



**America ReFramed to broadcast
'DETROIT 48202: Conversations Along a Postal Route'
on WORLD Channel Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 8 p.m.**

"... the inspirational figure at the film's center...Wendell Watkins offers an intimate...glimpse of a world too often reduced to fatalistic headlines and lurid sound bites." -Ann Hornaday, The Washington Post

New York, N.Y. – December 17, 2018 – *Detroit 48202: Conversations Along a Postal Route*, a new film by Pam Sporn, explores the rise, demise and contested resurgence of America's "motor city" through a multi-generational choir of voices who reside along letter carrier Wendell Watkins' postal route.

MEDIA RELATIONS

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Detroit 48202 will make its U.S. television premiere on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 8 p.m. (7 p.m. CT / 9 p.m. PT) on WORLD Channel as part of the new season of America ReFramed. It will also make its streaming debut on worldchannel.org, amdac.org and all station-branded PBS platforms including [PBS.org](http://pbs.org), and on PBS apps for iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Chromecast.

Filmmaker Pam Sporn came of age in Detroit during the 1960s and 1970s. She has known protagonist Wendell Watkins since 1972, when they were fellow student activists at Cass Technical High School. "I began a process of discovery with Wendell and his people, and the resulting film is my love letter to Detroit," explains Sporn.

Archival footage and oral histories convey the impetus behind the African American migration northward to push against the boundaries of racial and economic segregation. The testimonials of Wendell's neighbors and friends shed light on the impacts of redlining and the fight for housing justice, the legacy of industrial and political disinvestment, the fragility of black homeownership as impacted by the mortgage and financial crisis and a confluence of events and failed policies that resulted in Detroit's bankruptcy.



Despite the economic decline, the community carries on a legacy of activism—urban farms, artist collectives, schools, fighting water shut offs, and more—while offering creative solutions to reimagine a more inclusive and equitable city.

“WORLD Channel is proud to highlight the resiliency and history of one of the largest cities in the U.S. with the premiere of *Detroit 48202: Conversations Along a Postal Route*,” said Chris Hastings, executive producer and editorial manager for WORLD Channel at WGBH Boston. “Audiences will hear the personal stories of Detroit, the economic anxieties the people of the city face, and their hopes for the future,” said AmDoc executive producer Justine Nagan.

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Media Contacts

For interviews and special requests, journalists and reviewers may contact Neyda Martinez at 917-656-7846 or via email at neyda@amdoc.org.

Film Credits

Directed and Produced by Pam Sporn

About America ReFramed

America ReFramed is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc.

America ReFramed curates a diverse selection of independent documentaries that brings to national audiences compelling stories which illuminate the changing contours of our ever-evolving country. Viewers will be immersed in stories that span the spectrum of American life, from the streets of towns big and small to its exurbs and country roads. The documentary series presents an array of personal voices and experiences through which we learn from our past, understand our present and are challenged to seek new frameworks for America’s future. An award-winning documentary series, America ReFramed is the recipient of a Peabody Award and an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for broadcast journalism. The series has earned several Christopher, GRACIE, Telly and Cine Golden Eagle Awards, as well as multiple nominations for an EMMY, Independent Documentary Association, and Imagen Award.



America ReFramed Series Credits

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White
Supervising Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio

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America ReFramed Co-Producers

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: www.amdoc.org

WORLD Channel tells stories that humanize complex issues. WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries, and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content offers a national platform to makers examining issues too often ignored by mainstream media. These emerging and master filmmakers spotlight a diversity of voices, telling stories not heard elsewhere. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award and numerous national honors—including an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, and an Asian American Journalists Award. Carried by 156 partner stations in markets representing almost 66.83% of US TV households, WORLD can also be experienced via WORLDChannel.org and social media platforms.

