This February, WETA Television recognizes Black History Month with special programming that highlights the African-American experience. Schedule subject to change; visit weta.org for complete listings and local resources.

All programs air on both WETA TV 26 and WETA HD except when noted.

Wednesday, February 1 • 4:00pm
INDEPENDENT LENS: THE TRIALS OF MUHAMMAD ALI — A film spotlights Muhammad Ali’s battle to overturn the five-year prison sentence he received for refusing U.S. military service. Banned from boxing, Ali found himself in the crosshairs of conflicts concerning race, religion, and wartime dissent. Repeats Sun 2/5, 1:30am; Sun 2/26, 3pm

Tuesday, February 2 • 4:00pm
THE BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF A REVOLUTION — INDEPENDENT LENS — Film director Stanley Nelson revisits the turbulent 1960s, when a new revolutionary culture emerged with the Black Panther Party at the vanguard.

Saturday, February 4 • 10:30pm
HOMEOGOINGS — Meet legendary Harlem undertaker and keeper of African-American funeral traditions in this portrait of a man and a people – and the faith, hope, and history that sustain them in the face of death.
Saturday, February 4 • 11:30pm
DEEP CITY: THE BIRTH OF THE MIAMI SOUND — Deep City Records, the first black-owned record label in Florida, hoped to be Miami’s own Motown in the early 1960s. Though distribution problems plagued the small company, it laid the blueprint for the true Miami Sound.

Sunday, February 5 • 12:30am
AN EVENING WITH ERIC HOLDER — A one-on-one interview provides a rare inside look into the life and career of Eric Holder, the first African-American to hold the position of U.S. Attorney General. Repeats Sun 2/12, 3pm; Fri 2/17, 10pm

Sunday, February 5 • 1:30pm
ALICE WALKER: BEAUTY IN TRUTH: AMERICAN MASTERS — Alice Walker, author of The Color Purple, came of age during the violent racism and seismic social changes of midcentury America. Her early experiences with poverty and the civil rights movement informed her writing, and she continues to shine a light on global human rights issues today. Repeats Sun 2/19, 1:30am; Sun 2/28, 2:30pm

Sunday, February 5 • 3:00pm
AUGUST WILSON: THE GROUND ON WHICH I STAND: AMERICAN MASTERS — Meet August Wilson, “America’s Shakespeare,” from his roots as an activist and poet to his indelible mark on Broadway and the Pulitzer Prize-winning works Fences and The Piano Lesson. Repeats Sun 2/12, 2am; Wed 2/22, 4:30pm
Monday, February 6 • 10:00pm
INDEPENDENT LENS: BIRTH OF A MOVEMENT — A documentary explores the enduring racial resonance of D.W. Griffith’s The Birth of a Nation and recounts the little-known story of the battle waged against the film by an early and largely forgotten civil rights activist.

Tuesday, February 7 • 5:00pm
THE MARCH — The documentary spotlights the August 1963 March on Washington, where Dr. Martin Luther King gave his stirring “I Have a Dream” speech. Repeats Sun 2/12, 11pm; Sun 2/26, 1am

Wednesday, February 8 • 5:00pm
BB KING: AMERICAN MASTERS — The biography explores the musical artist’s challenging life and career through candid interviews with the “King of the Blues,” filmed shortly before his death. Fellow music stars Bonnie Raitt, Carlos Santana, Eric Clapton, John Mayer, and Ringo Starr celebrate King’s contributions.

Thursday, February 9 • 4:00pm
SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME — The film explores the little-known story of post-Emancipation-era labor practices and laws that effectively created a new form of slavery in the South and left a troubled legacy that persisted well into the 20th century.
Friday, February 10 • 9:00pm
SMOKEY ROBINSON: THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GERSHWIN PRIZE — Get your toes tappin’ and your memories ignited during this celebration of singer-songwriter Smokey Robinson. During his career, Robinson released dozens of Top-40 hits and added more than 4,000 songs to his legacy songbook – reading like a playlist of Motown’s greatest hits! Repeat Sat 2/11, 10:30pm; Sun 2/12 1:30pm; Tues 2/21, 4:30pm

Friday, February 10 • 10:30pm
GET IN THE WAY: THE JOURNEY OF JOHN LEWIS — Whether advancing civil rights in the 1960s or leading a sit-in for gun control in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2016, Congressman John Lewis stands up for injustice wherever he finds it using strategy, legislation, and direct action.

Sunday, February 12 • 12:00am
AMERICAN PROMISE — This intimate and provocative account, recorded over 12 years, presents the experiences of two middle-class African-American boys who entered a very prestigious – and historically white – private school on Manhattan’s Upper East Side.

Monday, February 13 • 5:00pm
AN EVENING WITH VALERIE JARRETT — This interview explores Valerie Jarrett’s rich life and career from her birth in Iran, to Stanford University and the University of Michigan Law School, to public life in the city of Chicago, to her position and experiences as a Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama.
Monday, February 13 • 10:00pm
INDEPENDENT LENS: ACCIDENTAL COURTESY — Musician Daryl Davis has played all over the world with legends like Chuck Berry and Little Richard. However, he spends his free time meeting and befriending members of the KKK, many of whom have never met a black person. This film follows Daryl across America as he meets with neo-Nazi leaders as well as a new generation of young civil rights activists who do not necessarily agree with his tactics.

Tuesday, February 14 • 4:00pm
BLACK AMERICA SINCE MLK: AND STILL I RISE — OUT OF THE SHADOW/MOVE ON UP — In part one of this four-hour program, Harvard scholar and WETA partner Henry Louis Gates, Jr., looks at the last five decades of African American history since the major civil rights victories of the 1960s. His premise is this: If Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. came back and asked what had happened in the last half-century since his passing, what would you tell him? Repeats Sun 2/19, 1pm

Wednesday, February 15 • 4:00pm
BLACK AMERICA SINCE MLK: AND STILL I RISE — KEEP YOUR HEAD UP/TOUCH THE SKY — In part two of this four-hour series, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. continues to explore the tremendous gains and persistent challenges of the post-civil rights years, examining major events and turning points in American race relations. Repeats Sun 2/26, 3am
Sunday, February 19 • 12:30am
VEL PHILLIPS: DREAM BIG DREAMS — A documentary chronicles the history and achievements of civil rights leader Vel Phillips, Wisconsin’s first African-American woman elected to the office of Wisconsin Secretary of State.

Monday, February 20 • 9:00pm
THE TALK: RACE IN AMERICA — A two-hour documentary focuses on the increasingly common conversation taking place in homes and communities across the country between parents of color and their children, especially sons, about how to behave if they are ever stopped by the police. Repeats Tues 2/21, 2:30pm; Wed 2/22, 1:30am

Tuesday, February 21 • 8:00pm
MAYA ANGELOU: AND STILL I RISE: AMERICAN MASTERS — Through interviews, rare archival photographs, and her own words, learn about Maya Angelou’s incredible journey from her upbringing in the Depression-era South to her many successes as an author, poet, and civil rights activist. Repeats Wed 2/22, 2:30pm; Thurs 2/23, 12:30am

Friday, February 24 • 10:00pm
FREEDOM RIDERS: AMERICAN EXPERIENCE — From May until November 1961, more than 400 Americans, black and white, risked their lives – many enduring savage beatings and imprisonment – to travel together on buses and trains through the Deep South in a challenge to segregation during the Civil Rights Era.
Monday, February 27 • 9:00pm
AFRICA’S GREAT CIVILIZATIONS — This six-hour documentary series in two parts is hosted, executive produced, and written by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. who chronicles the continent’s history from a firmly African perspective. From Zimbabwe to Sudan to Ethiopia to Mali, Gates presents a new and comprehensive narrative about Africa and the history of the extraordinary and diverse peoples who have lived there. *Repeats Tues 2/28, 4:00pm, Wed 3/1 1:30am*

Tuesday, February 28 • 8:00pm
FINDING YOUR ROOTS: FAMILY REUNIONS — Two legends of hip hop, Sean Combs and LL Cool J, uncover family mysteries through the use of DNA technology, revealing information that shakes their very foundations.

Wednesday, March 1 • 9:00pm
AFRICA’S GREAT CIVILIZATIONS — Henry Louis Gates, Jr. charts the ancient rise and impact of Christianity and Islam across Africa.

Thursday, March 2 • 9:00pm
AFRICA’S GREAT CIVILIZATIONS — Gates uncovers complex trade networks & educational institutions that advanced north & west Africa.