



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: WHYY / StoryCorps

CONTACTS:

WHYY
Tory Harris | 215-351-1243
tharris@whyy.org

StoryCorps Press Desk
646.723.7020 Ext. 75
press@storycorps.org

**STORYCORPS, THE GROUNDBREAKING ORAL HISTORY PROJECT,
TO VISIT PHILADELPHIA, PA**

Thanks to the generous support of Penn Medicine's Abramson Cancer Center, WHYY will host StoryCorps for 4 weeks to record the stories of local residents

May 10, 2019 – StoryCorps, a renowned nonprofit organization celebrating the stories of everyday Americans, will record interviews in Philadelphia from **May 28, 2019 to June 26, 2019** as part of its cross-country MobileBooth tour. Having collected more than 65,000 interviews from Americans in all 50 states, StoryCorps has gathered one of the largest single collections of human voices ever recorded.

StoryCorps' MobileBooth—an Airstream trailer outfitted with a recording studio—will be parked at **The Porch at 30th Street Station, 2901-2949 Market St, Philadelphia, PA 19104**. Reservations will be available at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2019** and can be made by calling StoryCorps' 24-hour toll-free reservation line at **1-800-850-4406** or visiting **WHYY.org/storycorpsPHL**. There are a limited number of reservations, one per household. Additional appointments will be made available at **10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 2019**.

In StoryCorps' MobileBooth, two people are able to record a meaningful conversation with one another about who they are, what they've learned in life, and how they want to be remembered. A trained StoryCorps facilitator guides them through the interview process. At the end of each 40-minute recording session, participants receive a complimentary CD copy of their interview. With participant permission, a second copy is archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress for future generations to hear.

Founded in 2003 by award-winning documentary producer and MacArthur Fellow Dave Isay, StoryCorps has traveled to every corner of the country to record interviews in the organization's effort to create a world where we listen closely to each other and recognize the beauty, grace and poetry in the lives and stories we find all around us.

“StoryCorps tells the true American story—that we are a people defined by small acts of courage, kindness and heroism. Each interview reminds people that their lives matter and will not be forgotten,” said Isay. “By strengthening connections between people and building an archive that reflects the rich diversity of American voices, we hope to build StoryCorps into an enduring institution that will touch the lives of every American family.”

In Philadelphia, StoryCorps will partner with premiere public media organization WHYY. WHYY will air a selection of the local interviews recorded in the StoryCorps MobileBooth and create special programs around the project. StoryCorps may also share excerpts of these stories with the world through the project's popular weekly NPR broadcasts, animated shorts, digital platforms, and best-selling books.



“As an organization dedicated to providing access to all forms of creative expression, WHYY is proud to offer the people of this region an opportunity to connect more deeply with this beloved show and to share the uniquely Greater Philadelphia experience with StoryCorps and people from across the globe,” said WHYY’s President and CEO William Marrazzo.

Support for StoryCorps MobileBooth stop in Philadelphia was provided by Penn Medicine’s Abramson Cancer Center.

About StoryCorps

Founded in 2003 by Dave Isay, the nonprofit organization StoryCorps has given more than 350,000 people the chance to record interviews about their lives, pass wisdom from one generation to the next, and leave a legacy for the future. It is the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered.

Recording a StoryCorps interview couldn’t be easier: You invite a loved one, or anyone else you chose, to one of the StoryCorps recording sites. There you’re met by a trained facilitator who greets you and explains the interview process. You’re then brought into a quiet recording room and seated across from your interview partner, each of you in front of a microphone. The facilitator hits “record,” and you share a 40-minute conversation. At the end of the session, you walk away with a copy of the interview, and a digital file goes to the Library of Congress, where it will be preserved for generations to come. Someday your great-great-grandchildren will be able to meet your grandfather, your mother, your best friend, or whomever it is you chose to honor with a StoryCorps interview.

With the 2015 TED Prize awarded to Dave Isay, StoryCorps has also launched an app that puts the StoryCorps experience entirely in the hands of users and enables anyone, anywhere to record meaningful conversations with another person. The app guides users through the interview experience, from recording to archiving to sharing their stories with the world. It provides easy-to-use tools to help people prepare interview questions; record high-quality conversations on their mobile devices; and upload the audio to the Library of Congress and StoryCorps.me website, which serves as a home for these recordings and also provides interview and editing resources.

StoryCorps shares edited excerpts of the stories we record through its weekly podcast, NPR broadcasts, animated shorts, digital platforms, and best-selling books. These powerful stories illustrate our shared humanity and show how much more we share in common than divides us. StoryCorps has launched a series of national recording initiatives including:

- [The Justice Project](#), an effort to preserve and amplify the voices of people affected by incarceration, their families and communities;
- [The September 11th Initiative](#), helping families memorialize the stories of lives lost on September 11, 2001, in partnership with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center;
- [The Griot Initiative](#), now the largest collection of African American voices ever gathered, in collaboration with the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture;
- [Historias](#), the largest collection of Latino stories ever gathered;
- [StoryCorps OutLoud](#), which documents the powerful, varied experiences of LGBTQ people across America, with a focus on lives lived before Stonewall; and
- [The Military Voices Initiative](#), honoring the stories of post-9/11 service members, veterans and their families.



StoryCorps is working to grow into an enduring national institution that celebrates the dignity, power, and grace that can be heard in the stories we find all around us, and helps us recognize that every life and every story matter equally. In the coming years StoryCorps hopes to touch the lives of every American family.

About WHYY

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, WHYY.org and "off-air" community forums, artistic performances, lectures and media education programs.