

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

ACCESSORIES



APPAREL

## Cambridge Tradition

In short "Cambridge" is for the excellence and "Tradition" is for the consistency.

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Black colleges in America have educated the architects of freedom movements and cultivated leaders in every field for generations. The long overdue piece of history is told in the new documentary "Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities."

## A Feast of Films to Watch

My annual sojourn to the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival earlier this month offered a feast of films to watch for. I reviewed the first eight two weeks ago; here is the second half of the films I saw, in the order of my admiration and including three worthy windows into African American life and fascinating studies of political quagmires in New Delhi and Oakland, Calif.:

"Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities" is a long-overdue feature-length documentary on a piece of history that too few of us know. The material is in good hands; director Stanley Nelson ("Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution," "Freedom Summer," "Freedom Riders") has made a career of documenting crucial pieces of black history. Here he has enough for a miniseries, but in 85 minutes has placed the history of Historic Black Colleges and

**OPINIONATED JUDGE**  
 BY DARLEEN ORTEGA



Universities (HBCUs) in context, from America's history of denying, even criminalizing education to slaves and freedmen; to a shocking 20,000 people who were killed for educating blacks during just the first six years after abolition. The film addresses contrasting views about black education from Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois; the role of HBCUs in creating a black middle class and seeding the black Civil Rights Movement, and their importance in preserving places where black students can experience a level of community that otherwise often is not possible. The film will air on PBS in February 2018, and its website, hbcuring.com, features

an online yearbook for alums to make and celebrate connections.

"Quest" won awards, including a Full Frame Grand Jury Prize, for its attentive depiction of the life of a black family from North Philadelphia. Filmmaker Jonathan Olshefski allows them to speak for themselves, and Christopher and Christine Rainey simply allow us into the world they share with their young daughter and the friends for whom they offer a studio space to sing, talk, and rhyme. Christopher, whose hip-hop nickname gives the film its title, overcame addiction to become a solid partner to Christine, who goes by Ma, and a patriarch to their daughter and, in some ways, to their community. Their neighborhood is left behind in terms of resources and influence; they and their neighbors work hard and struggle against poverty and neighborhood


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RISIBILITIES PRESENTS


# Phunnier THAN A MO'PHO DINNER COMEDY SHOW


HOSTED BY RISSA RISS

FEATURING

  
RISSA RISS

  
BELINDA DA AMAZON QUEEN

  
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**SUN. APRIL 30TH**

DOORS OPEN AT 5PM  
 \$25 INCLUDES DINNER & SHOW  
 FOR TICKETS /// PHUNNYMOPHOCOMEDYSHOW.BPT.ME

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