

# PUBLIC TELEVISION SALUTES "BLACK HISTORY MONTH" WITH PROFILES AND PERFORMANCES

Public television celebrates Black History Month this February with an array of programs highlighting some of America's top talents—past and present.

The special month is part of public television's ongoing commitment to provide programming that showcases the contributions of all Americans.

World-renowned opera singer Kathleen Battle and trumpet virtuoso Wynton Marsalis come together for a showstopping performance in **Great Performances'** 90-minute special, **"Kathleen Battle and Wynton Marsalis: Baroque Duet,"** airing February 7. The performance/documentary also portrays the lives of the two artists, with segments depicting visits with their families. On February 12, inventive choreographers, Bill T. Jones, and the dance company he founded with his late partner in **"Dance in America: Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane and Company."**

A legendary tap dancer is the subject of **The Dancing Man—Peg Leg Bates.** The one-hour film, airing February 10, depicts the life of Clayton "Peg Leg" Bates, who, despite losing his leg at age 12, went on to become a jazz dance great and a pioneering African-American entrepreneur. Gregory Hines,

Ruth Brown, Honi Coles, and Bates himself are among those interviewed.

On February 13, Pulitzer Prize-winning syndicated columnist Clarence Page explores an old debate within the black community: Should black Americans look to the outside for help or depend on their own resources to improve their condition? **Black American Conservatism: An Exploration of ideas** traces the history of the black conservative movement, from its pre-Civil War roots to present-day beliefs.

**Evening at Pops** offers a special performance by John Williams and the Boston Pops Orchestra featuring the music of the Civil War and civil rights movement. **"Song of Freedom,"** airing February 19, includes special guests actor Roscoe Lee Browne, folk singer Odetta, soprano Shirley Verrett, and the Boys Choir of Harlem.

Black History Month also features new and repeat presentations from **Austin City Limits**, public television's showcase for American music. Consummate bluesman and guitarist Albert Collins shares the bill with guitar virtuoso Danny Gatton on February 15; jazz artist Stanley Jordan encores on February 2.

Race relations continue to

be a theme of **Sesame Street's** 23rd season. In February, special segments features a performance by Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers, and the musical group En Vogue, whose members embark on an adventure with the Muppets.

**Chasing A Rainbow: The Life of Josephine Baker** tells the story of the remarkable woman who was one of the first nude dancers at the Folies Bergere, an active member of the French resistance, a symbol of new freedom for women, and a tireless civil rights campaigner. Airing February 9, the film chronicles her extraordinary career through film, photographs, music, and interviews with those who knew her.

One of America's greatest singers of Jazz and popular music is profiled in **American Masters "Sarah Vaughan: The Divine One."** This film, airing February 23, traces the life of Sarah Vaughan from her childhood days singing and playing organ at the Zion Baptist Church

to her recordings with jazz greats Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker.

**Black Men: Uncertain Futures,** airing February 27, examines why high school dropouts, unemployment, and crime rates are so high among young men in minority communities and what impact these statistics have

on black communities and society at large. Spotlights in the program are the growing number of organizations and individuals working to providing help to these young men.

**The Road to Las Vegas: A Black Perspective** narrated by Greg Morris airs February 8 at 9:30 p.m. and February 23 at 5

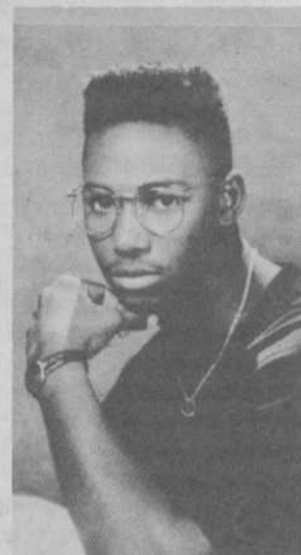
p.m. The program documents the migration of black families from Tallulah, Louisiana, and Fordyce, Arkansas to Las Vegas and depicts the continuity, adaptation, and change of families from these two communities as they migrated to the new and different environment of Las Vegas.

## ALPHAS BEAUTILION SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

In 1906 at Cornell University in New York State, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was organized as the first Black Fraternity on a college campus. In 1966 Bothers of the fraternity organized a graduate Chapter here in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Las Vegas Graduate Chapter now announces the kick-off of its 1992 Beautillion Scholarship Project. A selected group of young men who will be graduating seniors in High School this year, will be involved in this project. The Beautillion scholarship project consist of many worthwhile educational and social events and activities that will broaden experienced, develop relationships and encourage future achievements/successes by the participants. They will be assisted in developing and exercising attributes of self confidence, integrity, creativity, leadership and general knowledge.

In May, 1992, the project will culminate all activities with the Beautillion Scholarship Ball. The Ball will recognize the achievements of those selected young men by formally presenting them to our community at a Black Tie Dinner Affair. They will also be awarded various scholarship moneys toward their continued education.

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STACEY PIPPENS

## LIBRARY DISTRICT

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day, February 15, 10:30 a.m. in the Young People's story room.

Women of color will be honored through music and film at the Sunrise Library, 5400 Harris, Thursday, February 6, 3:45 p.m.

In the Young People's Library, "Roots," Alex Haley's dynamic saga of African-American family, continues at the West Las Vegas Library. The series continues through February 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 6 p.m. in the Young People's story room.

In observance of Black History Month, listen to African-American stories, music and films at the Spring Valley Library, 4280 S. Jones Blvd., Tuesday, February 25 in the Young People's story room.

Join the Famous African-Americans Celebration Thursday, February 27, 6:30 p.m., at the Clark County Library to honor famous African-Americans such as Langston Hughes, John Steptoe and Eloise Greedfield in the Young People's story room.

All Programs are free and open to the public.

## ELDORADO

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idea of what goes on in school. Among activities in the works, the group plans to help monitor security cameras, conduct a membership drive and hold a T-shirt sale. Principal Gail Dixon has been receptive to the group's ideas, she added.

Newly elected officers are Aida Brown, president; Sue Trombley, first vice president; Gail Dixon, second vice president; Pat Clep, secretary/treasurer; Vivian Rosatto, historian; and Rudy Schuller, teacher representative. About 20 parents are involved so far, with plans to encourage more participation.

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