



Crandall Public Library and the Glens Falls Chapter of the NAACP

Celebrate **Black History Month 2012**  
with the

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual African-American Film Forum

A discussion will follow each film.

### Freedom Riders

(USA, 2010, 120 minutes, color)



Stanley Nelson wrote, produced, and directed this stirring documentary about the self-proclaimed "Freedom Riders." In 1961, 400 young Americans boarded Trailways and Greyhound buses bound for the Deep South in order to non-violently provoke all of America to acknowledge the shameful policy of institutionalized segregation. Most of the activists were forced to drop out of college to participate in the rides and all of them faced certain violence and the strong possibility of death. Hundreds were incarcerated without due process. Politicians from both sides of the issue attempted to stand in their way. Using period footage and present-day interviews with the activists and others, **Freedom Riders** is a moving account of the still-recent time when a bus ride

was a powerful political statement that could incite citizens to inflict massive violence on other citizens.

"Stripping away the platitudes of so many civil-rights documentaries, Stanley Nelson's "Freedom Riders" is a superb piece of filmic journalism...it recounts the often astonishing of the titular activists with a flair for telling details and a visceral degree of suspense." Andrew Barker, *Variety* 1/22/10

Tuesday, February 7<sup>st</sup>

6:30 p.m.

Community Room, Lower Level

### Rejoice & Shout

(USA, 2010, 115 minutes, color)



Director Don McGlynn, a veteran of jazz and blues biopics ("Charles Mingus: The Triumph of the Underdog," "The Howlin' Wolf Story") now turns his attention to the tradition of African American gospel music—an art form that is as old as America itself but is as vibrant as ever. Rare vintage recordings, archival footage of entire performances, and conversations with contemporary music historians and artists come together in a rousing chronicle of gospel music and its relationship to the African American experience. Featuring Smokey Robinson, Mavis Staples, Mahalia Jackson, and many, many others.

"A consistently entertaining documentary bringing together a remarkable variety of surviving performances on films and records ... a wealth of information, connections, and memories. And **Rejoice and Shout** doesn't show snippets of old performances, but complete songs, so we get a more complete idea of the talents." Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun Times* 1/15/11

Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

6:30 p.m.

Community Room, Lower Level



Listening assistive devices are supplied upon request.



For wheelchair access, use the main Glen Street entrance. There is an elevator at the Glen Street entrance that accesses the Community Room where the films are screened. Staff will help anyone who needs additional assistance. Handicapped parking is available on Glen Street in front of the Library.

## The Black List: Volume Two

(USA, 2009, 90 minutes, color)



The acclaimed project from creators Elvis Mitchell (formerly of the **New York Times**) and Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, *The Black List* films record intimate conversations with a diverse group of prominent African Americans with the aim of archiving their stories for preservation. This second film in the series profiles a varied group, including activists Marjory Carter and Angela Davis, author and minister T.D. Jakes, actor Lawrence Fishburne, directors Tyler Perry and Melvin Van Peebles, comedian Maya Rudolph, musicians Charley Pride and RZA, and artist Kara Walker. The subjects volunteer their own insights into the arcs of their lives and the personal and social significance of their successes and failures.

"From the childhood inspirations that shaped their ambitions, to the evolving American landscape they helped define, to the importance of preserving a unique cultural identity for future generations, these prominent individuals offer a unique look into the zeitgeist of Black America, redefining the traditional pejorative notion of a blacklist." *HBO.com*

Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>

6:30 p.m.

Community Room, Lower Level

## Hoxie: The First Stand

(USA, 2003, 56 minutes, color)



Following the Supreme Court's 1954 ruling on *Brown vs. The Topeka Board of Education*, the all-white school board of Hoxie, Arkansas decided to voluntarily integrate its school district the following fall. The Hoxie schools were the first in the South to attempt to integrate in the wake of *Brown*, and they did so peacefully; apart from the presence of a **Life Magazine** photographer, the opening of the schools was uneventful. It was this easy transition that frightened the newly-formed White Citizens Council into descending upon the town to terrorize white and Black citizens alike and organize a boycott. The tactics failed and students and School Board of Hoxie stood firm before the threats of the agitators. The film is a testament to a community that was willing to put everything on the line to obey the law.

"What is particularly useful about this work is not just the filmmaker's prodigious research, which has recovered numerous still photographs and footage that are equally enlightening, but also the interviews done with leading racists of that era, who provide insight into the mechanics of reactionary politics." Gerald Horne, *The Journal of American History* 12/04

Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

6:30 p.m.

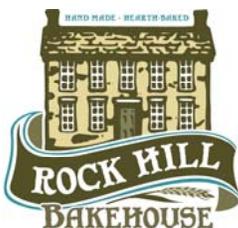
Community Room, Lower Level

## Film Festival Sponsors:



This program is made possible in part by the Electronic Media and Film Program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and the Experimental Television Center.

**Glens Falls National**  
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For more information about the festival, please call Crandall Public Library at 792-6508, extension 3 OR check out our web site at [www.crandalllibrary.org](http://www.crandalllibrary.org). To learn how you or your business can become a sponsor, call 792-6508, extension 284.



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