



For Immediate Release
Erin Callanan
worldmedia@wgbh.org
617-300-3270

Your Vote: America 2021 Diverse Stories From an Extraordinary Year Featured on WORLD Channel

Featured films highlight the strength of everyday people allowing their voices to be heard

Boston, MA (January xx, 2021) – Starting January 18th, WORLD Channel will showcase [Your Vote: America 2021](#), a collection to share the diverse stories of millions of Americans struggling to recover from the challenges spurred on by the political turmoil, social unrest, and the crisis of the pandemic. In this collection, WORLD Channel looks ahead towards the recovery of the health crisis, political conflict, economic impact, and racial and social justice in the new year.

With a historic election cycle now in the rearview, [Your Vote: America 2021](#), begins to look at how the pieces come together after a trying year. From voting rights to affordable housing, the issues that drove this past election will be covered. WORLD Channel explores the issues - healthcare, economy, race, immigration, housing and climate change - all told through the lens of politics and policy, and the narrative of the American people. Through diverse stories from people all over the country, and some from other parts of the world, the hope is to share the journey of the impact of this unprecedented year and look towards 2021 and the issues that may arise. Some of the highlighted films include:

- ***Local, USA: Metcalfe Park—Black Vote Rising***
Mother-daughter team Danell Cross and Melody McCurtis are determined to prevent what America witnessed during Wisconsin's April 7th's primary election from happening again. [METCALFE PARK: BLACK VOTE RISING](#) follows Cross and McCurtis as they organize their Black community of Metcalfe Park to prepare for the 2020 presidential election and its challenges: reduced polling stations, disinformation campaigns, and the surging pandemic. Canvassing door-to-door to reach residents who are missed by social media campaigns, they deliver voting instructions along with food and COVID-19 safety kits. Cross and McCurtis also try to convince neighbors to vote, ones whose faith has been tested by the system and remain cynical about what a president will do to change things on their block.
Airs Monday, January 18th, at 9:00pm ET on WORLD Channel
- ***America ReFramed: The Area***
When the train company representatives told Deborah Payne that her South Side Chicago neighborhood would be demolished to build a freight yard, she vowed to be “the last house standing.” [THE AREA](#) is the five-year odyssey of her neighborhood, where more than 400 Black American families are being displaced by a multi-billion dollar freight company. As their community is literally being torn apart, residents maintain friendships and traditions while fighting for the respect they deserve. Through their experiences, the film weaves an all-too-real

story about the disproportionate harm that structural racism has done to Black communities, while illustrating the hope and promise neighbors find in one another as they fight for their home.

Airs Tuesday, January 19th, at 8:00pm on WORLD Channel

- ***We the Young People***

Designed to connect with new audiences and deepen conversations about the most pressing issues facing the country, WE THE YOUNG PEOPLE highlights the impact of young voters and explores the change they want to see from the new U.S. presidential administration. A live interactive event scheduled for January 14th, will be rebroadcast on January 20th on WORLD Channel. Student reporters and leading journalists will cover topics such as youth activism, civics, and misinformation. The virtual show will be hosted by Amna Nawaz, and will feature Yamiche Alcindor, PBS NewsHour Gwen Ifill Legacy Fellows, newly-elected young officials, student reporters and teen fact checkers from Poynter's MediaWise program.

Airs Wednesday, January 20th, at 7:00pm on WORLD Channel

- ***Battleground *Encore****

In a political moment defined by partisan conflict, [BATTLEGROUND](#) is an intimate exploration of the state of our democracy as seen through the eyes of two opposing grassroots political leaders in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania - a pivotal county that voted for Obama twice and then flipped to Trump in 2016. Tom Carroll is a Trump delegate, and the Chairman of the nation's largest Tea Party chapter. Greg Edwards is a Black pastor, and a progressive leader supported by Bernie Sanders. Over the course of three years, the film shows that their primary struggle was not against each other, but against the political machines that control their respective parties. BATTLEGROUND is an antidote to the media echo chamber effect, which is marked by passion, but often devoid of understanding.

Airs Thursday, January 28th, at 7:00pm on WORLD Channel

- ***Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope *Encore****

Early each morning Nicholas Kristof would board the No. 6 bus and ride through the hills and valleys of Yamhill, Oregon to get to his local public school. With him were some of his closest childhood friends and neighbors, people he had known all his life. But today, nearly a quarter of the kids who rode that bus with him have died. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn return to Kristof's hometown to find out what really happened. They quickly find themselves at the heart of a much bigger story about those who fall through the cracks of America, destroyed by poverty, addiction, suicide and homelessness. As we move away from one of the most consequential elections in our history - [Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope](#) reveals that despite this grim reality, human kindness and potential, when harnessed, can change the future.

Airs Thursday, January 28th, at 8:00pm on WORLD Channel

- ***Doc World: No Country for the Poor***

In Hungary, the government has slashed social benefits and criminalized homelessness, but a group of activists, homeless and middle class, is confronting authorities to defend social justice and their right to be citizens. After the tragic death of two of its founding members, the group feels that Hungary is growing more hostile and their struggle is more important than ever. Despite all odds, their own community keeps them going -- a mini-society with democracy and

solidarity at its heart, an island of hope, belonging and dignity in a society gradually shifting the other way.

Airs Sunday, January 31st, at 10:00pm on WORLD Channel

- ***Local, USA: PANDEMIC19***

PANDEMIC19 is a short documentary film that captures the story of three doctors in the United States fighting COVID-19 from pre-to-post surge, told through their own reflective, humanizing voices, while the chaos of the pandemic permeates outside the frame of their video confessions. In March, 2020, as the United States began rolling out “shelter in place” orders, the majority of the populace felt distinctly distanced from the opponent they were fighting. The virus was invisible and so was the frontline. PANDEMIC19 sidesteps the salacious news headlines by focusing on the personal video journals of three doctors as they prepare for the “calm before the storm” and through their direct experiences with COVID-19 patients. As the days unfold, the doctors check-in and record their changing impressions: fears, hopes, challenges, and triumphs — laying bare their emotional feelings.

Airs Monday, February 1st, at 9:00pm on WORLD Channel

- ***America ReFramed: Pahokee***

In a small agricultural town in the Florida Everglades, hopes for the future are concentrated on the youth. Four teens face heartbreak and celebrate in the rituals of an extraordinary senior year. From sports events to school beauty contests, the filmmakers observe how, through social and collective rituals, the ideas of gender and identity are publicly displayed while creating new narratives. PAHOKEE is a powerful portrait of a forgotten America absent from the current political discourse.

Airs Tuesday, February 9th, at 8:00pm on WORLD Channel

In addition to these films, a carefully curated collection of films, articles, episodes, virtual events and livestreams relevant to the issues being debated in 2021 is available online at [Your Vote: America 2021](https://www.worldchannel.org/collection/your-vote/). WORLD Channel explores the issues - healthcare, economy, race, immigration, housing and climate change - all told through the lens of politics and policy, and the narrative of the American people. For more information, visit <https://worldchannel.org/collection/your-vote/> for local content with relevance to the national stage. Share,, engage and follow the social conversation online with the hashtag #YourVote.

These six films, and many others, begin airing on January 18th on WORLD Channel. Check your local WORLD Channel broadcast schedule or the for complete listings of original WORLD Channel programming, visit www.WORLDchannel.org/ or follow WORLD Channel on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

About WORLD Channel

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries and programming. WORLD’s original series examine the issues and amplify the voices of those often ignored by mainstream media. The multicast 24/7 channel helps audiences understand conflicts, movements and cultures from around the globe. Its original work has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award and many others honoring diversity of content and makers. WORLD is

carried by 176 member stations in markets representing over 70% of US TV households. Funding for WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts and Artworks. WORLD is produced by GBH in partnership with WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT). Find out more at WORLDChannel.org.

#