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**BACKGROUNDER: *The American Dream: Fact or Fiction?***  
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**Home Box Office, Inc.**

Home Box Office Inc., better known as HBO, is a premium cable and satellite television network owned by Charter Communications. It provides two television services, HBO and Cinemax, to around 134 million subscribers in over 60 countries, making it the most-watched pay service in the U.S. HBO is renowned for its innovative and groundbreaking storytelling through its many original series, films, miniseries and documentaries. Its reputable and critically acclaimed programming include “Game of Thrones,” “Silicon Valley,” “Veep,” “Westworld,” “Last Week Tonight with John Oliver,” “Big Little Lies,” “The Night Of” and “VICE News Tonight.” These series have won an array of Primetime Emmy Awards and Golden Globe Awards.

**Mission Statement:**

“With its HBO and Cinemax services, Home Box Office, Inc. is at the vanguard of creating and delivering groundbreaking original programming and hit Hollywood films to consumers worldwide across a wide range of platforms and offerings.”

**ProPublica**

ProPublica is an independent, nonprofit newsroom that produces investigative journalism. With a team of over 75 journalists, it dives into important issues to unearth wrongdoing and abuse within business, government, politics, education, criminal justice and healthcare. ProPublica seeks to enact substantial change by investigating these stories and unveiling the truth at all costs.

**Mission Statement:**

“To expose abuses of power and betrayals of the public trust by government, business and other institutions, using the moral force of investigative journalism to spur reform through the sustained spotlighting of wrongdoing.”

### **The American Dream: Fact or Fiction?**

“The American Dream: Fact or Fiction?” will take place on Saturday, June 22, 2019, in Central Park from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. It is a film festival showing a variety of documentaries, collaboratively produced by HBO and ProPublica detailing the complex experiences and difficulties of people living in the U.S. Serving as an educational learning experience for their viewers, HBO and ProPublica hope to bring people together and raise awareness about the diversity of lifestyles in this country to enact change. Kerry Washington, the spokesperson for the event, will be at the film festival to talk about her experience interviewing some of the subjects featured in the documentaries. The event will be limited to viewers, the subjects featured in the documentaries and HBO and ProPublica staff. The event will be opened to the press when it is finished. Interested viewers can purchase tickets in December 2018, for \$30 each. Donations will be accepted online. For more information, visit [www.hbo.com](http://www.hbo.com) or [www.propublica.com](http://www.propublica.com).

### **Support the Cause**

ProPublica is located in New York City. Many people in the U.S. face abuse of power, corruption or harmful policies in daily life in the spheres of government, healthcare, business, education and criminal justice. ProPublica seeks to right these wrongs by engaging in investigative journalism that produces impact and results. ProPublica’s stories have resulted in new laws, the reversal of harmful policies and the resignation of officials.

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