

# LEGACY

## BEING BLACK IN AMERICA



Marian Wright Edelman

Wynton Marsalis

Condoleezza Rice

Andrew Young

Deborah Roberts

Ice Cube

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 14, 2008

#### LEGACY: BEING BLACK IN AMERICA

A one-hour PBS documentary special  
Broadcast: February 2008, check local listings

**LEGACY: BEING BLACK IN AMERICA** looks at the lives of African-Americans today set against the story of the Civil Rights Movement. The film explores the evolution of black/white relations and how these relations reflect tensions and conflicts at the heart of the American dream.

**LEGACY** features a dinner tribute to the civil rights generation hosted by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) and profiles of ABC News correspondent, Deborah Roberts, the rapper and single mother, Madam Madon, Harvard University's National Book Award winner, Orlando Patterson, *Newsweek* magazine's entertainment correspondent, Allison Samuels, and Bill T. Jones, this past year's Tony Award winner for best choreography.

#### LEGACY includes:

- **Ice Cube**, rap musician, producer, and actor
- **Marian Wright Edelman**, President and Founder, Children's Defense Fund
- **John Hope Franklin**, historian
- **Professor James O. Horton**, historian
- **Bill T. Jones**, choreographer and dancer
- **Rep. John Lewis**, congressman from Georgia and civil rights leader
- **Rev. Joseph Lowery**, co-founder with Martin Luther King, Jr. of Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
- **Madam Madon**, rapper and single mother
- **Professor Manning Marable**, historian
- **Wynton Marsalis**, jazz musician and Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center
- **Aaron McGruder**, creator of *The Boondocks* animated TV series
- **Professor Orlando Patterson**, sociologist
- **Holly Robinson Peete**, actress and philanthropist

Continued



Smithsonian's NMAAHC "Legacy" Dinner

Madam Madon with son Tahir

Holly Robinson with Allison Samuels

Bill T. Jones

- **Condoleezza Rice**, U.S. Secretary of State
- **Deborah Roberts**, ABC News correspondent
- **Allison Samuels**, *Newsweek* magazine correspondent
- **John Singleton**, filmmaker
- **Roger Wilkins**, Professor of History and American Culture, George Mason University
- **Andrew Young**, activist, former Mayor of Atlanta, and former chairman of the Pulitzer Prize Board

At this critical crossroads in the history of race relations, when the clarity and cohesion of the civil rights generation have given way to ambivalence and apathy, when progress has been stalling and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream has finally come within reach only to be in danger of slipping away, **LEGACY** looks at how our present has been shaped by the past and how it is the legacies of past African-American heroes like Dr. King and Malcolm X, among many others, who help to clarify what it means to be black in America today and what the prospects are for the future.

In a nation deeply divided not only by race but also by politics, religion, and class, **LEGACY** is about the ongoing need for integration and wholeness as part of Dr. King's beloved community. It is about a new model of leadership forged from the black experience in America and poised to finally make the promise of democracy and pluralism in America a reality.

### About the Producer

**LEGACY: BEING BLACK IN AMERICA** is the third film in The Millennium Dinners documentary series, produced by Richard Karz. The Millennium Dinners employs interdisciplinary, multicultural, and intergenerational VIP dinner gatherings to explore issues of global change through dialogue and background day-in-the-life profiles and vignettes. The series uses the dinner party as a metaphor to examine the role of compromise and consensus in democracy today, the changing nature of community, and the tension between the civilized and the uncivilized, the social and the selfish, in this new era.

### About the Sponsor

Wal-Mart is proud to sponsor **LEGACY: BEING BLACK IN AMERICA**. Wal-Mart employs 1.9 million associates worldwide and more than 1.3 million in the United States, making it one of the largest private employers in the U.S. As a "store of the community," Wal-Mart provides financial and volunteer support to more than 100,000 charitable and community-focused organizations.

Underwriter: Wal-Mart. Producer: Karz Productions. Presenter: Connecticut Public Television. Producer/Director: Richard Karz. Executive-in-Charge (CPTV): Larry Rifkin. Distributor: PBS Plus. Format: CC Stereo. Online: [pbs.org](http://pbs.org).

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