As communities across the nation struggle with systemic issues of inequity, Houston Public Media remains committed to educate, raise awareness, and foster meaningful dialogue.
Remembering George Floyd

Houstonians came together to stand up for unity and change following the senseless killing of George Floyd. When civil unrest erupted across the country, our Houston Public Media reporters and producers understood the responsibility that came with covering this moment. As a community-supported media organization, our tools are accountability journalism and human-centered storytelling. Your commitment to our mission enabled our team to be on the frontline of protests, convening important, timely conversations with listeners, city leaders and law enforcement through live, call-in Houston Matters broadcasts on weekdays and 24/7 in our newsroom. We will continue to examine how policies impact inequity for people of color.
George Floyd’s Public Viewing in Houston

Houston Public Media’s Jen Rice was heard nationally on NPR’s Morning Edition, offering listeners across the country perspective on how Houston, George Floyd’s hometown, is remembering him.

Live Special Coverage of George Floyd’s Homegoing Service

Houston Public Media’s Eddie Robinson and Ernie Manouse co-anchored the live stream of George Floyd’s funeral online and on News 88.7. NPR featured this coverage on their breaking news channel and made it available to public media stations across the system.

PBS NewsHour Coverage from Fountain of Praise Church

News 88.7’s Matt Harab shared key moments from the Fountain of Praise Church podium. Harab told PBS NewsHour Anchor Judy Woodruff the larger message was one of action, specifically on meaningful reform. He discussed the ways local leaders were responding and relating to the climate.

Remembering George Floyd

Houston Public Media’s Education Reporter Laura Isensee spoke to George Floyd’s second grade teacher, Waynel Sexton, about her memories of the former Houstonian.

Sexton said she remembers an 8-year-old boy inspired by the legacy of the first African American Supreme Court justice, Thurgood Marshall.
Weekly Radio Programs & Stories

For decades Houston Public Media has presented a diverse range of perspectives on topics and issues that are critical to the future of our community, state and nation.

“It is in the public interest to encourage the development of programming that involves creative risks and that addresses the needs of unserved and underserved audiences.”

The 1967 Public Broadcasting Act
In-Depths
In-depths organized by the communities we serve.

- Nigerian Couple 'Heartbroken' As Families Face Indefinite Visa Ban
- Houston Private School Alumni Demand Anti-Racist Policies And Curriculum
- In Houston's Chinatown, Coronavirus Fears Among Asian Americans Continue To Harm Businesses
- Excluded From Federal Aid, Houston's Out-Of-Work Immigrant Families Struggle To Pay The Bills
- Texas COVID-19 Cases In Immigrant Detention Quadruple In Two Weeks, As ICE Transfers Continue
- As Access To Asylum Narrows, These Alternatives Are Some Immigrants' Only Hope

Houston Matters with Craig Cohen

*Houston Matters with Craig Cohen*, the nationally acclaimed talk show on News 88.7, provides a platform for listeners to express their frustration, fears and hopes around systemic issues. The daily call-in show convenes relevant conversations with appointed and elected officials, activists, professors and law enforcement personnel.

- The concept of **microaggressions** — what they are and how they occur across race, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnicity.
- The **Latino experience with law enforcement** and how it might resemble and differ from that of African Americans.
- We talk with some activists about how **racial and LGBTQ equality interact**.

Houston Matters: Special Edition with Ernie Manouse

During the new listener-driven special edition of Houston Matters, host Ernie Manouse examined how to start a conversation about racism with children, the impact of George Floyd’s death in the context of our country’s historical experience of racism, and Houston’s reaction to the national conversation.

- The **sociology of racial discrimination**
- Guests discuss the recent **U.S. Supreme Court ruling protecting LGBTQ employees**
- **How to talk to kids about racism**

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Special Guest
**Dr. Rheeda Walker**
Psychologist, Professor, & Researcher
University of Houston

Were you at the George Floyd Protest? SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

LISTEN | Stream on News 88.7
ONLINE | listen.kprhouston.org/live
CALL | 713.440.8900

Houston Public Media
WPE 90.1
TV & Digital Programming

Snapshot of July, August, and September Broadcast Programming

Houston Public Media broadcasts a lineup of programs that deepen our understanding of society’s challenges in real time. The programs create a space where communities can come together for timely conversations.

### July
- The Vote
- Unladylike2020
- Latino Americans, pts 1 & 2
- John Lewis – Get in the Way
- Congressman John Lewis and Andrew Aydin: The Story of March

### August
- Boss: The Black Experience in Business
- Latino Americans, pts 3 & 4
- Latino Americans, pts 5 & 6
- Henry Louis Gates: Uncovering America
- African Americans Many Rivers to Cross

### September
- Independent Lens: Tell Them We are Rising, The Story of Black Colleges and Universities
- Frontline: Policing the Police 2020
- Building the American Dream
- Frontline: Race, Poverty, and the Pandemic
- POV: Whose Streets
- Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise
- Frontline: Growing up Poor

“Documentaries and films alone can not change the world, but the people who watch them can.”

Syrian filmmaker, Waad al-Kateab

#TrailblazersPBS

“Race Matters: American in Crisis”:
A PBS NewsHour Special

The one-hour program anchored by Judy Woodruff focused on the frustration pouring out onto American streets in response to outrage about police brutality, and America’s deep systemic racial disparities in the economy, education, criminal justice system, housing and health care, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Latino Americans

LATINO AMERICANS is a landmark six-hour documentary featuring interviews with nearly 100 Latinos and more than 500 years of history.

It is the first major documentary series for television to chronicle the rich and varied history and experiences of Latinos, who have become, with more than 50 million people, the largest minority group in the United States.
PBS KIDS Children's Programming

PBS KIDS leads the way in inclusiveness in children's programming with series grounded in characters and storylines that reflect the diversity, representation, and culture of our neighbors.

- **Molly of Denali**, the new animated adventure series is the first in the nation to feature an Alaska Native lead character.

- **AJ Gadgets** from **Hero Elementary** is a science-loving kid with superpowers who happens to be autistic. Creators of the show wanted to highlight a neurodiverse character while also showing he is just one of the gang.

- **Let's Go Luna** features countries, cultures and customs from around the globe. The program encourages kids ages 4-7 to learn about world cultures while developing social skills.

- **Daniel's Tigers Neighborhood** shares online resources to focus on how you can help children value and appreciate **ways in which we are alike and ways in which we are different**.

- **Sesame Street**: [11 Moments On ‘Sesame Street' That Championed Diversity And Inclusion](#)

- **Arthur**: [PBS Show ‘Arthur’ Introduces Children To Same-Sex Marriage](#)

**Award Winning Series and Collections**: Timely, topical collections focused around learning objectives.

- **Confronting Anti-Black Racism Collection**
- **Confronting Bias: Ethics in the Classroom**
- **Latino Americans**
- **Arthur: All About Community**
- **PBS American Portrait**
- **Teaching Women's Suffrage**
- **Understanding LGBTQ+ Identity: A Toolkit for Educators**
Houston Public Media’s Ongoing Commitment

**New Local Program**

Houston Public Media is evaluating production of a new weekly local program centered around issues of race. Our community requires a place to have these discussions, and our team is in a great position to facilitate integral conversations.

**Town Square with Ernie Manouse**

These days, news changes quickly and it’s more important than ever to keep up. Every day, *Town Square with Ernie Manouse* brings you the information you need to know, and the newsmakers who are making change happen. From the coronavirus to social justice, *Town Square* explores critical issues in-depth, and gives listeners a chance to join in the conversation by calling into the show or sending questions via email. Relevant information in a conversational tone, guided by listener calls. Join *Town Square with Ernie Manouse* weekdays at 3pm.

**Houston Public Media DEI Task Force**

In February, we celebrated 70 years of service to Greater Houston communities and rededicated our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through two of our three station-wide strategic goals for 2020-2025: Brand Awareness and Commitment to Culture.

We established a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force driven by staff with the executive team’s full support and involvement. DEI Task Force members will serve on station-wide hiring committees and help identify professional development opportunities that provide opportunities for team members at all levels of employment.

**Houston Public Media DEI Recruiting**

**Public Media Village**

This is a NPR, APM, PBS and PRX system-wide effort to raise the profile of public media organizations to inspire talent recruitment of journalists of color. Journalists are encouraged submit their resume to be entered into the a national database and shared with participating stations in public media across the country.

- 60+ national participating stations
- 4 Texas stations participating (Houston Public Media, KERA in Dallas, KUT in Austin, and Texas Public Radio in San Antonio)
- 2,000+ journalists of color registered

**Building the Pipeline – TSU & Prairie View A&M Student Workers**

The task force will be pursuing a relationship with TSU and Prairie View A&M University to recruit journalism interns on an ongoing basis, with the possibility that it creates a path to full time employment.

**Houston Public Media Foundation Board Recruitment**

**Steering Committee – building the board of the future**

The task force is working with the HPMF Steering Committee to define the Board of the Future with the goal of diversifying board composition and the pipeline for future members.
In the Works: National

A Seat at the Table
Houston Public Media will be airing the GPB program, *A Seat at the Table*, in September. This weekly series is hosted by intelligent, outspoken, unapologetic African-American women. Hosts Denene Millner, Monica Pearson, and Christine White bring their unique perspectives through candid conversations about family, careers, health, finance, beauty, relationships and more.

PBS Diversity Plan Fall and Beyond

September 2020
• Beginning September 12th, PBS is planning to air historical content every Saturday, including titles from Ken Burns, Ric Burns, Skip Gates, Stanley Nelson and other producers with themes that will help us contemplate where we are today, based on the perspective of how we got here. These programs will initially be free to stream and then find a home on Passport.
• *Building the American Dream* documentary captures a turning point as a movement forms to fight widespread construction industry injustices.

October 2020
• October 6th - Latino Vote: The Tipping Vote
• October 13th - Driving While Black (Ric Burns)
• The Hispanic Heritage Awards
• PBS Kids Talk about Race & Racism
• Freedom Riders: American Experience
• Freedom Summer: American Experience
• Not Done: Women Remaking America

2021 Pipeline
• *The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song* (February 2021/Skip Gates)
• Gospel Concert with John Legend (March 2021)
• *Ali* (September / Ken Burns)
• *The Slave Trade* (September / Stanley Nelson)
• Philly DA (Tuesdays after *Finding Your Roots*)
• *Independent Lens - Women in Blue* (Minneapolis police department’s first female Police Chief)
This all-encompassing dedication to diversity, equity, and inclusion is made possible by our community of donors, foundations, and partners