

**CONNECTICUT PUBLIC BROADCASTING  
BACKS BUMPSPARK\* PROJECT  
WITH AIRTIME AND SERIES OUTLOOK**

**"It will make a terrific national show."**

**Hartford, CT** - Robert Kalm, the founder of Headless Film, and Jerry Franklin, President & CEO of Connecticut Public Broadcasting, announced their new collaboration today. The Bumpspark\* Project, Kalm's effort to produce, record and distribute multi-media, free-form conversations that cross-pollinate different fields of knowledge, will debut on Connecticut Public Television & Radio.

"CPB is committed to airing our *Bumpspark\** pilot episode featuring poet Robert Pinsky and physicist Alan Lightman," declared Mr. Kalm. "More important, they will act as counsel and liaison with national PBS and NPR as we map out the production, funding, and distribution of the larger series. I couldn't be happier."

"We think *Bumpspark\** will make a terrific national PBS show," added Franklin.

Poised to turn the talk show format on its couch pillows, *Bumpspark\**'s captivating, expansive dialogues are shot by documentary photographers, on location, at stimulating environments familiar to the participants. A day or two's worth of ruminations is edited down into rich hour-long episodes. *Bumpspark\** is inspired by the idea that discoveries often come from unexpected connections.

"Connecticut Public Broadcasting is a growing institution that can give us the attention some of the overburdened affiliates just can't provide," Mr. Kalm explained. "As with anything public, the paperwork is greater, but the freedom we'll get as a result, to experiment and to create something for the student rather than the consumer in the audience, is just unparalleled."

The pilot episode of *Bumpspark\** is a discussion between former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky and MIT physicist and author Alan Lightman to be shot in the city of Boston on the MIT campus, at the Walden Woods Project's Thoreau Institute, and at the professors' respective homes.

"I grew up in Fairfield County. The Governor's commitment this past year to make Connecticut a 'Hollywood East' is exciting. The number of projects already in production here is exciting. The local commitment to the arts and sciences, to funding non-profit projects like ours, is inspirational."

Further information, including how to make a tax-deductible contribution, is available at [Bumpspark.org](http://Bumpspark.org). The Bumpspark\* Digital Press Kit is available by contacting [bumpspark@gmail.com](mailto:bumpspark@gmail.com).

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