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# SCETV series "Reconnecting Roots" returns for season 4 with eight new episodes

**COLUMBIA, S.C. –** Continuing its journey into American history, the half-hour series *Reconnecting Roots* has returned for season 4. The show features eight new episodes. Hosted by Gabe McCauley, the weekly series continues reconnecting Americans to their roots with exciting new topics including firefighting, photography and weather. Joined by guests such as Felicia Day, Joel Sartore and Jim Cantore, McCauley looks at our past, uncovers how we got here and searches for the values worth holding on to.

**Reconnecting Roots** is also being distributed nationally by <u>American Public Television (APT)</u> to viewers of public television across the U.S. Viewers outside of South Carolina should check their local listings.

<u>Reconnecting Roots</u> host Gabe McCauley is an actor and film director as well as the founder of the production company, lilDRAGON. He has directed television, hundreds of commercials, music videos and the feature film, *Heaven Bound*. As the host of **Reconnecting Roots**, McCauley combines his own comedic personality with his passion for telling stories with purpose.

Below is a glimpse into each episode of *Reconnecting Roots* season 4:

- **Episode 401:** Clothing: Cut From Whole Cloth- Fashion icons Leslie Hall and Jeff Garner show how Americans and clothing are intertwined.
- **Episode 402:** Firefighting: Forging American Heroes- Brutal extortionists and brave volunteers play into the story of America's firefighters.
- **Episode 403:** *Food: Around the Table* Exploring our foodways and how recipes are derived with chef/restaurateur Mashama Bailey.
- **Episode 404:** *Games: Rolls to Roles* Gabe rolls the dice with actress/gamer Felicia Day to discuss the renaissance of gaming.
- **Episode 405:** Shelter: "House & Home"- How the shape of the average American home has changed and the way it reshaped our lives.
- **Episode 406:** *Journalism: "Pressing American Issues"* How the free press forged the American identity and equips us with diverse perspectives.
- **Episode 407:** *Photography: "Picture This"* National Geographic's Joel Sartore talks photography and how it developed our lifestyle.
- **Episode 408:** Weather: "Field to Forecast"- From superstitions to science, Jim Cantore explains our fascination with the forecast.

Produced by IiIDRAGON and presented by <u>South Carolina ETV</u>, production funding for *Reconnecting Roots* is provided by the ETV Endowment of South Carolina, Lem's Shoes, Muletown Coffee Roasters, Music Ranch Montana and Taylor Stitch.

**Reconnecting Roots** continues to air weekly on Thursdays on ETV-HD at 8 p.m. More information on **Reconnecting Roots** and previous episodes can be found on the <u>SCETV website</u>.

### **QUOTES**

"SCETV is excited to present a fourth season of this innovative history series. It's fun, quirky and, most of all, informative. We know season 4 of **Reconnecting Roots** will continue to engage a new generation of



viewers while sharing intriguing facts from the past and encouraging us all to make a better future." –SCETV Director of National Content and Regional Operations Don Godish

"Reconnecting Roots is a show designed to spark generational conversations and inspire learning while staying attached to the roots that made us. It's important to reflect on the ancestry, legacy, customs and culture that brought us to the present as we continue to move forward, both technically and culturally." – Reconnecting Roots Host Gabe McCauley

#### **FAST FACTS**

- Season 4 of *Reconnecting Roots* premiered earlier this month and will continue with eight new episodes.
- Through culture and history, *Reconnecting Roots* puts a lens on American values before they're lost to time with host Gabe McCauley.
- The series is produced by lilDRAGON and presented by SCETV.
- For more information on *Reconnecting Roots*, visit the SCETV website.

#### **About South Carolina ETV and Public Radio**

South Carolina ETV and Public Radio (SCETV) is the state's public educational broadcasting network. SCETV amplifies South Carolina voices, provides educational experiences and strengthens communities, while working toward creating a stronger, more connected and informed South Carolina. In addition to airing local programs, such as *Carolina Classrooms, Making It Grow,* and *This Week in South Carolina*, SCETV also presents multiple programs to regional and national audiences, including *By The River, After Action, Reconnecting Roots, Reel South, Somewhere South, Yoga in Practice* and *How She Rolls*. In addition, SC Public Radio produces the national radio production, *Chamber Music from Spoleto Festival USA*.

#### About IIDRAGON

lilDRAGON is a Nashville video production company made of creatives inspired by unique challenges, who absolutely love storytelling and the production process. We've written, produced and directed videos of every length, style and type—feature films, music videos, TV ads, TV shows and more. We believe our very best work comes when we are given the room to be creative. This team is made up of some talented folks with things like degrees, ideas and bellies full of fire.

#### **About American Public Television**

American Public Television (APT) is the leading syndicator of high-quality, top-rated programming to the nation's public television stations. Founded in 1961, APT distributes 250 new program titles per year and more than one-third of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles in the U.S. APT's diverse catalog includes prominent documentaries, performance, dramas, how-to programs, classic movies, children's series and news and current affairs programs. *Doc Martin, Midsomer Murders, America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated, AfroPoP, Rick Steves' Europe, Pacific Heartbeat, Christopher Kimball's Milk Street Television, Legacy List with Matt Paxton, Lidia's Kitchen, Kevin Belton's New Orleans Kitchen, Simply Ming, The Best of the Joy of Painting with Bob Ross, Live From the Artists Den, James Patterson's Kid Stew and NHK Newsline* are a sampling of APT's programs, considered some of the most popular on public television. APT also licenses programs internationally through its APT Worldwide service and distributes Create®TV — featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming — and WORLD™, public television's premier news, science and documentary channel. To find out more about APT's programs and services, visit APTonline.org.

## **Media Contact**

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