for free with a subscription.

While talks continue between Apple and all the major content companies, CBS Corp. and Time Warner are definitely not taking part in the rental plan as it is currently structured, according to the people familiar with the talks.

NBC Universal and Viacom Inc. are also unlikely to reach any agreement before the start of the fall TV season.

That means shows such as NBC's "30 Rock," CBS' "NCIS: Los Angeles" and TNT's "The Closer" are not going to be available to rent for 99 cents on iTunes any time soon.

There are still plenty of ways to catch shows, though.

You can check the channel's websites or simply record them on digital video recorders.

Or, like the old days, you can just sit on your couch and watch the shows when they come on.

**UPAC**  
Your Student Activity Fee  
PRESENTS  
**LATENIGHT**

**Friday, Aug. 27**  
**BALLOON ARTIST LOUIS PAUL** - Balloons like you've never seen! - 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM, 1st Floor  
**CREATIVE CRAFTS** - Paint your own Wooden Photo Frame! - 9 PM - 1 AM, Ground Floor  
**GAPS GAMING** - 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM, 1st Floor  
**OPEN GAMES NIGHT** - Monopoly, Risk, Jenga, Scrabble and more! - 10 PM - 1 AM, Ground Floor  
**LATENIGHT BILLIARDS** - 9 PM - 1 AM, Corner Pocket  
**ARHS MOVIE: IRON MAN 2** - 7 PM, 9:30 PM & 12 AM, Auditorium

**FRIDAY LATENIGHT FOOD SPECIALS:**  
**Ground Floor Carts:** \$1  
**Nathan's Hotdog, \$1.29 Soft Pretzels, David's Large Cookies at \$1.59, and 75¢ Box of Popcorn** - 9 PM - 1 AM  
**Sbarro:** \$1.99 Meatball Hero or Pasta Special and \$1 slice of Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza - 9 PM - 2 AM

**WHITE BUILDING ACTIVITIES:**  
**Novelty Night: The Edge Obstacle Course, T-Ball, and Mechanical Bull** - 9 PM - 1 AM  
**Open Recreation** - 9 PM start  
**Open Pool Recreation\*** - 9 PM - 12 AM (Closed if no Lifeguard)  
**Fitness Center\*** - 9 PM - 1 AM (\*Requires Fitness Pass/ID)

**Saturday, Aug. 28**  
**BALLOON ARTIST LOUIS PAUL** - Balloons like you've never seen! - 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM, 1st Floor  
**CREATIVE CRAFTS** - Paint your own Wooden Photo Frame! - 9 PM - 1 AM, Ground Floor  
**OPEN GAMES NIGHT** - Monopoly, Risk, Jenga, Scrabble and more! - 10 PM - 1 AM, Ground Floor  
**LATENIGHT BILLIARDS** - 9 PM - 1 AM, Corner Pocket  
**ARHS MOVIE: IRON MAN 2** - 7 PM, 9:30 PM & 12 AM, Auditorium

**SATURDAY LATENIGHT FOOD SPECIALS:**  
**Ground Floor Carts:** \$1.99  
**Fruit Smoothies, \$1.29 Soft Pretzels, David's Large Cookies at \$1.59, and 75¢ Box of Popcorn** - 9 PM - 1 AM  
**Nathan's:** 59¢ Mini-Hamburger, 99¢ Nachos, \$1 Nathan's Hotdog, and 5 Kenny Rogers Roasters Wings for \$1.99 - 9 PM - 2 AM

**WHITE BUILDING ACTIVITIES:**  
**Free Throw Contest** - 9 PM start  
**Open Recreation** - 9 PM start  
**Open Pool Recreation\*** - 9 PM - 12 AM (Closed if no Lifeguard)  
**Fitness Center\*** - 9 PM - 1 AM (\*Requires Fitness Pass/ID)

**Sunday, Aug. 29**  
**ARHS MOVIE: IRON MAN 2** - 7 PM & 9:30 PM, Auditorium

PSU-UPark Student ID required at most events. All events are in the HUB-Robeson Center unless noted otherwise. Check out Union St. and get a great deal on late night food on Friday and Saturday nights!  
[www.latenight.psu.edu](http://www.latenight.psu.edu)

**Attention Student Organization Leaders**  
All programs start at 6 PM  
**Sept. 7 129A HUB**  
Determining Goals and Effective Planning  
Presented by: Donald Moore, Union and Student Activities  
**Oct. 12 129A HUB**  
Risk Management  
Presented by: Jay Arcuri, Union and Student Activities  
**Nov. 9 Hetzel Lounge**  
Organization Transitioning  
Presented by: Andrea Mosby, CampuSpeak, Inc.  
**Dec. 7 129A HUB**  
Reflection Facilitation  
Presented by: Beth Bradley, Center for Ethics and Religious Affairs

# WHAT'S GOING ON

YOUR GUIDE TO MOVIES, LATENIGHT, MEETINGS & EVENTS AT PENN STATE

## NOW PLAYING

**ARHS Movies Presents**  
**IRON MAN 2**  
Thursday: 10 PM  
Friday & Saturday: 7 PM, 9:30 PM & 12 AM  
Sunday: 7 PM & 9:30 PM

PSU Student ID required. All ARHS movies are shown in the HUB Auditorium. All ARHS movies are free & funded by UPAC! Your Student Activity Fee at work!

## COMING UP

**ASA (Associated Student Activities)**  
**New and Returning Treasurers**

Our Treasurer's Workshops are being offered on the following dates and times:  
**Tuesday Sept. 7 10 AM - 11 AM Room 233**  
**Wednesday Sept. 8 10 AM - 11 AM Room 233**  
**Thursday Sept. 9 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM Room 233**  
Due to space limitations, please stop in to the ASA Office in 240 HUB and sign up for a session. Our Treasurer Guide and valuable links are now available online at [www.sa.psu.edu/usa/asa](http://www.sa.psu.edu/usa/asa) Attendance is not required but highly encouraged.

**The Center for Arts & Crafts**  
**Fall 2010 Art Classes**

The Center for Arts & Crafts is now taking registrations for our Fall 2010 art classes! Classes include wheel thrown pottery, Irish dance, Zumba, drawing, watercolor painting, acrylic painting, scrapbooking, stained glass, recycled workshops and more! Class fees are discounted for PSU students with valid ID; Penn State affiliation is required to participate. To register, stop by our new location in 003 Ritenour Building, or mail in a registration form found in the Fall 2010 catalog. For questions or catalog request, please call 814-863-0611 or email [mandi@psu.edu](mailto:mandi@psu.edu). Classes start Sept. 13. Reserve your spot today! For class info visit: [www.sa.psu.edu/usa/craftcenter](http://www.sa.psu.edu/usa/craftcenter)

**Young Americans for Freedom Present**  
**Our Freedom and Security in the Post 9-11 World**  
Aug. 30 8 PM 110 Wartik

Penn State graduate and congressman, G.T. Thompson, will speak on the state of our national security in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. This talk is of vital importance to anyone concerned with the future of the United States. All are encouraged to attend. Congressman Thompson will be available to answer questions following the talk.

**Student Affairs Welcome Week**  
**Fall 2010 Schedule**

Schedules will be posted around campus and at the HUB Robeson Center Information Desk. For complete schedule and more information visit <http://www.sa.psu.edu/newstudents>  
**Saturday, Aug. 28 8:30 AM - 4 PM**  
Fresh START Day of Service  
Make a difference in your new community! The 2010 Fresh START Day of Service for first-year, change of campus, and transfer students is an opportunity to meet new people and get involved in the community.

**Turkish Student Association**  
**"Welcome Picnic"**

**Games and Cultural Activities**  
Aug. 29 12 PM - 6 PM Sunset Park  
Everyone welcome! Funded by UPAC.

**Fresh START Day of Service**  
Saturday, Aug. 28

8:30 AM - 4 PM HUB Alumni Hall  
Looking for a way to have fun, meet other new students, and make a difference in your community? All incoming first-year, transfer, and change-of-assignment students are invited to participate in Fresh START Day of Service, Penn State's largest day of service! Enjoy a free t-shirt and free food! Sign up to volunteer at [www.volunteer.psu.edu](http://www.volunteer.psu.edu)! Get rooted in service! For more information, visit [clubs.psu.edu/up/freshstart](http://clubs.psu.edu/up/freshstart) or e-mail [psufreshstart@gmail.com](mailto:psufreshstart@gmail.com)



Does your organization have a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly meeting? Or do you have a special event coming up? Would you like to get the word out to the students? Then stop by the UPAC office located in 229 HUB Robeson and pick up a form, fill it out, return it to the UPAC office as early as possible but no later than the week before the event. We will be happy to publish your information in our weekly meeting section. The Meeting List is published each Monday in the What's Going ON page. Events are published Monday and Fridays! This service is free and provided by UPAC! Your Student Activity Fee at work!



**L.E.T. (Leaders Emerging Today)**  
**Apply online today!**

L.E.T. is a 10-week, peer-led, leadership program specifically designed for first-year students at University Park. No prior leadership experience is required to participate; however, L.E.T. is limited to 30 participants so a brief application is required. Participants who successfully complete the 10-week program will be awarded a "Certificate of Completion". L.E.T. meets on Tuesday nights from 7 PM - 9 PM in 302 HUB-Robeson Center beginning, Tuesday, Sept. 7 and concluding on Tuesday, Nov. 9. Application Deadline Friday, Sept. 3. <http://www.sa.psu.edu/usa/studentactivities/leadership/let.shtml> Questions? Contact - [leadership@sa.psu.edu](mailto:leadership@sa.psu.edu) (814) 863-4624.

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