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**WHYY TO BROADCAST DOWNTON ABBEY MARATHON,
HOST VIEWING PARTY FOR SEASON TWO FINALE**

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 24, 2012 — WHYY-TV will broadcast a 10-hour marathon viewing experience of the entire second season of the popular public television program *Downton Abbey* on Sunday, Feb. 19. The first episode will be broadcast at 1 p.m., and the two-hour finale will be broadcast at 9 p.m.

WHYY will host a themed reception celebrating *Downton Abbey's* Season 2 finale beginning at 8 p.m. Feb. 19. Guests will watch the wildly anticipated episode as it is broadcast live at 9 p.m. on a 16-by-9-foot high-definition screen in The Dorrance H. Hamilton Public Media Commons, 150 N. Sixth St., Philadelphia. The event is open to the public, and WHYY members will receive discounted admission (\$20 or \$25 for nonmember admission), which includes refreshments suitable for British lords and ladies. Register at WHYY.org/memberexperience or by phone at (215) 351-0511.

Winner of six recent Emmy Awards, *Downton Abbey* depicts the lives of the noble Crawley family and the staff that serves them. Set among the trials of World War I Britain, the international hit, written by Julian Fellowes (*Gosford Park*), stars Dame Maggie Smith, Elizabeth McGovern and Hugh Bonneville as well as a drawing room full of actors portraying the loves, feuds and sacrifices of a glittering culture thrown into crisis.

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