

Black History Month

A four-part series on African Canadian History

Hymn to Freedom

Conceived and produced by Emmy-Award winner, Almeta Speaks, this four-part Canadian documentary mini-series revisits the past of the African Canadian through the experiences and lives of four Canadian Black families. Each episode is directed by a different award-winning director, and hosted/narrated by writer and broadcaster Felix (Fil) Fraser. Original music composed by Almeta Speaks and conducted by Russ Little.

4 x 60 min./Grades 9-Adult

Episode One *Slavery: A Canadian Story*

The Quebec story features the history of slavery in Lower Canada. Using illustrations, maps, archival documents and photographs, narrator/host Fil Fraser guides the viewer through the centuries from the first documented slave sale in 1626 to the present day Black community of Montreal.

Order #QUE200

Episode Two *Nova Scotia: Against the Tides*

This segment speaks to the waves of immigrants who contributed to the formation of the province. The people who came brought with them behaviours and attitudes of the Southern U.S., the practice of slavery, and they established a segregated society. The history of the area, the connection to West Africa and a description of the three main Black communities are featured.

Order #NOV200

Episode Three *Ontario: A History Buried*

Reta Duvall-Cummings, matriarch of her clan, is the granddaughter of Pleasant Duvall who came by foot from New Orleans to Collingwood in the 1860's. Reta's story represents the lives of many of the people who came to Ontario to freedom following the passage in the U.S. of the Fugitive Slave Act along the Underground Railroad.

Order #ONT200

Episode Four *British Columbia the West: On This Rock*

This episode features the Collins family and examines the early history of the area, and the way in which Blacks influenced British Columbia to join the Confederation of Canada instead of becoming a part of the United States.

Order #BRI200

School/Library Price: \$44.95 each

\$139 series

Board Price: \$99 each

\$299 series

American Playhouse Celebrates Black History

Fires in the Mirror

A Hasidic man's car jumps a curb and kills a 7-year-old black child. Later, a Hasidic student is stabbed to death in what appeared to be a retaliatory act. A city explodes in racial tension. Anna Deavere Smith gives stunning performances as she sets course on an emotional re-telling of this tragedy.

87 min. Order #FIR101

2002/Monterey Grades 10-Adult

The Meeting

Imagine a secret meeting between the two most influential civil rights leaders of the century - Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. - contemplating one another's ideals as an exchange of ideas transforms a lonely hotel room.

Starring: Dick Anthony Williams, Jason Bernard

73 min. Order #32998

2003/Monterey Grades 9-Adult

*A Raisin in the Sun**

Celebrate the human spirit with this highly acclaimed adaptation of Lorraine Hansberry's timeless story of black identity, beauty, and pride. A \$10,000 insurance benefit creates conflicting dreams within a Chicago ghetto family.

Starring Danny Glover and Esther Rolle.

171 min. Order #RAI252

1997/Monterey Grades 7-Adult

*Go Tell It On the Mountain**

Based on the novel by James Baldwin. A story of violence, desire, tenderness and compassion, which lays bare the trials and sufferings, the yearnings and aspirations of three generations of an African American family as they make the transition from the rural South to "big city" Harlem.

Starring: Paul Winfield, Alfre Woodard

100 min. Order #GOT251 VHS,
#319392 DVD

1994/Monterey Grades 9-Adult

Board Price - \$99 Each
School/Library Price - \$79 Each

**Closed Captioned*
Available on VHS or DVD

Visual Education Centre Limited



In Celebration of...

Biographies

John Henrik Clarke: A Great and Mighty Walk

This award-winning documentary chronicles the life and times of noted African-American historian, scholar and Pan-African activist, John Henrik Clarke (1915-1998). Both a biography of Clarke himself, and an overview of 5,000 years of African history, it offers a provocative look at the past through the eyes of a leading proponent of an Afrocentric view of history. Includes archival footage and photos of Africa and its people, past and present. Narrated by Wesley Snipes.

92 min. Order #JOH200

1996/Cinema Guild

Grades 10-Adult

Board/School/Library Price: \$395

Gordon Parks: "Visions"

Within the moments, the scattered fragments, the fleeting images which his cameras and notebooks have recorded, are pictures of a nation, strong and weak, black and white, rich and poor, and the words of a man, the son of a Kansas dirt farmer whose fascinating life journey sought and achieved a unique personal vision.

60 min. Order #GOR251

1996/Monterey

Grades 7-Adult

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$95

I Have A Dream...

The Life Of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. first rose to national prominence as a result of his courageous leadership in a struggle against bus segregation in Montgomery, Alabama. The story of this dedicated man's life, and the forces that brought him to the leadership of his people.

35 min./Order #70462

1968/Phoenix Grades 7-Adult

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$79.95

Paul Robeson

Traces Robeson's career in show business, as singer and actor, as well as his outspoken protest of the racial injustice faced by blacks in the U.S., and his espousal of leftist causes which resulted in his being black-listed and the eventual destruction of his career. The contributions of Paul Robeson, scholar, actor, singer, humanitarian, have been all but forgotten. This video gives us a rare opportunity to see and hear him once more and gain new insight into this historic and gifted human being.

36 min./Order #CG1306

1994/Cinema Guild Grades 9-Adult

Board Price: \$189

School/Library Price: \$99

Children's Stories/ Language Arts

Children's Stories from Africa

Twelve delightful African fables entertain and teach. In colourful African garb, storyteller Nandi Nyembe and the dancers from the Mahlatsi Pre-school sing songs and weave fables including: The Hare and the Lion Cubs, Warthog and Bushpig, Kafumbi and the Crocodile, and many more. Includes information and facts on Africa and African Animals.

50 min. Order #30830 VHS (4 tapes)

or #308352 DVD (2 discs)

1997/Monterey Grades K-3

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$79.95

Jazztime

It is 1919 in New York City, and the birth of jazz is just around the corner. Two young girls, one black and one white, form a lifelong friendship through a chance encounter and the music of a 10 year-old boy "fats" Waller.

Animated. Narrated by Ruby Dee.

29 min. Order #JAZ002

992/Italtoons

Grades 3-6

Board Price: \$99

School/Library Price: \$49.95

White Socks Only

Reading Enrichment Program

Adapted from the book by Evelyn Coleman. In this quietly powerful story, two young friends learn some important lessons about not judging people for looking different, and to always speak out about and question any disturbing occurrence. This program illustrates the positive message of acceptance, diversity and the need to always communicate.

Includes: Book, Video, and Discussion Guide

25 min. Order #24417

2000/Phoenix Grades 4-8

Board Price: \$289

School/Library Price: \$179

Classic Drama/ Literature

Cry The Beloved Country

Starring Sidney Poitier, Canada Lee. Drawn together through one father's search for a lost son, two men, one black, one white, discover that from a frightened act of violence comes the awakening of a new world where Black and White are not really so different after all. Adapted by Alan Paton from his acclaimed novel.

100 min./B&W/ Order #CRY251

1951/Monterey

Grades 9-Adult

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$79.95

The Emperor Jones

Based on the play by Eugene O'Neill, this is Paul Robeson's best known film. Robeson portrays Brutus Jones, an arrogant, strong-willed braggart, who rises from Pullman porter to autocrat. After being sent to jail for murder, he escapes to Jamaica, where he usurps the throne of the island's king. But his days of glory are short-lived, and his fall is as meteoric as his rise.

72 min./Order #EMP005

1980/Phoenix Grades 9-Adult

Board Price: \$279

School/Library Price: \$129

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Black History Month

History

African Influences on Early Europe

This program is the perfect way for your class to truly understand multi-culturalism in action. Explore the countless ways in which Africa influenced the development of early European trade, philosophy, and knowledge. Students will understand the dynamic interplay between societies. From religion to science, from mathematics to medicine, African societies played a key role in Europe's development.

Includes: Study Guide

20 min./Order #L905

2002/TMW Media Grades 7-12

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$69.95

The Greatness of Africa

Explore the fascinating civilizations that contributed to Africa's historical greatness. This program is a thorough overview of ancient African civilization from the world's oldest monarchy in Qustul to the incredible civilization of Egypt. Many classes only marginally cover African history, and this program will help to correct that. The youthful presentation style combined with intriguing facts and incredible graphics make this a well-rounded and enjoyable classroom program.

Includes: Study Guide

23 min./Order #L902

2002/TMW Media Grades 7-12

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$69.95

Harriet Tubman and The Underground Railroad

It was neither underground nor a railroad, yet the Underground Railroad was a route from south to north taken by thousands of slaves on their dangerous journey to freedom. Harriet Tubman was one of the Underground Railroad's most courageous conductors, as young people learn in this program.

11 min./Order #HAR125

1999/New Dimension Grades 4-9

Board Price: \$199

School/Library Price: \$49.95

Sing Out Freedom Train

Learn about the Freedom Train, the Underground Railroad to Canada led by Harriet Tubman. Based on real historical events and characters using library of Congress narratives of slaves, as well as published stories recorded in Canada, Sing Out, Freedom Train tells the story of the Underground Railroad and of Canada's proud history during the days of slavery in the U.S.

47 min. Order #INDP194

1993/Jim McKenna Grades 5-Adult

Board Price: \$149

School/Library Price: \$49.95

The Story of Slavery

This program traces the history of slavery throughout the world from ancient times to the 20th century. Archival stills and factual narration chronicle the use of slave by many countries over the years, the rise of the African Slave trade, and its beginnings in the New World in the early 17th century. The program documents the practice of black slavery in the U.S. from its height in the late 18th century, to its abolition in 1865.

25 min./Order #STO202

1998/Lucerne Media Grades 7-Adult

Board Price: \$195

School/Library Price: \$49.95

The Truth About Slavery in History

This program provides essential information for exploring and understanding the concept of slavery in history. Students will discover that slavery has taken on many forms throughout history in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. This program provides in-depth knowledge about the economic, political, and social causes of African enslavement in America. Includes: Study Guide

22 min. Order #L923

2003/TMW Media Grades 7-12

Board Price: \$129

School/Library Price: \$79.95

Performing Arts:

Biographies

Barbara Hendricks

The definitive video profile of one of today's most popular divas. This documentary traces her life and career all over the world, and includes examples from her renowned classical song repertoire.

47 min. Order #1425

1991/Kultur Grades 9-Adult

Board Price: \$109

School/Library Price: \$49.95

Lady Day: The Many Faces of Billie Holiday

This is the first video documentary on the great jazz singer Billie Holiday, and puts her often anguished life into perspective. As this program proves, she was a victim and a fighter, but above all, this "dark lady of the sonnets" was a genius when performing.

60 min. Order #1292

1991/Kultur Grades 9-Adult

Board Price: \$109

School/Library Price: \$49.95

Mahalia Jackson

Mahalia Jackson was the greatest gospel singer in the world. Shortly before her death, she embarked on a triumphant European tour. Everywhere she went she inspired audiences with the power and magic of her music, and left behind friends as well as fans. This historic film is a portrait of a gifted artist, but it is also a profile of a warm, sincere woman.

86 min./Order #1499

1999/Kultur Grades 10-Adult

Board Price: \$109

School/Library Price: \$49.95

Marian Anderson

The story of a young woman who broke the colour barrier in classical music. In a rare interview, Marian Anderson reminisces about the people, events and influences that shaped her personal and musical development.

60 min. Order #1851

1997/Kultur Grades 9-Adult

Board Price: \$109

School/Library Price: \$49.95



Black History Month



To Be Young, Gifted & Black

In her words, her letters, poems, diaries and plays, there is a uniquely gifted vision of one who left us so young, yet left us so enriched. This is the portrait of Lorraine Hansberry. Starring Roy Scheider, Blythe Danner, Ruby Dee, Barbara Barrie, Al Freeman Jr.

90 min./Order #TOB100
1972/Monterey Grades 9-Adult
Board Price: \$99
School/Library Price: \$79

Social Issues

Bill Cosby on Prejudice

In this classic video, Bill Cosby assumes the role of a consummate bigot in this provocative presentation. He draws on many commonly held stereotypes, using a funny, yet biting tongue-in-cheek delivery to drive home his point: there is nothing humorous about prejudice. His aim is to challenge personal attitudes to destroy prejudice.

24 min./Order #BIL005
1972/Pyramid Grades 10-Adult
Board Price: \$395
School/Library Price:

It's About Racism

This series of five segments on anti-racism education, were developed for use in classrooms to raise awareness of the issues and to promote discussion. Each program starts with a dramatic vignette illustrating a common racial situation followed by children offering possible solutions to the problem by giving comments and talking about their own experiences. A video teacher's guide created by educators is included. The guide presents interviews with experts on racism, as well as teachers who describe suggested pre- and post-viewing activities for each of the five themes illustrated. A list of resources is offered at the end of the video.

Programs:

- Family Life
- Food and Clothes
- Hanging Out/How to Stop Racism
- Name Calling/Racial Slurs
- Stereotyping

5 x 5 min. on One Tape
Order #S0000414
1999/TVOntario Grades 4-8
Pricing: Please Inquire

Racial Tension on Campus

Real Life Teens Series

This program gives an important overview of racism in high schools and why racism can be insidious and destructive in a teen's life. Students learn about racial tension, and how to open up their mind to the differences between races on campus. Discussed are practical suggestions and techniques for diffusing racial tension.

20 min. Order #Q342
2000/TMW Media Grades 7-12
Board Price: \$159
School/Library Price: \$79.95

Social Studies

Free At Last: Civil Rights Heroes Series

Martin Luther King was, without doubt, the foremost civil rights hero of our time, but there are other heroes in the civil rights arena. This three-part series tells the story of some of those heroes who lost their lives during the struggle for civil rights. Episodes:

- Emmett Till/Medgar Evers
- The Birmingham Four/Freedom Summer
- Viola Liuzzo/Rev James Reeb/Jimmy Lee Jackson/Vernon Dahmer

3 x 45 min Series Order #s0001213.
2001/Choices Grades 9-Adult
Board Price: \$129 each, \$310 series
School/Library Price: \$49.95 each,
\$129 Series

Raising Self-Esteem For African-American Students

Understanding one's own cultural heritage is crucial to high self-esteem. This program is designed to raise students of all races to a level of self-respect and understanding about the African people. It combines an overview of African history with tips for improving self-esteem and encourages the celebration of their heritage.

Includes: Study Guide
21 min./Order #L914
2002/TMW Media Grades 7-12
Board Price: \$129
School/Library Price: 79.95

Upon the Shoulders of Our Ancestors

This inspirational video examines the aspects of culture and heritage that African Americans have brought into the new millennium. It features interviews with Kwanzaa creator Dr. Maluana Karenga, one of the few black brain surgeons in the U.S., an African-American/Native American who was inspired by Alex Haley to discover his roots, a performance by students from Marcus Garvey School, and more.

15 min. Order #UPON100
2002/Cinema Guild Grades 9-Adult
Board Price: \$129
School/Library Price: \$79

Who Killed Martin Luther King?

James Earl Ray firmly states: "I did not kill Martin Luther King." This revealing program contains unprecedented interviews with James Earl Ray and other key participants in the case.

50 min./Order #1657
1999/Kultur Grades 10-Adult
Board Price: \$129
School/Library Price: \$49.95

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Toronto: 41 Horner Avenue, Unit 3, Etobicoke, ON M8Z 4X4
Tel: (416) 252-5907 (ext. 242) or (800) 668-0749 Fax: (416) 251-3720
email: suzi@visual.ed.com Website: www.visual.ed.com
Montreal: 7801 Louis H. Lafontaine, Suite 104, Anjou, QC H1K 4E4
Tel: (514) 352-5361 or (800) 989-8929 Fax: (514) 352-5957
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