PHILO PRESENTS

A Brief History of Television

In celebration of the 92nd Tele-versary and the man who inspired us to build the best watching experience available, here are some of our favorite moments in TV history.

1927
Philo T. Farnsworth, at just 21, conducts the first TV transmission.

1939
NBC introduces television at the World's Fair in NYC.

1953
Nearly 72% of US households tune in to "I Love Lucy" for the first TV birth.

1954
Tournament of Roses Parade becomes the first TV broadcast in color.

1960
First televised presidential debate occurs between Nixon and JFK.

1963
Television surpasses newspapers as an information source.

1968
Star Trek's Lt. Uhura and Captain Kirk make history with TV's first interracial kiss.

1969
600+ million people watched the moon landing.

1972
HBO becomes the first U.S. premium cable and satellite television network.

1980
Ted Turner launches CNN; Robert L. Johnson launches BET, changing TV's landscape.

1981
MTV launches with the broadcast of "Video Killed the Radio Star."

1985
1.9 billion people across 150 countries tune in to view a charity concert, *Live Aid*.

1989
Cops premieres on FOX and redefines reality television.

1995
The 116th episode of Seinfeld "The Soup Nazi" introduces the quotable line, "NO SOUP FOR YOU!"

1999
TiVo launches, introducing the DVR era.

1999
SpongeBob Squarepants premieres on Nickelodeon and becomes the highest-rated children's TV series.

2002
VHS officially wins Betamax war... The same year, DVD's outsell VHS.

2004
52.5 million viewers tune in to watch the Friends finale.

2008
Hulu, the first streaming TV service launches in the US.

2009
Analog TV broadcasts cease in the US and TV goes digital.

2011
Oprah Winfrey debuts her OWN network in approx. 80 million homes.

2013
Netflix releases its first original streaming series. The same year an original streaming series is first recognized by the Emmy's.

2015
The Collins English Dictionary chooses the word "binge-watch" as the word of the year.

philo

2017
Philo launches first-ever, entertainment-focused streaming TV service featuring live TV, DVR, and on-demand services.

2019
Nearly 21.9 million U.S. households are expected to have cut the cord.

Content milestone

Technology milestone