



WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY

Warner Bros. Discovery Announces New Friends Spin-off Series, *Central Perk: The Next Generation*

The beloved sitcom returns with a new generation of laughs, streaming exclusively on HBO Max in 2026.



BURBANK, Calif., Sept. 11, 2025 — Warner Bros. Discovery announces *Central Perk: The Next Generation*, a spin-off of the iconic scripted comedy series, *Friends*, as a new HBO Max exclusive streaming in Spring 2026.

With Sarah Hyland (*Modern Family*) starring as Emma Geller-Green, Dylan O’Brien (*Maze Runner*) as Jack Bing, Gracie Lawrence (*Just in Time*) as Erica Bing, Andrew Barth Feldman (*No Hard Feelings*) as Charlie Hannigan-Buffay and Jenna Ortega (*Wednesday*) as Bella Tribbiani, the series will follow the original character’s next generation navigating adulthood in New York City, often meeting at the same familiar coffee shop.

Channing Dungey, Chairman and CEO of Warner Bros. Television Group said: “The world of *Friends* has always been about connection, laughter, and navigating life’s ups and downs with the people you love. We’re thrilled to introduce this new chapter to both longtime fans and a new generation of viewers.”

Marta Kauffman, co-creator and executive producer said: “When we first created *Friends*, we wanted to tell stories that felt real, funny, and timeless. We can’t wait for audiences to fall in love with this next generation the way they did with the original six.”

Produced by Warner Bros. Television in association with Bright/Kauffman/Crane Productions, the 10-episode season will debut with the first three episodes in March 2026. New episodes will debut weekly through May 2026.

Jennifer Aniston as Rachel Green, Courteney Cox as Monica Bing, and Matt LeBlanc as Joey Tribbiani are confirmed to appear as guest stars.

Following the death of Matthew Perry, writers confirmed that the pilot will address Chandler Bing’s absence within the storyline.

Since its debut in 1994, *Friends* has remained one of television’s most beloved sitcoms, gaining and maintaining loyal audiences through syndication and streaming worldwide. The scripted comedy is a six-time Emmy Award-winning series and continues to be a cornerstone of nostalgia and humor for multiple generations of fans.

About Warner Bros. Discovery

Warner Bros. Discovery is a global media and entertainment company that brings audiences the world’s most iconic content across television, film, streaming, and gaming. Its portfolio includes Max, Warner Bros. Pictures, Warner Bros. Television, Discovery Channel, CNN, DC, HGTV, Food Network, and more, reaching consumers in over 220 countries and territories. For more information, visit <https://www.wbd.com/newsroom>.

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For More Information

Grace Min
Public Relations Manager
123-456-7890
gracem@fullerton.edu