

## Documentaries, Movies, YouTubes-about race.

Explore the **PBS Black Culture Connection**: Your resource and guide to the films, stories and voices across public television centered around Black history and culture. <http://www.pbs.org/black-culture/home/>

### DVDs to WATCH

**Broken Treaties, An Oregon Experience.** 2017, 59 m15 s. **DVD 979.5004 BROKEN** An introduction to the Indian tribes of Oregon, the treaties they signed and the land they lost. It examines the injustice endured by the tribes and illuminates an aspect of Northwest history that is rarely talked about. <https://www.opb.org/television/programs/oregonexperience/segment/broken-treaties-oregon-native-americans/>

**The Modoc War** OPB 2011, 57m15s **DVD 973.0497 MODOC** The Modoc War began in November 1872 when the military tried to force a small band of Modoc Indians, led by Captain Jack, to a reservation. The Modocs took refuge in an ancient lava flow that became their stronghold. Today it is a part of the Lava Beds National Monument. By the end, the Modocs were fighting off a force of nearly 1,000 men, made up of both military soldiers and civilian volunteers. Again and again, the small band of Indians overcame incredible odds to protect their way of life. But it could not last.

**Native America.** PBS, 2018, [DVD 970.00497 NATIVE](#)

**Native America: Voices from the land.** 32 features, 2-disk set. 9h48m. 2010: Mill Creek Entertainment. [DVD 970.00497 NATIVE](#)

**We Shall Remain America Through Native Eyes.** PBS 2009 [DVD 970.00497 WE](#)

**Trail of Tears.** 4 Award Winning Native American Documentaries. 4h23m. 2009: Mill Creek Entertainment. [DVD 970.00497 TRAIL](#)

**Ancient Futures. Learning from Ladakh.** 59:30. 1993: International Society of Ecology and Culture. [Library: 307.1412] [Streaming Video – 2014, Kanopy Streaming Video](#)

**Navajo Code Talkers of World War II** 2018, 69m DVD 940.54 NAVAJO Native American war heroes who served on behalf of the United States and the Navajo Nation. The secret code these marines developed, based on the unwritten Navaho language, was never broken, giving American troops an upper hand in many battles that ultimately led to Japan's surrender in 1945. <https://multcolib.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1253560152>

**POV: Up Heartbreak Hill - Coming of Age in the Contemporary Native American World** PBS 2012, 83m, +special features. **DVD 305.23** For teens Thomas, an elite runner; Tamara, an academic superstar; and Gabby, an aspiring photographer, home is an impoverished town on the Navajo reservation in NM. As they navigate their senior year at a reservation high school, they must decide whether or not to stay in their community when leaving means separating from family, tradition and the land that has been theirs for generations. Erica Scharf's Up Heartbreak Hill is a moving look at a new generation of Americans struggling to be both Native and modern <https://shop.pbs.org/pov-up-heartbreak-hill-coming-of-age-in-the-contemporary-native-american-world-dvd/product/AMD62506>; **DVD – 2012, DVD 305.23 UP**; [Streaming Video – 2014, Hoopla Streaming Video](#)

**Great Tribal Leaders of Modern Times.** A VESi Course. 2006: PSU Virtual Education Software, Inc.

## BLACK HISTORY

**Egalite for All. Toussaint L'ouverture and the Haitian Revolution.** 60:00. 2009: PBS Home Video.

***The Spirit of a Culture: Cane River Creoles.*** 00:57. Louisiana Public Broadcasting.

***Searching for York,*** OBP 2008, 29:11. **DVD 917.8 SEARCHING** The Lewis & Clark Expedition - a pivotal moment in American history. But the story of York, a slave to William Clark and comrade on this journey, has been obscured by omission and stereotype. Learn about this unofficial member of the Corps of Discovery. <https://www.lclark.edu/visit/features/york/>

***The African Americans Many Rivers to Cross.*** 2014 PBS **360m** Explore with Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., the evolution of the African-American people, as well as the multiplicity of cultural institutions, political strategies, and religious and social perspectives they developed-forging their own history, culture and society against unimaginable odds. Also [2014, Kanopy Streaming Video](#) 2013 Book, [305.896 G2593a DVD 305.896 AFRICAN](#)

***Oregon Black Pioneers.*** OBP 2019, 29:42 Long before Oregon became a state, black people were in the Far West. Some were brought to the region as slaves, while others arrived as freemen looking for a new life. They opened boarding houses and stores, worked farms and mined for gold. But as more white settlers arrived over the Oregon Trail, the newcomers passed discriminatory laws to keep blacks out. "Oregon Experience" examines the largely unknown history of Oregon's black pioneers. <https://www.opb.org/television/programs/oregonexperience/segment/oregon-black-pioneers-documentary/> [See

***Local Color. Oregon's History of Racism.*** OPB, 1991, 1999, 57:44. This documentary chronicles the little known history of racism in Oregon and the moving story of people, both black and white, who worked for civil rights. There are moments of highly disturbing racism in a state not known for diversity. But there are also moments of inspiration and courage as people take a stand to bring about important change. **DVD 305.896 LOCAL** <https://www.opb.org/television/programs/local-color/>

***Beatrice Morrow Cannady.*** OPB, 2007, 29m. Beatrice Morrow Cannady was a leading Portland African-American civil rights activist in Portland during the early part of the 20th century. As a newspaper publisher and lawyer, she challenged racial prejudice and discrimination at a time when the Ku Klux Klan was rising to power. [DVD 920.0795 BEATRICE; A Force for Change. Beatrice Morrow Cannady & the Struggle for Civil Rights in Oregon, 1912-1936](#) by Mangun, Kimberley Book – 2010, 323.092 C224m 2010

***Lift Ev'ry Voice Portland Civil Rights*** OBP 2015, **82m**. Portland Civil Rights: Lift Ev'ry Voice explores Portland's African American history with a focus on the turbulent 1960s, '70s and early '80s. At the time, issues surrounding urban renewal, school desegregation and brittle police relations were exploding both nationally and locally. [DVD – 2015, DVD 323.1 LIFT](#)

***American Experience: Freedom Summer*** PBS 2014, 120m. **DVD 323.1196 FREEDOM**, 2016 Kanopy streaming video. In the hot and deadly summer of 1964, the nation could not turn away from Mississippi. Over 10 memorable weeks known as Freedom Summer, more than 700 student volunteers joined with organizers and local African Americans in a historic effort to shatter the foundations of white supremacy in one of the nation's most segregated states - even in the face of intimidation, including the notorious murders of three civil rights workers, countless beatings, the burning of 35 churches, and the bombing of 70 homes and community centers. <https://shop.pbs.org/american-experience-freedom-summer-dvd/product/FRSU601>; [Streaming Video - 2016Kanopy Streaming Video](#)

***Birth of A Movement The Battle Against America's First Blockbuster.*** PBS, 2017, **55m DVD 305.800973 BIRTH**, "In 1915, African American newspaper editor and civil rights activist William Monroe Trotter **waged a battle against D.W. Griffith's notoriously Ku Klux Klan-friendly blockbuster** The Birth of a Nation, which unleashed a fight still raging today about race relations and representation, and the power and influence of Hollywood

***Black in Latin America*** PBS, 2011, 240m, [DVD 980.00496 BLACK](#), Henry Louis Gates Jr. travels to Haiti, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Brazil, Mexico and Peru to discover the African influence on Latin America. He examines the shared

legacy of colonialism and slavery in a region that imported ten times as many slaves as the United States, and kept them in bondage far longer. Gates finds that the people of African descent have had a massive influence on the history and culture of Latin America and the Caribbean, despite sometimes being forgotten or ignored. Also eBook, streaming <https://multicolib.bibliocommons.com/v2/search?query=Black+in+Latin+America&searchType=title>, DVD 980.00496 BLACK

**The Black Church.** This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song. [DVD 277.3 BLACK](#). [Streaming Video – 2021](#), [Book – 2021 277.3 G2593b 2021](#)

**Fannie Lou Hamer's America** is a portrait of a civil rights activist and the injustices in America that made her work essential. Through public speeches, personal interviews, and powerful songs of the fearless Mississippi sharecropper-turned-human-rights-activist, Fannie Lou Hamer's America explores and celebrates the lesser-known life of one of the Civil Rights Movement's greatest leaders. Aired: 02/22/22 Expires: 02/21/26 <https://www.pbs.org/video/fannie-lou-hamers-america-9knshn/>; <https://worldchannel.org/collection/fannie-lou-hamers-america/>; **"Fannie Lou Hamer, Voting Rights Activist"** 2009 [DVD 323 FANNIE](#); **"Voice of Freedom, Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement"** [DVD – 2016](#), [DVD j 323 VOICE](#)

**"Eyes on the Prize.** America's Civil Rights Years" [DVD - 2010 | Full screen DVD 323.4 EYES](#); [streaming video](#)

**Selma.** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historical struggle to secure voting rights for all people. A dangerous and terrifying campaign that culminated with an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1964. [DVD – 2015](#), [DVD Drama SELMA](#)

**Percy Julian, Forgotten Genius.** Against all odds, African American chemist Percy Julian became one of the great scientists of the 20th century. Premiered: 2/6/07, Runtime: **01:52:42** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSq\\_sdYNNk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSq_sdYNNk) <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/forgotten-genius/>; [Transcript, <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/forgotten-genius/>]

**The Loving Story** [documentary by [Nancy Buirski](#).] 2011: Icarus Films; **Loving**. 2h3m. 2016: Focus Features.

**All the Way** [LBJ and the Civil Rights Act]. 2016: HBO Films

**Maya Angelou And Still I Rise.** [Documentary] 1h54m. 2016: Arc Entertainment.

**Malcolm X.** [Denzel Washington] 3h22m. 1992: 40 Acres and a Mule

**Death of a Prophet. Malcolm X.** [Morgan Freeman] 60:00. 2003: PDC Home Entertainment.

**A History of Black Achievement in America.** 2005, [DVD 973.0496073 HISTORY](#)

**Hidden Figures.** 2h6m. 2017: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox

**Race** [1936 gold medal legend, Jesse Owens]. 2h14m. 2016: Forecast pictures.

**Red Tails: The Real Story of the Tuskegee Airmen.** [Includes interviews with Colin Powell & G.W. Bush] 55:00+60:00 extras. 2012: Topics Entertainment, Inc.

**13th** is an American documentary by director Ava DuVernay about the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment and mass incarceration. 1:40:03. 2016, Kando Films. Full Netflix Feature available <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krfcq5pF8u8>; **10-6-16 Ava DuVernay's 13th Reframes American History.** *The Atlantic*. In her new documentary, the filmmaker explores how the Thirteenth Amendment led to an epidemic of mass incarceration in the United States.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2016/10/ava-duvernay-13th-netflix/503075/>; **10-6-16 Ava DuVernay's Netflix film '13th' reveals how mass incarceration is an extension of slavery.**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/arts-and-entertainment/wp/2016/10/06/ava-duvernays-netflix-film-13th-reveals-how-mass-incarceration-is-an-extension-of-slavery/>

**1-29-16 Unwanted Sterilization and Eugenics Programs in the United States.** [videos] **Eugenics** was a commonly accepted means of protecting society from the offspring (and therefore equally suspect) of those individuals deemed inferior or dangerous – the poor, the disabled, the mentally ill, criminals, and people of color. **Coerced sterilization** is a shameful part of America's history, and one doesn't have to go too far back to find examples of it. Used as a means of controlling "undesirable" populations – immigrants, people of color, poor people, unmarried mothers, the disabled, the mentally ill – federally-funded sterilization programs took place in 32 states throughout the 20th century. Driven by prejudiced notions of science and social control, these programs [informed policies on immigration](https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/blog/unwanted-sterilization-and-eugenics-programs-in-the-united-states/) and segregation. <https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/blog/unwanted-sterilization-and-eugenics-programs-in-the-united-states/>

**Notes From the Field** [play shines a light on the lack of opportunity and resources for young people living in poverty and often suffering with regard to their physical and mental health, and how these circumstances often lead them into the criminal justice system.] The Pipeline Project. Anna Deavere Smith. **HBO OnDemand** and at <http://www.annadeaveresmith.org/> <https://twitter.com/AnnaDeaveres>

10-16-19 **HBO's 'Watchmen' series is set in Tulsa. Here's why that's symbolic.** [A rioting White mob, looted, terrorized, burned, bombed and massacred 300 Black Residents after a lynching was thwarted.] Watchmen 2:52 trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wumlyetXEmk>; The illustrated story behind the Tulsa Massacre. <https://www.theatlantic.com/sponsored/hbo-2019/the-massacre-of-black-wall-street/3217/>

## ASIAN AMERICANS

[Asian Americans DVD 305.895 ASIAN](#); [Streaming Video - 2020](#)

**Massacre At Hells Canyon** 2017, 30m. In 1887, up to 34 Chinese gold miners were murdered along the Oregon side of the Snake River. It was one of the worst mass murders of Chinese by whites in the history of the United States and for more than 100 years, the evidence was hidden and the story forgotten. Chinese immigrants were instrumental in building the West but faced legalized discrimination and violence. <https://www.opb.org/television/programs/oregonexperience/segment/massacre-at-hells-canyon/>; [DVD - 2017DVD 979.573 MASSACRE](#); **Massacred for Gold. The Chinese in Hells Canyon** by [Nokes, R. Gregory](#)

**Kam Wah Chung** 2009, 29m. **OBP DVD 979.5041 KAM** The discovery of gold brought thousands of Chinese to eastern Oregon in the 1880s - including herbal doctor Ing Hay and businessman Lung on. Together they practiced medicine and operated a general store, Kam Wah Chung & Co., near the town of John Day becoming highly regarded members of the community.

**The Oregon Nikkei Story Japanese Americans In Oregon, 1880-1941.** 2009, **58m** Portland, OR.: Frame by Frame Productions First and second generation Japanese Americans endured blatant racism and sometimes violence. They overcame the social and economic hardships of the day to raise their families in the Pacific Northwest and become an integral part of their communities. <https://multcolib.bibliocommons.com/v2/record/S152C451413>; [DVD - 2009, DVD 979.504956 OREGON](#)

**And Then They Came For Us. [Incarceration of 120 Japanese Americans]** **50:00.** 2019: Ginzberg Productions. <https://www.thentheycamedoc.com/>

***Oregon's Japanese Americans: Beyond The Wire*** OPB 2019, 2020 **1:05:33**. Chances are if you live in Portland, you know — and have visited — Old Town. But what you might not know is that right up to World War II, this part of the city was once home to a vibrant Japanese American community. A second Japantown also formed along Portland's southwest waterfront. By the early 1900s, Japanese American businessmen and farmers were also staking their futures in the Hood River Valley. The cleared forest land, planted strawberries and created orchards of apples and pears. The "Issei" — first-generation Japanese — were raising children who were American-born citizens. <https://www.opb.org/television/programs/oregonexperience/segment/oregon-japanese-americans-history/>;

[AAPI Stories | May 2022 | WORLD Channel](#) ***Asian American Stories of Resilience and Beyond*** | Trailer The series of seven documentary shorts move beyond the pandemic and reflect the complexities of Asian American experiences in this critical moment. The series premieres May 3 with new short films every Tuesday. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XusM4xJ5GuM> For more: [https://bit.ly/AAStoriesRB\\_Guide](https://bit.ly/AAStoriesRB_Guide)

***Who Killed Vincent Chin?*** 1989, **83m**. When Vincent Chin was beaten to death in a working-class Detroit bar, the Asian-American community was outraged. When the two unemployed autoworkers who murdered Chin because they thought he was Japanese (and therefore responsible for their unemployment), went free, that outrage turned into action as the community fought against the system to bring justice. The film exposes stereotypes and prejudices on all sides in a compelling and emotional coverage of that struggle. 3:53 trailer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxq80D5LZb0>; <https://www.thirteen.org/programs/pov/pov-who-killed-vincent-chin-trailer/>

***Vincent Who?*** The Murder of a Chinese-American Man. 2009, **40m** documentary film about Vincent Chin. <https://vincentwhomovie.com/>, <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3F74C2EF67CCECD1>; Available at MCL Streaming Video - 2016, Kanopy Streaming Video at Kanopy, <https://www.kanopy.com/product/vincent-who-1>

## LATIN AMERICANS

[Latino Americans](#) 2013, [DVD 973.0468 LATINO](#)

***Rebel, Loreta Valazquez, Secret Soldier of the American Civil War***. 00:51, 2013: Latin Public Broadcasting.

***The Braceros***. OPB, 2007, 29m. WWII created a huge demand for Americans farm products. But the war also caused vast numbers of farm workers to abandon the fields. The US entered into a unique contract-worker agreement between the US and Mexico to help in agriculture. [DVD – 2007, DVD 331.544 BRACEROS](#)

***Dolores***. [Dolores Huerta. Rebel. Activist. Feminist. Mother.] PBS 2017, 1h35m. A documentary about the co-founder of the United Farm Workers Distribution. <https://www.pbs.org/independentlens/films/dolores-huerta/>; [DVD – 2018, DVD 331.478 DOLORES](#)

***Song for Cesar, the Movement and the Music*** [Documentary built around the music, musicians, artists, who were instrumental in assisting Cesar Chavez and the UFW grow this movement.] 2018

***El Norte***. [Peasants escaping a murderous Guatemalan government go to America for a better life]. 2h21m. 1983: PBS; American Playhouse. [DVD - 2008 | Director-approved special ed | Spanish; DVD SPANISH Drama NORTE](#)

***The Fight in the Fields*** [Documentary about Cesar Chavez and the farm workers struggle.] 120 m. 1997: PBS; Paradigm Productions Inc. <http://www.fightinthefields.net/film.html>

***Fighting for Our Lives*** 1988 57m Documentary about the United Farm Workers Movement, the 1973 grape strike, the pesticides sprayed on the fruit we eat and **their non-violent struggle against police brutality**. 2017 Kanopy

streaming <https://multcolib.bibliocommons.com/item/show/109431152>; [Streaming Video – 1988, Kanopy Streaming Video](#)

**No Más Bebés** is the story of Mexican mothers who came to have their babies. They went home sterilized. The story of immigrant mothers who sued county doctors, the state, and the U.S. government after they were pushed into sterilizations while giving birth at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center during the 1960s and 70s. Led by an intrepid, 26-year-old Chicana lawyer and armed with hospital records secretly gathered by a whistle-blowing young doctor, the mothers faced public exposure and stood up to powerful institutions in the name of justice. <http://www.nomasbebesmovie.com/>. **Panel Discussion of "No Más Bebés" Documentary**, 2016, 1:05:30, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RV-tPSTnWoU>;

**A History of Hispanic Achievement in America** (Eight 28m videos) <https://www.ambrosevideo.com/screening-room/22-HHA> [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10228676/plotsummary?ref=tt\\_ov\\_pl](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10228676/plotsummary?ref=tt_ov_pl)

### **NEW IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

[American Muslim Streaming Video – 2018 Kanopy Streaming Video](#)  
<https://multcolib.bibliocommons.com/v2/record/S152C1742827>

**The Arab Americans** PBS 84m. *A Thousand And One Journeys: The Arab Americans* is the untold story of almost 200 years of the contributions of those who immigrated to the United States from the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf have made to the American fabric. The film vividly paints a portrait of the Arab-American immigrant experience through the stories of people who, like all Americans, immigrated in pursuit of the American dream. Interviews include Senator George Mitchell, Jamie Farr, General John Abizaid, Anthony Shadid, Helen Thomas and more. With historical immigration patterns as background, the film explores the contributions and personal stories of Arab-Americans an important part of the collective American <https://shop.pbs.org/the-arab-americans-dvd/product/ARAM402>

**Next Door Neighbors: Little Kurdistan, USA** PBS 2008, 27m *Little Kurdistan, USA* looks at Nashville's Kurdish population, which is the largest in North America. Kurdish refugees first arrived in Nashville in 1976 and have since established a vibrant community here. The documentary examines how our Kurdish neighbors have adapted to life in Nashville including the struggles refugees face as they build new lives in a new home and reflects on the journey Kurds make as they become Kurdish Americans. <https://shop.pbs.org/next-door-neighbors-little-kurdistan-usa-dvd/product/NNLK401>

***Separated. Children at the Border.*** This documentary tells the true inside story of controversial immigration policies of the Trump and Obama administrations, and reveals the journeys of the children separated from their parents. [DVD – 2018, DVD 304.873 SEPARATED](#); [Hoopla Streaming Video](#)

### **Not documentaries/other**

***Stand and Deliver*** [Edward James Olmos] 1h43m. 1988: Warner Brothers

***The Great Debaters.*** [Denzel Washington, Forest Whitaker] 2h4m. 2007: The Weinstein Co.

***Do the Right Thing.*** Double Disk. 120m. 1989: Universal Home Video.

***The Best of Enemies.*** 132 min. 2019: STX Entertainment Films.

***East Side Sushi*** [Latina becomes sushi chef]1h46m. 2014: HBO, Samuel Goldwyn Films

**6-3-20 10 films offering insight into Black struggles.** <https://www.indiewire.com/2020/06/watch-black-protest-films-stream-of-the-day-1202235047/>

**41 Racism/social justice films.** [https://www.imdb.com/list/ls098468081/?ref=rls\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/list/ls098468081/?ref=rls_1)

**28 Inspiring Black History Movies/TV Series/Documentaries.**  
[https://www.imdb.com/list/ls098460345/?ref=rls\\_2](https://www.imdb.com/list/ls098460345/?ref=rls_2)