



GREATER PHILADELPHIA...GET READY TO FIND YOUR ANCESTORS, GENEALOGY ROADSHOW GEARS UP FOR SEASON 2

– *WHYY, Show Producers Seek Local Residents with Interesting Stories for National Broadcast* –

PHILADELPHIA, PA; JUNE 5, 2014 – PBS and WHYY announced today that **GENEALOGY ROADSHOW**, which first premiered nationally on PBS stations last fall, is seeking local participants to share their families' stories for season two. Final participants will be part of an episode taping in Philadelphia on September 12 and 13.

Part detective story, part emotional journey, **GENEALOGY ROADSHOW** combines history and science to uncover fascinating stories of diverse Americans. The producers are looking for Philadelphia-area residents with an interesting story who want to explore their family's history. Chosen stories will be researched by a team of local experts and will be linked to the larger community history, revealing the rich cultural tapestry of the Philadelphia region and America. Individuals with intriguing stories are encouraged to submit them online through the WHYY website at WHYY.org/genealogy.

Philadelphia has been at the center of some of the biggest and most important events in our country's history. It was not only the meeting place where the founding fathers of the United States signed the Declaration of Independence, but also served as one of the nation's capitals during the Revolutionary War. During the 19th century, the city earned a reputation as a major industrial center and railroad hub that grew from an influx of new residents who emigrated from Europe. One of the most diverse cities in the world, Philadelphia is home to a deep pool of potential participants and stories. Because of this multi-cultural mix, many family histories have turned into family mysteries.

The Philadelphia episode, which will be filmed before a live audience, will air on PBS in 2015 as part of Genealogy Roadshow's second season. The filming location, airdate and a list of the other cities being featured in season two will be announced at a later date.

"Philadelphia is a natural fit for **GENEALOGY ROADSHOW** as one of the oldest cities in America with a rich and deep connection to our country's history. The city provides its residents culture, music and history from all corners of the planet and is one of the most diverse cities in the world. Its beginnings as a capital city and as a major industrial center in our country's early years make Philadelphia ripe for fascinating family mysteries," said executive producer Stuart Krasnow. "We're looking for a diverse mix of stories from locals who want to know more about their history."

"**GENEALOGY ROADSHOW** has become a favorite with our TV viewing audiences since it premiered last fall and we're thrilled that stories from the people of Greater Philadelphia will be featured in season



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two,” said Bill Marrazzo, WHYY president and CEO. “We take pride in the rich cultural history our region has to offer and I look forward to the interesting, multi-faceted mysteries that will be uncovered next season.”

After participants are chosen, genealogy, history and DNA experts will use family heirlooms, letters, pictures, historical documents and other clues to hunt down more information. These experts will enlist the help of local historians to add color and context to the investigations, ensuring every artifact and every name becomes a clue in solving the mystery. Philadelphia residents are invited and encouraged to submit their personal stories as **GENEALOGY ROADSHOW** will unearth family and community secrets, reveal notable relatives and discover unexpected stories that connect the past to the present. Many answers will be revealed on camera before a local audience, in a historic building relevant to the cities – and the participants’ – histories.

GENEALOGY ROADSHOW is produced by Krasnow Productions. President and owner Stuart Krasnow is a long-time television industry veteran, having worked for all of the country’s top broadcasters in news and entertainment, as well as at numerous cable networks as a creator and executive producer. The series is represented in the U.S. by Pat Quinn of Quinn Media Management and packaged with PBS by APA. The series is also Executive Produced by TV veteran Carlos Ortiz who has produced mega hits for almost every major network on television. He brings twenty years of development, and producing experience to the table and returns to PBS for his second season on the series.

THE GENEALOGY ROADSHOW has been a huge hit in Ireland, where national public broadcaster RTE commissioned this original format from producer Big Mountain Productions.

About Big Mountain Productions

Big Mountain originated the Genealogy Roadshow format, and recently aired its second season in Ireland on RTE Television. Run by husband-and-wife team Jane Kelly and Philip McGovern, who are former BBC/RTE executive producers, Big Mountain originates and produces television shows for national broadcasters, specializing in hybrid shows that combine great content and entertainment value including: **The Tenements, Life in the Big House, Craftmaster, Living the Eviction** and the music-mentoring show **Jam**. For more information: bigmountainproductions.com.

About Krasnow Productions

Krasnow Productions is named for its founder and president, Stuart Krasnow, a 30-year veteran television producer. Under his banner, Krasnow has developed and produced series in almost every genre of unscripted television for broadcast and cable networks, including *The Weakest Link*, *Average Joe*, *Dog Eat Dog* and *The Janice Dickinson Modeling Agency*. Krasnow Productions also sold and produced *Searching For...*, one of the first original series to be produced for Oprah Winfrey's OWN network. Additionally Krasnow Productions has sold and produced original projects for NBC, A&E, TBS, GSN, MTV, HGTV, E!, and Fremantlemedia.

About PBS

[PBS](http://www.pbs.org), with its over 350 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches nearly 109 million people through television and over 28 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’ broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s



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most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS' premier children's TV programming and its website, pbskids.org, are parents' and teachers' most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at www.pbs.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or through our [apps for mobile devices](#). Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following [PBS Pressroom on Twitter](#).

About WHYY

For nearly sixty years, WHYY has been Greater Philadelphia's leading public media provider, serving southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and all of Delaware. WHYY takes pride in bringing audiences news when they need it, entertainment when they want it, and education when it counts- on television, radio, the Web and in the community. WHYY-TV is the primary PBS station in the Delaware Valley and WHYY-FM (90.9) is the leading public radio station in the region. It is Greater Philadelphia's only NPR station that focuses on news and information. Launched in 2010, WHYY's NewsWorks.org is the online home of WHYY News and its network of journalism partners in Philadelphia, South Jersey and Delaware. For more information, visit WHYY.org.

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