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Tell a Friend!
Membership in the History Circle of PBS 45 & 49 is FREE and includes regularly issued newsletters, advance notice of History Circle community events, special discounts to area attractions and more. Call 1-800-554-4549 to join or sign up online at www.pbs4549.org.

Local funding for history programming is provided by The Ruth H. Beecher Charitable Trust.

African American Lives 2

Wednesdays, Feb. 6 and Feb. 13 at 9 PM
Repeats Fridays, Feb. 8 and Feb. 15 at 3 AM

Building on the widespread acclaim of African American Lives (2006) and Oprah’s Roots (2007), African American Lives 2 again journeys deep into the African American experience to reveal the triumphs and tragedies within the family histories of an all-new group of remarkable participants.

Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. returns as series host, guiding genealogical investigations and presenting cutting-edge genetic analysis that locates participants’ ancestors in Africa, Europe and America.

Two episodes air each night in the two-part program.

The Road Home
Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 9 PM

Stories focus on participants’ ancestors in the early 20th century. They include the tragic account of Tom Joyner’s great-uncles who, in 1915, were convicted by an all-white jury and executed in the electric chair for a crime that new evidence suggests they did not commit.

Bliss Broyard lived her life unaware that her father, renowned New York Times critic Anatole Broyard, was a light-skinned black man who chose to “pass” as white. She learned of her African American roots upon her father’s death in 1990.

The Past Is Another Country
Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 10 PM

DNA analysis leads to fascinating discoveries about participants’ lineages. A groundbreaking study links Gates to a powerful ancient Irish warlord. Peter Gomes’ direct paternal line traces back to a Portuguese Jew who fled the country in the early 1500s to escape the Inquisition.

A Way Out of No Way
Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 10 PM

Gates traces the guests’ lineages back through the late 1800s to the Civil War.

We Come From People
Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 9 PM

Stories during the early years of the United States include a riveting account of life in slavery by Morgan Freeman’s great-grandmother, discovered within the records of the Depression-era Works Progress Administration. Peter Gomes’ ancestors were freed and supported by Quaker families in Virginia in the late 1700s.

African American Lives 2

Discover the Truth Behind Their Extraordinary Legacy

Chris Rock’s maternal great-great-grandfather was Julius Caesar Tingman, a black Civil War veteran who was twice elected to the South Carolina State Legislature.

Turn the page for more Black History Month programming
Celebrating Black History Month

Prince Among Slaves
Saturday, Feb. 9 at 11 PM
Repeats Sunday, Feb. 17 at 12:30 AM

Abdul Rahman, an African Muslim prince, was captured in 1788 and sold into slavery in the American South. Prince Among Slaves is the inspiring true story of this man who survived 40 years of enslavement before finally regaining his freedom. The documentary is a presentation of the National Black Programming Consortium.

Winner of the Best Documentary at the 2007 American Black Film Festival, the film tells Rahman’s story through feature-film styled reenactments; contemporary artworks, archival letters and diaries; and on-camera interviews with distinguished scholars and experts.

The program is based on Dr. Terry Alford’s biography of the same name.

Soul of Justice: Thelton Henderson’s American Journey
Saturday, Feb. 16 at 11 PM

Soul of Justice: Thelton Henderson’s American Journey is a timely and unforgettable story about one person’s commitment to integrity and human rights and his profound influence on the American judicial system.

Award-winning director Abby Ginzberg’s riveting and thought-provoking film transports viewers through the inspiring life and work of one of the first African American federal judges in the United States and chronicles the impact of his decisions on the lives of millions.

Independent Lens, Banished
Saturday, Feb. 23 at 11 PM

A hundred years ago, in communities across the United States, white residents forced thousands of black families to flee their homes.

Even a century later, these towns remain almost entirely white. Banished tells the story of three of these communities and their black descendants, who return to learn their shocking histories.

Before Rosa: The Unsung Contribution of Sarah Mae Flemming
Sunday, Feb. 24 at 1:30 PM

Seventeen months before Rosa Parks refused to surrender her seat on an Alabama bus in 1955, a little-known Civil Rights heroine named Sarah Mae Flemming refused to obey a similar ordinance on a bus in Columbia, S.C.

Before Rosa tells of Flemming’s experience with an angry bus driver and her struggle to get her lawsuit against the bus company to court. Eventually, the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that segregated seating in Flemming’s case was unconstitutional. The ruling became a precedent that played an important role later in the Parks case.
Kit Carson

Monday, Feb. 18 at 9 PM
Repeats Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 3 AM and Sunday, Feb. 24 at noon

To some, he was one of America’s greatest heroes: a brave and loyal guide who laid out a path for the westward-moving nation, an Indian tracker who could follow any trail and a fearless warrior featured in dozens of best-selling novels.

To others, Christopher “Kit” Carson was a villain who waged a merciless crusade against one of the West’s greatest Native American tribes.

In the end, his contradictions would define his legacy — and tell the true story of how the West was won.

Buffalo Bill

Monday, Feb. 25 at 9 PM
Repeats Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 3 AM

In 1886, Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show played to more than 1 million people in New York City. It was one of the most elaborate shows on earth.

There were cowboys and Indians, sharp shooters, wild animals and a cast of more than 200 members.

Soon after the show’s stunning success in New York, it would go on to dazzle crowds in London, Paris, Rome and Barcelona, cementing the legend of the Wild West in the minds of people around the globe.

Behind the extravaganza was one man whose meteoric rise to fame was made possible only by his genius and his hucksterism. He was William Cody, better known to the world as Buffalo Bill.
Doris O’Donnell’s Cleveland, The Golden Age of Print

Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 10:30 PM
Repeats Thursday, Feb. 28 at 2 PM and Friday, Feb. 29 at 4:30 AM

PBS 45 & 49 presents the second episode of Doris O’Donnell’s Cleveland, an eight-part series that recalls historic events that occurred during the Cleveland journalist’s 58-year career.

The Golden Age of Print features interviews with O’Donnell, writers Dick Feagler and Brent Larkin, photographer Tony Tomsic and former Cleveland City Council president George L. Forbes. Recalled are the days when three newspapers competed for attention and advertising, when Louis Seltzer was the town crusader who called the political shots, when George Forbes was ridiculed by the only black paper in Cleveland — and when reporters did things they really shouldn’t have.

Doris O’Donnell’s Cleveland, produced by Storytellers Media Group of Lakewood, is based largely on O’Donnell’s memoir, Front Page Girl (The Kent State University Press, 2006). Other episodes of the series detail Cleveland’s inner-city riots and O’Donnell’s swing with the Cleveland Indians in 1957.

The first episode of the series, The Day Marilyn Died, is now available for viewing on Storytellers’ Web site, www.storytellersmediagroup.com, as will ensuing episodes following their premieres.

Author James Jessen Badal hosts each episode. Original theme music for the series was composed by Carl Michel.

Clevelanders rejoice because presses are rolling again, following a 1946 newspaper strike.