



**TELL THEM
WE ARE
RISING**

**THE STORY OF
BLACK COLLEGES
& UNIVERSITIES**

1 x 90 HD



PBS

INTERNATIONAL



sundance

film festival

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2017

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The story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the United States began before the Civil War and influenced the course of the country yet remains one of America's most important untold stories, until now.

Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities is the first and only feature documentary to research, gather, and share a rich mosaic of stories that relay the history of HBCUs.

The telling of this story is long overdue as HBCUs have been at the margins of the American collective conscience despite their role in shaping black life, dismantling desegregation and birthing and growing the black middle class. *Tell Them We Are Rising's* compelling narrative and original footage explore how HBCUs have touched all Americans, regardless of race.

HBCUs in the United States are at a crossroads due to financial stress and many face possible closure as Americans question their relevance in a post-segregated nation. This documentary provides a forum to explore and discuss a path forward for America's 100-plus HBCUs, and inspires debate, conversation, pride and memories that are necessary to understand the past and chart the future of HBCUs.

Tell Them We Are Rising sheds new light on the inspirational path HBCUs have traveled from their inception as schools to educate the families of formerly enslaved Americans to the challenges they face today for investment and understanding.

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CREDITS

Director, Producer: Stanley Nelson
Producers: Cyndee Readdean, Stacey Holman
Writer: Marcia Smith
Image: Anthony Santagati



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