



finding your roots

with
HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

Season 5 | 10 x 60 **HD**
Seasons 1-5 | 48 x 60 **HD**



PBS.

INTERNATIONAL

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Today's brightest personalities discover the surprising stories buried within their own families in the fifth season of the critically acclaimed PBS series *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.*

This season features an array of celebrated guests who are cultural trailblazers with fascinating family stories, including Academy Award winner Marisa Tomei; Emmy and Golden Globe Award winners Felicity Huffman, Laura Linney and S. Epatha Merkerson; and actors Michael K. Williams, Andy Samberg, Chloe Sevigny and Kal Penn. Season Five also includes superstar author George R.R. Martin; acclaimed journalists Christiane Amanpour, Ann Curry, Joe Madison and Lisa Ling; bestselling author and Facebook executive Sheryl Sandberg; TV hosts Seth Meyers and Michael Strahan; artists Marina Abramovic and Kehinde Wiley; politicians Marco Rubio, Tulsi Gabbard and Paul Ryan; Academy Award-winning filmmakers Alejandro Innaritu and Michael Moore; and comedians Tig Notaro and Sarah Silverman.

The roots of these guests cover the globe—from Samoa, Nigeria, Taiwan and Sicily to Iran, Ireland, India and Cuba—and almost everywhere in between. Their family trees are filled with compelling characters—slaves and kings, artists and entrepreneurs, abandoned children and missing parents, revolutionaries, soldiers, and a constant flow of ordinary individuals who did remarkable things, laying the groundwork for their successful descendants. Each episode weaves together these stories, gleaned from cutting-edge DNA analysis and old school genealogical detective work. Highlights include a search for Andy Samberg's biological grandparents, the discovery of Michael Strahan's deep European ancestry and the solution to a mystery that has plagued Ann Curry's family for her entire life.

In a very personal episode, the new season also explores Gates' own DNA story and takes a look at how science and history can inspire the next generation. Concerned about the lack of diversity in STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), Gates worked with Penn State professor Nina Jablonski and a committed group of historians, artists, biologists, geneticists, anthropologists, genealogists and educators to develop the "Finding Your Roots Genetics & Genealogy Curriculum," an educational model that invited students to consider who they are genetically, geologically/socio-culturally and intentionally. Once designed, the team piloted the curriculum in a two-week camp environment at two different locations in the U.S., where students developed hypotheses and research protocols. The project video won Facilitator's Choice and Viewer's Choice awards at the 2018 STEM For All Video Showcase, receiving tens of thousands of unique visitors from 154 countries.

Assembling the extensive family trees and family narratives alongside Dr. Gates are DNA expert CeCe Moore (Founder, The DNA Detective) and expert genealogist Johni Cerny (Founder, Lineages).

CREDITS

Writer, Host, and Executive Producer: Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Executive Producers: Dyllan McGee and Peter Kunhardt

Executives In Charge For WETA: Dalton Delan and Anne Harrington

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