

# PUBLIC TELEVISION CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month, time to honor the culture and contributions of black men and women whose lives have helped shape the course of American history. Public Television participates in this national month-long event with the following programs focusing on the black experience:

"Gotta Make This Journey: Sweet Honey in the Rock"—This presentation profiles the current five members of the female activist singing group, "Sweet Honey in the Rock." Evolving from a workshop at the Washington, D.C., Black Repertory Theatre Company, the group's blend of music and special concern has attracted a growing audience of diverse races and circumstances over its 10-year history. Airs Friday, Feb. 1 at 10 p.m.

"And Still I Rise: Maya Angelou" — Writer/historian Dr. Nell Painter talks with noted author Maya Angelou about what it means to be black and female in America. Ms. Angelou also discusses her travels to Africa and offers her own views for self-realization and self-fulfillment. Airs Sunday, Feb. 3 at 10 p.m.

"Tony Brown's Journal"—Once again, Tony Brown, host and executive producer of "Tony Brown's Journal," presents a special four-part "Black History Month Tribute." This year, Brown presents "Thank

God!," an examination of the evolution of music in the black church. Airs Thursday at 10:30 p.m.

"Hands That Picked Cotton"—This documentary visits two communities in the rural south, 28 years after the Civil Rights Movement began in 1957. In one community, blacks are just now gaining con-



rol of their local school board, in the other community blacks have held such power for more than a decade. "Hands That Picked Cotton" explores how blacks mobilize and gain political support in the rural south and once in office, what they can do to effect change. Airs Friday, Feb. 8 at 10 p.m.

"Forum on Black America 1985"—Black participation in the

American economy is the focus of this hour-long "town meeting" with particular discussion on the American labor force, new technology, unemployment, affirmative action and the growing rift between black Americans within the economic mainstream and those outside. Roger

Sweet Honey in the Rock Wilkins, a former U.S. assistant attorney general now with the Institute for Policy Studies, is the moderator, as a panel of six prominent black Americans and a studio audience of Detroit residents discuss the political, economic and cultural status of black America. Airs Monday, Feb. 11 at 10 p.m.

Wonderworks: Words by Heart"—The first prime-time television entertainment series for preteens and their families offers the two-part presentation, "Words by Heart." Based on the award-winning book by Quida Sebestyen, this is the story of irrepressible 12-year-old Lena Sills and her family—the only blacks living in a small midwestern community at the turn of the century. Starring Charlotte Rae, Robert Hooks, and Academy Award-winner Alfre Woodard. Airs Monday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

Great Performances: "Live From Lincoln Cen-

ter: Andre Watts in Recital"—Noted pianist Andre Watts performs the works of Beethoven, Chopin, Gershwin, Debussy and Ravel, in a solo recital at Avery Fisher Hall. Airs Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 8:30 p.m.

American Playhouse: "Charlotte Forten's Mission"—Public television's acclaimed weekly drama series presents the inspiring true story of Charlotte Forten, a young black woman who sought to give black children a decent education. Despite lifelong ill health, Forten made it her mission during and after the Civil War to educate black children and, consequently, give them a chance at a better life. This film is written by Samm-Art Williams, directed by Bill Duke and stars Melba Moore and Glynn Turman. Airs Monday, Feb. 25 at 9 p.m.

## EXHIBIT AT CHARLESTON HEIGHTS GALLERY

Charleston Heights Arts Center Gallery presents a very special art exhibition during Black History Month. A touring exhibit from the Arizona Commission for the Arts, Geometry In Motion: Afro-American Quiltmakers will be on display Feb. 3 thru 28.

Most of us are familiar with quilts. These bed coverings are often works of art as well as useful household furnishings.

The quilts in this exhibition were made by Black women from several towns in Pinal County, Ariz. They are preserving a creative tradition which has some of its roots in West Africa.

Most Anglo-American quiltmakers judge their work by such criteria as complexity, neatness, precision and symmetry. Looking at the quilts in this show, one cannot escape the feeling that a different set of rules is being applied. Color and color contrast become very important. Precise repetition of design is often replaced by improvisation on a theme. In this sense, the quilts are similar in spirit to jazz

"William Grant Still Trialblazer From the South"—"Roots" author Alex Haley hosts and narrates this musical profile of William Grant

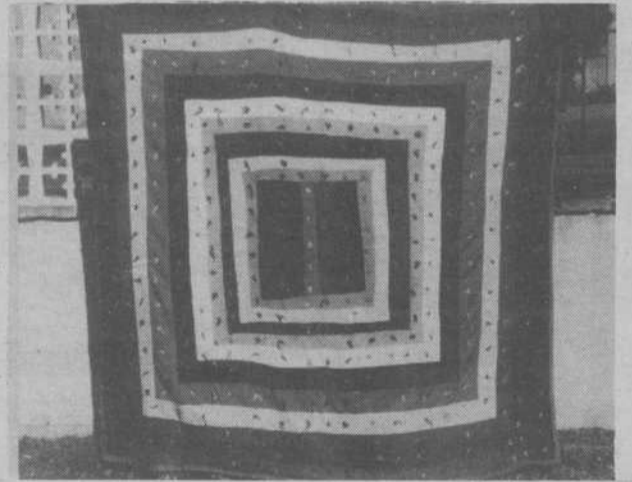
sent by the New York City Opera. In 1931, his "Afro-American Symphony" was the first symphony composed by a black that was pre-



Maya Angelou and Nell Painter

Still, the 'Dean of American Black Composers,' who broke new ground as a classical composer in the 1930s and '40s. Still was the first American, not to mention the first black, to have an opera pre-

sent by a major world orchestra, and in 1936, Still became the first black to conduct a major symphony—the Los Angeles Symphony. Airs Monday, Feb. 25 at 10:30 p.m.



and other forms of Afro-American music.

Gallery hours are

Monday-Thursday 1-9 p.m. and Friday & Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

## WESTSIDE CREDIT UNION OFFERS MORE SERVICES

In addition to paying ones utility bills at its 418 West Madison Ave. office, the Westside Federal Credit Union now offers free legal advice and Notary Public service to area residents for their convenience.

Attorney Andreas Barbero will be available at the Credit Union office at the end of each month to provide free legal advice to local residents. Individuals are urged to call the Credit Union office at 648-4626 for information on dates

and time Barbero will be available.

The Credit Union office secretary, Laura Brooks, is a Notary Public and her fee ranges from \$2.00 and under depending on the type and amount of service desired.

The Westside Federal Credit Union also publishes a monthly news bulletin that is distributed to area churches and to the Credit Union office the first week of each month. H.P. Fitzgerald is the editor/publisher of the publication.



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