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### University of Minnesota, Morris campus documentary to air on Pioneer Public Television

University Relations

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**MORRIS**

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**University of Minnesota, Morris campus documentary to air on Pioneer Public Television**

*Summary: Promise of the Prairie: Education in Three Acts explores three very different educational institutions that have made their home on the same plot of land—the Morris campus.*

(January 21, 2011)-Promise of the Prairie: Education in Three Acts, a documentary created by University of Minnesota, Morris Media Services, will be aired on Pioneer Public Television on Sunday, January 23, 2011, at 6 p.m.

Promise of the Prairie reflects several Pioneer TV mission objectives: to tell stories about our region and the richness of its people to recognize and support the value of living in rural communities to provide excellent programming of enduring value and to help viewers learn and grow.

The documentary explores three very different educational institutions that have made their home on the same plot of land—the Morris campus. In images and voices, the documentary tells the story of Mother Mary Joseph of the Sisters of Mercy who first broke the prairie ground on the Morris campus, establishing an American Indian boarding school in 1887. In 1910, the University of Minnesota opened an agriculture high school on the campus, erecting simple, sturdy Prairie School buildings for teenagers learning modern farming practices. Fifty years later, in 1960, the University's unique, new public liberal arts college brought young adults to the rural campus.

Promise of the Prairie was created by Michael Cihak, director and editor, Chris Butler, researcher and writer, and Roger Boleman, Media Services director and producer, with significant contributions from students Jennifer Riestenberg '13, Perham, research assistant, and Samuel Krump-Johnson '11, Maple Grove, production assistant.

DVDs of the Promise of the Prairie documentary are available with a [contribution to the Promise of the Prairie Scholarship](#). Donors receive a copy of the documentary.

Pioneer TV reaches more than 110,000 households in 45 rural counties serving western Minnesota, northwestern Iowa, and eastern South Dakota.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.