



HEMISPHERE MEDIA GROUP SECURES EXCLUSIVE U.S. AND PUERTO RICO RIGHTS TO POPE FRANCIS BIOGRAPHICAL FILM AND MINISIERES, *FRANCISCO, EL JESUITA*

*Emmy-winning drama to debut on WAPA-TV and Cinelatino, followed by
exclusive AVOD release on ViX, Roku, and Tubi*

[Media: Access pictures [HERE](#)]

MIAMI, FL – April 7, 2025 – **Hemisphere Media Group, Inc.** (HMG), the leading U.S. multi-platform media company serving the high-growth U.S. Hispanic and Latin American markets, has acquired the exclusive rights for ***Francisco, El Jesuita*** in the U.S. and Puerto Rico, bringing the acclaimed film and Emmy-winning four-part miniseries to a wider Spanish-speaking audience across multiple platforms. The film will air on WAPA-TV on Good Friday, April 18 at 6pm local time, and Cinelatino will air it in the U.S. on Holy Saturday, April 19 at 7pm ET /4pm PT; while the biographical miniseries will air in the U.S. on **WAPA América** and **Cinelatino**, and will be released on AVOD on ViX, The Roku Channel, and Tubi.

Winner of the International Emmy Award for Best Non-English Language U.S. Primetime Program (2016), *Francisco, El Jesuita* tells the story of Jorge Mario Bergoglio's extraordinary journey from humble beginnings in Argentina to becoming the first Latin American pope in history. Based on the book *El Jesuita: Conversaciones con el Cardenal Jorge Bergoglio* by journalists Francesca Ambrogetti and Sergio Rubín, the miniseries offers an intimate look at Pope Francis' early life, his challenges during Argentina's military dictatorship, and his path to the Vatican.

"This acquisition underscores Hemisphere's commitment to bringing timely, high-caliber, culturally significant content to Hispanic audiences in the U.S. and Puerto Rico," said **Alan Sokol, President & CEO of Hemisphere Media Group**. "*Francisco, El Jesuita* is a compelling and timely production that sheds light on the life and legacy of one of the most influential figures in the modern world."

Produced by Anima Films in collaboration with History Channel, *Francisco, El Jesuita* was filmed on location in Buenos Aires, Rome, and the Vatican, capturing key moments that defined Pope Francis' spiritual and personal journey. Directed by Matías Gueilburt, the film and miniseries stars Gustavo Yanniello as Bergoglio, alongside Sergio Calvo and Ramiro Boga, portraying his younger years.

The addition of *Francisco, El Jesuita* to **Hemisphere's** portfolio reflects the company's ongoing strategy of curating premium Spanish-language content that resonates with its audiences. Through this multi-platform rollout across broadcast, cable, and AVOD, **Hemisphere** continues to solidify its position as a leading provider of culturally relevant entertainment for Spanish-speaking viewers.

About Hemisphere Media Group:

Hemisphere Media Group, Inc. is the leading U.S. multi—platform media company targeting the high-growth U.S. Hispanic and Latin American markets with industry-leading television and radio networks and digital offerings. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, Hemisphere owns and operates WAPA Media, a conglomerate that includes WAPA TV, the leading broadcast television network and preeminent content producer in Puerto Rico, WKAQ 580AM and KQ105 FM, the leading AM and FM radio stations in Puerto Rico, sports network WAPA Deportes, and WAPA Digital. Additionally, Hemisphere has five leading U.S. Hispanic cable networks (Cinelatino, Pasiones, WAPA América, CentroAméricaTV, and Televisión Dominicana), two Latin American cable networks (Cinelatino and Pasiones), rising FAST channels in the U.S. (WAPA+, TODOCINE, TODO NOVELAS, Más Pasiones, and ES24), and an international content distribution company.

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