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**WHYY CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH EXCLUSIVE,
MULTIPLATFORM PROGRAMMING**

Philadelphia, Pa – WHYY is offering its audience a host of programming and events in honor of Black History Month featuring a special screening of acclaimed filmmaker and scholar Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr. new documentary, a news-themed storytelling radio program, podcast and event collaboration that tackles hot button issues including why “Being a Black Man is a Full Time Job,” and much more.

The line-up includes:

EVENTS:

Dr. Henry Louis Gates’ Africa’s Great Civilizations: Preview Screening and Celebration

February 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHYY Studios, 150 North 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Guest Registration: whyy.org/events

*****FREE with registration*****

In his new documentary, *Africa’s Great Civilizations*, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and cultural critic Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the epic stories of both little-known and celebrated African kingdoms and cultures. Join us at WHYY studios for a preview of the series and a celebration of African Culture and Heritage including the present day connections to our region.

Black History Untold: Black Joy

February 28, 5:30-7:45 p.m.

WHYY Studios, 150 North 6th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Guest Registration: www.philly.com/blackjoyevent

Tickets: \$30/10-student

Meet some the people behind the essays featured in the Philly.com series *Black History Untold*. For a second year, this fascinating project led by Philadelphia Media Network reporter Sofiya Ballin explores the importance of a comprehensive black history education from the perspective of Philadelphians like WHYY’s *The Remix* host James Peterson, legendary poet Sonia Sanchez, US Senator Cory Booker and Philly basketball legend Sonny Hill. Philadelphia Media Network and WHYY join forces to present this year’s theme “Joy,” the practice of celebrating black culture and black people despite the world dictating otherwise.



PODCASTS:

Commonspace: Being a Black Man is a Full Time Job: *acommonspace.org*

Two of Philadelphia's leading cultural organizations — First Person Arts and WHYY— recently launched *Commonspace*, a news-themed storytelling radio program, podcast and event collaboration. Tackling hot button issues like immigration, race and mental health, this monthly program will address some of today's pressing topics.

The Remix with Dr. James Peterson: *why.org/podcasts*

From bringing hip hop into the classroom to taking part in activism when you're not a member of the oppressed group, this weekly podcast takes a fresh look at how race, culture and politics intersect. WHYY's Dr. James Peterson, director of Africana Studies and associate professor of English at Lehigh University, talks to people who are not necessarily in the mainstream news cycle, but who are driving opinions, news and movements through media platforms new and old.

ON AIR:

(WHYY-FM) Radio Times with Marty Moss-Coane

February 2, 10:00 a.m.

Marty Moss-Coane speaks with **Michael Eric Dyson** about his new book, *Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America*. In his latest work, the professor and social/political commentator argues that to make real racial progress it is necessary to face difficult truths.

During the 11 a.m. hour, **Sybrina Fulton** and **Tracy Martin** will sit down with Marty to discuss the 2012 killing of their 17-year old son Trayvon and their new book *Rest in Power: The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin*.

(WHYY-FM) Historically Black

February 5, 8 p.m.

February 12, 8 p.m.

February 19, 8 p.m.

As part of The Washington Post's coverage of the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture, people submitted objects that make up their own lived experiences of black history, creating a "people's museum" of objects, family photos and more. This multi-episode podcast brings those objects and their stories to life through interviews, archival sound and music. Narrated by Keegan-Michael Key, Roxane Gay, Issa Rae and more.

(WHYY-TV) Independent Lens: Birth of a Movement

February 6, 10 p.m.

In 1915, Boston-based African American newspaper editor and activist William M. Trotter waged a battle against D.W. Griffith's technically groundbreaking but Ku Klux Klan-friendly *The Birth of a Nation*, unleashing a fight that still rages today about race relations, media representation, and the influence of Hollywood. *Birth of a Movement* captures the backdrop to this clash between human rights, freedom of speech, and a changing media landscape.



(WHYY-TV) John Lewis-Get in the Way

February 10, 10:30 p.m.

Showing no sign of stopping soon, this U.S. Congressman and human rights champion demonstrates an unflinching insistence on standing up to injustice wherever he finds it using strategy, legislation and direct action. The first major documentary biography of John Lewis, *Get in the Way* is a riveting, highly personalized narrative of an epic chapter in U.S. history that touches audiences deeply.

(WHYY-TV) Smokey Robinson: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song

February 10, 9 p.m.

Enjoy an all-star tribute to Smokey Robinson, the 2016 recipient of the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song, with performances by Robinson, as well as Aloe Blacc, CeeLo Green, Corinne Bailey Rae, Esperanza Spalding, The Tenors, and a special appearance by Berry Gordy, Founder of Motown — with Samuel L. Jackson as host and Greg Phillinganes as music director (program subject to change).

(WHYY-TV) The Talk- Race in America

February 20, 9 p.m.

In the wake of recent tragic and fatal events between men of color and law enforcement, learn how black and Hispanic families counsel their kids to stay safe if they are stopped by the police.

(WHYY-TV) Maya Angelou: American Masters

February 21, 8 p.m.

Dr. Maya Angelou (1928-2014) was a prolific life; as a singer, dancer, activist, poet and writer she inspired generations with lyrical modern African-American thought that pushed boundaries. The first feature documentary about the incomparable Dr. Angelou, this film weaves her words with rare and intimate archival photographs and videos, which paint hidden moments of her exuberant life during some of America's most defining moments.

(WHYY-TV) An Evening with Eric Holder

February 24, 10 p.m.

An Evening with Eric Holder is a one-on-one interview with former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr. whose career that has been committed to service and racial justice. Join Washington Post blogger and MSNBC contributor, Jonathan Capehart, as he engages in conversation with the third longest-serving Attorney General in U.S. history and the first African American to hold that office.

(WHYY-TV) Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise

February 25, 8 p.m. & 11 p.m.

In his four-hour series, *BLACK AMERICA SINCE MLK: AND STILL I RISE*, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. embarks on a deeply personal journey through the last 50 years of African American history. Joined by leading scholars, celebrities, and a dynamic cast of people who shaped these years, Gates travels from the victories of the civil rights movement up to today, asking profound questions about the state of black America—and our nation as a whole.



(WHYY-TV) Africa's Great Civilizations

Feb 27, March 1 & 2, 9 p.m. (3- 2 hour episodes)

Henry Louis Gates Jr. takes a new look at African history from the dawn of mankind to the dawn of the 20th century. It is a breathtaking and personal journey through two hundred thousand years of history. Professor Gates travels the length and breadth of Africa to chronicle the continent's history from a firmly African perspective.

(WHYY-TV) Black Ballerina

March 2, 10 p.m.

Six decades ago, while pursuing their dreams, Joan Myers Brown, Delores Browne and Raven Wilkinson confronted racism, exclusion and unequal opportunity. Today, young dancers of color continue to face formidable challenges breaking into the overwhelmingly white world of ballet. Moving back and forth in time, this character driven film stimulates a fresh discussion about race, inclusion and opportunity across all sectors of American society.

(WHYY-FM) Is Policing Racially Biased?

March 5, 8 p.m.

In 2014, the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, set off a wave of protests and sparked a movement targeting racial disparities in criminal justice. How have recent incidents shaped our view of policing? Does crime drive law enforcement's use of force or is there racial bias?

WHYY advances civic life through storytelling, arts, education and civic dialogue. As the region's leading public media provider and PBS/NPR member station, WHYY's multimedia outreach includes WHYY-TV, WHYY-FM, WHYY's award-winning online home for news and civic dialogue, NewsWorks.org and "off-air" community forums, artistic performances, lectures and media education programs through the Dorrance Hamilton Public Media Commons.

