

A collage of cast members and historical documents. The background is a light beige color with faint, torn paper textures. Several portraits of cast members are arranged in a collage: a man with white hair in a suit (top left), a woman with long dark hair (top center), a woman with long brown hair (top right), a man with dark hair and a goatee (middle center), a woman with short dark hair (middle right), a man with glasses (bottom right), and a man with a white beard and glasses (bottom left). The title 'finding your roots' is written in a large, bold, dark brown font, with 'finding' on the top line, 'your' on the second line, and 'roots' on the third line. The text is set against a background of faint, torn paper textures.

# finding your roots

with  
**HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.**

Season 2

9 x 60 HD



PBS.

INTERNATIONAL

# finding your roots

with  
**HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.**  
Season 2

9 x 60 **HD**

---

CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President  
PBS International  
10 Guest Street  
Boston, MA 02135 USA

TEL: +1-617-208-0735  
FAX: +1-617-208-0783

jt Koch@pbs.org  
pbsinternational.org

From the premiere of his groundbreaking series *African American Lives* (2006) through the first season of *Finding Your Roots* (2012), noted Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. has been helping people discover long-lost relatives hidden for generations within the branches of their family trees. Professor Gates utilizes a team of genealogists to reconstruct the paper trail left behind by our ancestors and the world's leading geneticists to decode our DNA and help us travel thousands of years into the past to discover the origins of our earliest forebears.

Joining Gates in this new season of *Finding Your Roots* is a diverse group of 26 guests, including award winning journalist Anderson Cooper, tennis great Billie Jean King, legendary author Stephen King, multi-platinum selling rapper Nas, and many more. With these guests and others, Gates continues his quest to understand our collective American identity, bringing to life the family histories of African American, Asian, Chinese, Greek, Indian, Irish, Italian, Jewish, and Latin American guests alike.

In each episode, Gates focuses on the specific ethnic roots, cultural traditions, and deep interplay of family influence and genetics of three guests, including: celebrity chefs Tom Colicchio, Aaron Sanchez, and Ming Tsai, who cook the food of their ancestors and discover family members who have shaped their lives—and America's cuisine; Derek Jeter, Billie Jean King, and Rebecca Lobo, three of America's greatest athletes whose determination and love of sports were deeply shaped by their families, but who were all cut off from their true origins—raising the question of whether champions are made or born; actress Tina Fey, humorist David Sedaris, and journalist George Stephanopolous, all of whom look into their Greek American ancestry; and American playwright Tony Kushner, singer-songwriter Carole King, and lawyer Alan Dershowitz, who not only share a Jewish heritage, but a history of perseverance in the face of withering opposition.

Gates also explores the history of the Vanderbilt family with Anderson Cooper, discovers a web of intimate relationships between Nas' slave ancestors and their masters, and traces Sting's roots back centuries in England where we find that being close to the seat of the Empire doesn't mean that life is any better.

New advancements in DNA testing allow Gates and his team to use genetic genealogy to make unprecedented discoveries about the past in Season Two, including being able to identify tribal Native American ancestry, solve paternity mysteries, and pinpoint the geographic origins of hidden ancestry. These new achievements in DNA testing take center stage with an entire episode devoted to exploring the possibilities, all the while featuring the stories of actress Jessica Alba, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, and even Gates, himself.

---

150068

CREDITS

*Executive Producers:* Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Peter Kunhardt, Dyllan McGee, and Julie Anderson  
*Executive Producer in Charge for WNET:* Stephen Segaller

*Senior Producer:* John Maggio

*A production of Kunhardt McGee Productions, Inkwell Films and WNET in association with Ark Media*

*Photos:* Ken Burns photo by Cable Risdon; Tina Fey photo by Joseph Sinnott; Henry Louis Gates, Jr. photo by Peter Simon.



PBS®

INTERNATIONAL