



SEASON SEVEN EPISODE DESCRIPTIONS WINTER/SPRING 2021 ON PBS

Today's most compelling personalities discover the surprising stories buried within their own families in the seventh season of the critically acclaimed PBS series **FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.**, offering viewers ten new episodes that will continue through May 2021. The new season premieres Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. ET on PBS (check local listings).

FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR., Season Seven returns with the following episodes:

“To the Manor Born”

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. discovers the privileged lineages that claim actor Glenn Close and director John Waters as descendants, introducing ancestors who are as bold and independent as they are.

“Against All Odds”

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. introduces media personality Andy Cohen and radio journalist Nina Totenberg to ancestors who were determined to survive.

“No Irish Need Apply”

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 8pm on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. explores the roots of actor Jane Lynch and comedian Jim Gaffigan, revealing the Irish American experience through their families.

“The Shirts on Their Backs”

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. reveals the immigrant roots of actors Tony Shalhoub and Christopher Meloni, introducing ancestors who came to America to build a better life.

“Write My Name in the Book of Life”

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 8pm on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. helps musician Pharrell Williams and filmmaker Kasi Lemmons uncover extraordinarily rare first-person accounts of their enslaved ancestors.

“Country Roots”

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. uncovers the remarkably diverse backgrounds of country music icons Clint Black and Rosanne Cash.

“The New World”

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. traces ancestors of actor John Lithgow and journalist Maria Hinojosa who thrived in North America long before the birth of the United States.

“Laughing on the Inside”

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. provides comedians Lewis Black and Roy Wood, Jr. with accounts of hardship in their family trees which may have led them to each find humor in adversity.

“On Broadway”

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. investigates the family histories of Broadway stars Audra McDonald and Mandy Patinkin, discovering ancestors whose struggles laid the groundwork for their success.

“Anchored to the Past”

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 8pm ET on PBS

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. examines how journalists Gretchen Carlson and Don Lemon were able to overcome biases in their careers, drawing parallels to relatives who met profound challenges of their own.

In conjunction with the broadcast, co-producer WETA, the flagship public broadcaster in the nation’s capital, will work with stations across the country to encourage viewers to explore and share their family histories via social media using the hashtag #FindingYourRoots on Facebook and Twitter, via [Facebook.com/FindingYourRootsPBS](https://www.facebook.com/FindingYourRootsPBS) and @HenryLouisGates, and on the series companion site, pbs.org/FindingYourRoots.

FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR., Season Seven is a production of McGee Media, Inkwell Media, Kunhardt Films, and WETA Washington, D.C. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. is the writer, host, and executive producer. Dyllan McGee and Peter Kunhardt are executive producers. John F. Wilson is the executive producer in charge for WETA. Bill Gardner is the executive in charge for PBS. Sabin Streeter is the senior producer. Natalia Warchol is the series producer. Hannah Olson is the consulting producer. Sabin Streeter and Krista Whetstone are directors.

Corporate support for **FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR., Season Seven** is provided by Ancestry and Johnson & Johnson. Support is also provided by Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, The Carnegie Corporation of New York, Candace King Weir, The Zegar Family Foundation, Lloyd Carney Foundation, and by The Inkwell Society and its members Felicia A. and Benjamin A. Horowitz Fund; Demond Martin; Sheryl Sandberg and Tom Bernthal; Jim and Susan Swartz; Anne Wojcicki; John and Jennifer Fisher; Fletcher and Benaree Wiley; Gwen and Peter Norton; and Darnell Armstrong and Nicole Commissiong. Major support is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and PBS.

An electronic press kit for **FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR., Season Seven**, including downloadable photos for promotional use, is available on [PBS Pressroom](#).

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