

American Archive

OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Greetings from the AAPB!

You've seen Julia Child filet fish and chop chicken, but have you ever witnessed her mad editing skills? No? Well, then, the AAPB short video [Every Picture Tells a Story](#) is a must-see! In addition to watching Julia wield her cleaver to edit footage of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, you'll experience an emotional and inspiring journey through the history of American public broadcasting that underscores the importance of its preservation.

Reuben Jackson (1956-2024)

Our friend and colleague music critic, poet, teacher, and jazz curator Reuben Jackson passed away on Friday, February 16, after suffering complications from a recent stroke. The host of Vermont Public Radio's popular [Friday Night Jazz with Reuben Jackson](#) from 2012 to 2018, Reuben, or "Pierce and Mary Jackson's music-lovin' son," as he often identified himself on air, graciously worked with AAPB a few years ago to archive his series and select 17 of the 3-hour programs to share online with listeners. The programs bear witness to Reuben's deep knowledge of jazz history, his eclectic tastes and willingness to transcend genre boundaries, and the great joy he imparted to those who knew him. His shows are finely crafted works of art in themselves. "I did put my heart into that program," he wrote us. "My Mom and Dad would be so thrilled." We are deeply honored to help celebrate Reuben's life through this collection.



The AAPB Celebrates Black History Month

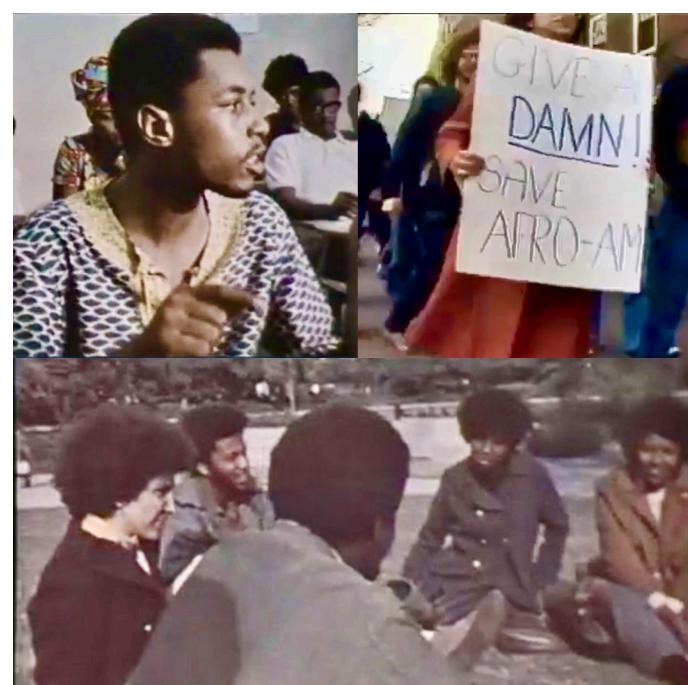
The American Archive of Public Broadcasting features thousands of archived programs dedicated to Black history and perspectives. Visit our [Black History Month blog post](#) for a tip-of-the-iceberg rundown of related content!

Of particular note this month are two new exhibits. [The Odyssey of Black Studies in Public Broadcasting](#) explores the history of Black Studies programs at colleges and universities as they were discussed and presented in public radio and television broadcasts archived in the AAPB collection. Curator Pheolyn Allen's selections trace the Black Studies Movement from student protests in 1969 to the 50th anniversary of its founding.

In addition, the new exhibit [After the Fire: NewsHour Coverage of Civil Unrest in America, 1991-2021](#) explores the ways in which the *NewsHour* has attempted to understand and unpack civil unrest in America. Curator Kate Mitchell offers this personal reflection on what motivated her work on the exhibit:

In the early stages of this project, I was fascinated by the extensive coverage that the PBS NewsHour gave the L.A. Riots and how it compared to later coverage of other moments of civil unrest over the last two decades. While the protests and riots lasted six days, the NewsHour discussed the unrest and its causes and effects for weeks and continued to reference it years after. Even today, its legacy continues. For example, the L.A. Riots inspired Charlayne Hunter-Gault's series Can We All Get Along?, a title which echoed Rodney King's call for peace following the verdict. The series later became Race Matters, which first aired in 1995 and which the NewsHour frequently filmed during the height of the Black Lives Matter protests approximately ten years later.

After examining how the NewsHour approached other events, such as the Occupy Wall Street Movement (2011-2012), the Ferguson Protests



(2014), the Baltimore Protests (2015), and Charlottesville (2017), I found that none of their coverage came close to the level of attention paid to the L.A. Riots. Through my exhibition, I hoped to discover why.

To find out where Kate's work took her, be sure to [explore the full exhibit!](#)

AAPB Collections: New & Notable



[Biography Hawai'i Collection](#)

The 80 videos in this collection are comprised primarily of raw interview footage shot for use in *Biography Hawai'i*, a series of documentary films that focused on the life stories of Hawai'i residents whose lives have had a lasting impact on the state. An [AAPB blog post from PBPF Fellow Kimo Nichols](#) offers additional insight into the digitization of this unique collection.



[Weather Whys Collection](#)

Created and broadcast by KGOU Radio in Oklahoma, this daily series of two-minute episodes from the early 1990s explores some of the phenomena around the unpredictable and severe weather of that state, along with other meteorological topics. With its unique glimpse into meteorology from this period, the program allows one to see advancements in both meteorological technology and knowledge.

Dig Deeper with the AAPB

On January 24, 2024, Native American writer, poet and painter N. Scott Momaday passed away. Momaday was the first Native American to win the Pulitzer Prize, which was awarded in 1969 for his novel *House Made of Dawn*. Momaday lent his voice and perspective to many public broadcasting programs, both local and national. Here we highlight two items available to stream in the Online Reading Room, each from a state where the artist lived and worked:

In this 2014 episode of [Report from Santa Fe](#) from KENW-TV (Portales, NM), Momaday talks with host Lorene Mills about winning the Pulitzer and what came after.

In this 2006 episode of [OK In-Depth](#) from KGOU (Norman, OK), correspondent Susan Shanon talks with Momaday about artwork of his that was on display at the Jacobson Native Art Center.



From the Desk of...

We close out this issue with a note from the desk of AAPB archivist Caroline Mango. We asked Caroline to consider what her work means to her and to explore connections in the AAPB:

One of the reasons I became an archivist was plain and simple: frustration. Growing up in Northern Brazil, I was constantly reminded that our past was an afterthought; as I observed our beautiful 19th-century buildings decaying to the point of collapse or when I hit dead ends trying to research the many indigenous groups that once occupied my city, it was hard not to feel a sense of loss.

Today, I pride myself on being one of many who work tirelessly not only to preserve the past, but to increase access to rich content that highlights social issues, marginalized communities, art, and nature. It is even more exciting when I discover archival gems that connect these subjects to my home country and, more specifically, to my land, the Amazon.

There are currently more than 2,000 records related to Brazil in the AAPB. Created by stations from all over the United States, these materials range from the 1960s to the 2000s. While it was difficult to pick just a few to share here, I feel the following items speak to topics of discussion that are still very much relevant to Brazil and the world:

In this broadcast from 1988, [The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour](#) dedicates more than 35 minutes to a segment focusing on the destruction of the Amazon rainforest. The report actually starts in my city of Belém.

This episode from the 1965 National Educational Television documentary [History of the Negro People](#) focuses on Brazil and features interviews with Brazilian novelist Jorge Amado and other experts on the myth of "racial paradise."

In this episode of [Cinema Then, Cinema Now](#) from 1989, host Jerry Carlson interviews Richard Stam of New York University and Ze Gatti of the University of Santa Catarina in Brazil about the Brazilian comedy *Macunaima*. The 1969 film, which explores socio-political and indigenous themes in a surrealistic manner, is considered to be one of the best examples of the Cinema Novo movement in the country.

PS: Follow Us on Mastodon and Reddit!



The AAPB is now on both [Mastodon](#) (@amarchivepub@mastodon.social) and [Reddit](#) (r/amarchivepub).

Be sure to follow us on these platforms for the latest and greatest!

PPS: The Oscars Will Be Broadcast on March 10!

Before you watch, be sure to check out [our Oscar blog post](#)!

Ideas for future AAPB collections or exhibits? Questions about how to digitize your station's items with the AAPB? Email us at aapb_notifications@wgbh.org!

The [American Archive of Public Broadcasting](#), a collaboration between the Library of Congress and GBH Archives, coordinates a national effort to digitally preserve and make accessible significant historical content created by public media over the past seven decades.



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