

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

Race in America Continues on WORLD Channel with Three New Films in June

Public media producer continues to share stories of diverse communities across the country

Boston, MA (May 24, 2021) – WORLD Channel, a national public media broadcast, online and social media platform with news and documentaries humanizing complex issues from across the globe, continues its *Race in America* series with three new films in June, covering issues of race and diversity in communities across the country.

Launched in the Fall of 2020, *Race in America* is a series of iconic documentaries and events exploring historical and cultural stories about race and civil rights in America, as well as the political forces shaping today's world. *Race in America* films are broadcast nationwide on WORLD Channel and are available for streaming at <u>worldchannel.org</u>.

"Over the past year, we've seen a racial reckoning across our country, sparked by the murder of George Floyd last spring. At WORLD Channel, we want to acknowledge this cultural shift, sharing stories of diverse communities and embracing the differences that make us one country," said Chris Hastings, executive producer at WORLD Channel at GBH in Boston.

The three films premiering on WORLD Channel in June include:

- America ReFramed: The Falconer

The Falconer is a story of second chances: for injured birds of prey, for an abandoned plot of land, for a group of teenagers who have dropped out of high school, and for Maryland resident Rodney Stotts. Dotted with abandoned buildings and towering trees, Oak Hill's former juvenile prison complex is full of potential as far as Rodney Stotts is concerned. One of only a handful of African American falconers in the country, he envisions a refuge for the animals he loves and transformative opportunities for his stressed community in the Washington, D.C. metro area. <u>America ReFramed: The Falconer</u> premieres on Tuesday, June 1st at 8:00 p.m. ET on WORLD Channel.

- America ReFramed: Meltdown in Dixie

In rural Orangeburg, SC, in the wake of the Charleston Massacre, a battle erupts between the Sons of Confederate Veterans and an ice cream shop owner forced to fly the Confederate flag in his parking lot. The flag has flown in Orangeburg since 2000 when former shop owner Maurice Bessinger raised it over his property in protest over the flag being taken down from the SC State House dome. Before his death, Bessinger, a self-avowed segregationist, deeded the plot of land where the flagpole stood to the local Sons of Confederate Vets chapter to ensure that the flag would continue to fly. <u>America ReFramed: Meltdown in Dixie</u> premieres on Tuesday, June 8th at 8:00 p.m. ET on WORLD Channel.

America ReFramed is a WORLD Channel documentary series produced in partnership with American Documentary.

- Growing Up Black: A Stories from The Stage Special

What does it mean to grow up Black in America, a country too often divided by race? Bullied by a group of kids, Ben finds out he is not alone, and Angie learns about how far we have come and how far we have to go in a chance encounter she will never forget. The Webby Award-winning film **Stories from The Stage: Growing up Black** will be presented June 6-11 at 9:30 p.m. ET (*check your local listings*) on WORLD Channel.

- The Conversation Remix

In 2015, the New York Times presented the Op-Doc series *A Conversation on Race.* Created by **Michèle Stephenson** and **Joe Brewster**'s Rada Studio, the series featured interviews and thoughts on race following the 2014 killing of Michael Brown and resulting calls for justice. <u>The Conversation Remix</u> is three short films that revisit, remix, and refocus the interviews and conversations of the 2015 series with new reflections, home video, life updates, and graphics. The series explores how the subjects of the original series have changed with the passing of time and introduces new players in the wake of the racial awakenings of 2020. The three films, *For Our Girls: Conversations with Black Women, Learning to Breathe: Conversations with Young Black Men*, and *Good White People: A Conversation with White People* are available for streaming on the WORLD Channel Youtube channel and the WORLD Channel website.

In addition, WORLD Channel will offer a series of films for streaming on PBS Passport. Season 1 of the landmark civil rights series *Eyes on The Prize* is now available for streaming on PBS Passport, in addition to broadcast dates throughout the remainder of 2021.

With a broad array of broadcast and streaming options in June, WORLD Channel's goal is to create a learning experience around the issue of race, an experience that furthers the conversation on how to improve racial inequalities and inequities. Explore our <u>viewing guide</u> for the <u>Race In America collection</u> of films and join our social conversation with #RaceInAmerica.

For more information and films, please visit <u>www.WORLDchannel.org/</u> or follow @worldchannel on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

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.