

# 2014 Black History Month Specials on **WTIU**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 • 4:00pm**

## **CONVERSATION WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.**

This lively hour-long interview program was produced by The HistoryMakers, the nation's largest African American video oral history archive. The program provides an interesting and rarely seen inside look into the life and career of Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. A native of West Virginia, Gates returns to his birth state to share his story with CNN White House Correspondent Suzanne Malveaux. Taped on February 18, 2010 in front of a live audience at The Culture Center in the State Capital of Charleston, A CONVERSATION WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR. provides a wonderful and insightful look into the life of this history "change agent." The HistoryMakers also honored Dr. Hazo Carter, President of West Virginia University, Eloise Gentry, President of The Gary Urban League and Andrew Taylor, General Manager of Microsoft Corporation during the program.

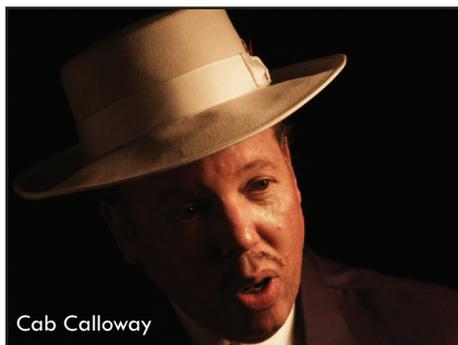
<http://www.pbs.org/programs/conversation-with-henry-louis-gates-jr/>

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3 • 10:00pm**

## **POV: AMERICAN PROMISE**

This film spans 13 years as Joe Brewster and Michele Stephenson, middle-class African-American parents in Brooklyn, N.Y., turn their cameras on their son, Idris, and his best friend, Seun, who make their way through one of the most prestigious private schools in the country. Chronicling the boys' divergent paths from kindergarten through high school graduation at Manhattan's Dalton School, this documentary presents complicated truths about America's struggle to come of age on issues of race, class and opportunity.

<http://www.pbs.org/pov/americanpromise/>



Cab Calloway



## **AMERICAN MASTERS: ALICE WALKER: BEAUTY IN TRUTH**

Most famous for her seminal novel "The Color Purple," writer / activist Alice Walker celebrates her 70th birthday. Born February 9, 1944, into a family of sharecroppers in rural Georgia, her life unfolded during the violent racism and seismic social changes of mid-20th century America. Her mother, poverty and participation in the Civil Rights Movement were the formative influences on her consciousness, becoming the inherent themes in her writing. The first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for Literature, Walker continues to shine a light on global human rights issues. Her dramatic life is told with poetry and lyricism, and includes interviews with Steven Spielberg, Danny Glover, Quincy Jones, Howard Zinn, Gloria Steinem, Sapphire, and Walker herself. 90 minutes.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/>

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 • 4:00pm**

## **AMERICAN MASTERS: CAB CALLOWAY: SKETCHES**

"Hi de hi de hi de ho," the popular refrain from "Minnie the Moocher" was Cab Calloway's signature song and Harlem's famous Cotton Club was his home stage. A singer, dancer and band leader, Calloway was an exceptional figure in the history of jazz—a consummate musician, he charmed audiences across the world with boundless energy, bravado and elegant showmanship. His back glide dance step is the precursor to Michael Jackson's moonwalk and his scatting lyrics find their legacy in today's hip-hop and rap. An ambassador for his race, Calloway was the first black musician to tour the segregationist South, as early as 1932. At the top of his game in the jazz and swing eras of the 30s and 40s, he toured as Sportin' Life in Porgy and Bess, forever putting his personal stamp on "It Ain't Necessarily So." His career flagged until he was rediscovered in the 1980s Blues Brothers and even on Sesame Street, becoming a new cult hero of sorts.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/episodes/cab-calloway-sketches/about-the-documentary/1958/>

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 • 5:00pm**

## **BLACK KUNG FU EXPERIENCE**

THE BLACK KUNG FU EXPERIENCE introduces kungfu's African-American pioneers, men who challenged convention and overturned preconceived notions while mastering the ancient art. The four martial artists profiled include Ron Van Clief, an ex-Marine and Vietnam veteran who starred in more than 40 kungfu films and earned the nickname "Black Dragon" from Bruce Lee. Their compelling stories illustrate how kungfu began as—and remains—a unique crucible of the black experience.

<http://www.itvs.org/films/black-kungfu-experience>

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 • 11:30pm**

## **INDEPENDENT LENS: DAISY BATES: FIRST LADY OF LITTLE ROCK**

As a black woman who was a feminist before the term was invented, Daisy Bates refused to accept her assigned place in society. This program tells the story of her life and public support of nine black students who registered to attend the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, which culminated in a constitutional crisis - pitting a president against a governor and a community against itself. Unconventional, revolutionary and egotistical, Bates reaped the rewards of instant fame, but paid dearly for it.

<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/daisy-bates/>

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10 • 10:00pm**

## **INDEPENDENT LENS: SPIES OF MISSISSIPPI**

This film tells the story of a secret spy agency formed by the state of Mississippi to preserve segregation during the 1950s and '60s. Granted broad powers, this commission investigated citizens and organizations in attempts to derail the civil rights movement.

<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/spies-of-mississippi/>



## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

10:00pm

### THE MARCH

Witness the compelling and dramatic story of the 1963 March on Washington, where Dr. Martin Luther King gave his stirring "I Have a Dream" speech. This watershed event in the Civil Rights Movement helped change the face of America. The film reveals the dramatic story behind the event through the remembrances of key players such as Jack O'Dell, Clarence B. Jones, Julian Bond and Andrew Young. Supporters and other testimonials of the March include Harry Belafonte, Diahann Carroll, Roger Mudd, Peter Yarrow and Oprah Winfrey, in addition to historians, journalists, authors and ordinary citizens who joined some 250,000 Americans who thronged to the capital on that momentous day to peacefully demand an end to two centuries of discrimination and injustice. Other notable figures featured in the film include Clayborn Carson, Edith Lee Payne, Joyce Ladner and Rachell Horowitz. Denzel Washington narrates.

<http://www.pbs.org/marchonwashington>

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 • 4:00pm

### COLORED FRAMES

COLORED FRAMES reflects on the last 50 years in African-American art by exploring the influences, inspirations and experiences of black artists. Beginning at the height of the Civil Rights Era and leading up to the present, it provides a truthful, unflinching look at often-ignored artists and their progeny. Impressionistic video collages showcase the wide variety, both thematically and stylistically, of contemporary pieces of black artists working in the genres of illustration, abstraction and surrealism, among others. COLORED FRAMES also chronicles the black artist's struggle for visibility and accep-

ance in mainstream art society as well as their experiences challenging assumptions about what constitutes "blackness," even within their own community.

<http://coloredframes.com/>

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10:00pm

### TOMLINSON HILL

In the mid-1800s just outside of Marlin, Texas, a slave plantation named Tomlinson Hill was founded by James K. Tomlinson. The establishment would have long lasting effects on the rural community. TOMLINSON HILL documents how the legacy of slavery in east and central Texas has created a region still divided despite the civil rights changes of the last 60 years. Reporter Chris Tomlinson, a descendant of slave owner James K. Tomlinson, confronts the shame and guilt he feels from his ancestry and digs deeper into the real legacy of the area. He comes across Loreane Tomlinson, a descendant of slaves on Tomlinson Hill, who has returned to her hometown with a vision of civic improvement. Says Tomlinson "After meeting Loreane, I knew I wanted the film to tell the story of my family history as well as her family history. Together, it's the story of America, as far as I'm concerned." The documentary is a fascinating look at people trying to move on while others idly resist change.

<http://tomlinsonhill.com/the-film/>

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 • 11:00pm

### FAITH IN THE HOOD

Faith in the Hood is a compelling portrait of the inner city, seen through the prism of the spiritual life of its people. Southeast is the poorest neighborhood in Washington, D.C. with only one sit-down restaurant. But it has hundreds of churches and ministries. The film profiles five of them: a street ministry for former convicts and drug addicts, a socially activist storefront church, a powerful Afro-centric church, an evangelical camp for young people, and an Islamic elementary school. With insightful commentary from leading experts on African American faith, the film demonstrates the richness of inner city religion and its centrality as a defining aspect of black life.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IDqeo-1oU4>

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

10:00pm

### INSTRUMENTS OF CHANGE

History credits the inception of the Civil Rights movement to Montgomery, Alabama in the mid-1950s. However in Miami as early as 1951, there existed a Fine Arts Conservatory dedicated to bringing music, dance and art to young black and white students in an integrated environment. This little known conservatory founded by longtime Miami resident Ruth Greenfield, would challenge segregation and change the



lives of many of those who attended the school. Some like classical, clarinet lover Fredrick Morley, would institute the programs he participated in at the Conservatory as the principal of a highly acclaimed elementary school. Others would start their own conservatories or theater companies or become life-long advocates for the arts. It's exactly what Greenfield had in mind when she conceived the Conservatory as a place where those of any color can come together, be taught by first rate teachers and be instilled with a sense of dignity and confidence so they can strive to reach their full potential. As the Conservatory wound down in the late 70s, it overlapped another Greenfield project known as the Luncheon Lively Arts Series. Initiated in 1972 to help revitalize a downtown in decline, it was hosted by Miami Dade College and brought a variety of free entertainment every Wednesday at noon to various downtown venues. The series which spanned almost twenty years, reignited interest in the arts and was the spark that led to Miami's urban renewal that is still taking place today. This film shows the power the performing arts has in bringing a community together and features intimate interviews, emotional footage and photographs along with archival and current day performances from those who participated in these nearly forgotten endeavors.

<http://www.wlrn.org/instrumentsofchange>