



For Immediate Release

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WORLD Channel Celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month with Four Documentary Features

*Four programs highlight the diversity of AAPI experiences on WORLD Channel:
Ganden: A Joyful Land, The Accused, Asian American Stories of Resilience and Blurring the Color Line*

Boston, MA (April 27, 2023) – [WORLD Channel](#), public media's premiere platform for diverse documentary and nonfiction programs, is honoring [Asian American and Pacific Islander \(AAPI\) Heritage Month](#) in May with films that center Asian and Pacific Islander stories and perspectives in the United States and around the world.

[Key programming highlights for AAPI Heritage Month](#) include [Asian American Stories of Resilience & Beyond \(Volume 1 & Volume 2\)](#), seven short films created by emerging Asian American documentary filmmakers; [Ganden: A Joyful Land](#), a look at the lives of the remaining generation of monks to have studied at Tibetan Buddhism's most influential monastery; [The Accused](#), which follows a powerful cleric's mission to preserve Pakistan's blasphemy laws; and [Blurring the Color Line](#), a personal exploration of the relationships between Chinese Americans and Black Americans in the Jim Crow era.

In addition to the broadcast premiere of these films on WORLD Channel's 193 multicast member stations across the United States, they will also be available to stream online at [WORLDChannel.org](#), [WORLD Channel's YouTube](#) page and on the [PBS app](#).

"At WORLD Channel, we recognize the incredible diversity among Asian American and Pacific Islander histories, traditions and communities, and we strive year round to bring a spectrum of AAPI stories to our audience," said Chris Hastings, executive producer of WORLD Channel at GBH in Boston. "This month, we have tapped some exceptionally talented AAPI filmmakers like Crystal Kwok for *Blurring the Color Line* and Mohammed Ali Naqvi for *The Accused* whose work helps to expand our understanding of AAPI lived experiences."

WORLD Channel will premiere [new films and offer encores](#) of several others that illuminate AAPI history and history in the making. These films include:

[Blurring the Color Line on America ReFramed](#)

May 11 at 8pm ET on WORLD Channel, WORLDChannel.org and YouTube and on the PBS app



Director Crystal Kwok unpacks the history behind her grandmother's family, who were neighborhood grocery store owners in the Black community of Augusta, Georgia during the Jim Crow era. By centering women's experiences, Kwok poses critical questions around the intersections of anti-Black racism, white power, and Chinese patriarchy in the American South.

[Ganden: A Joyful Land on Doc World](#)

May 14 at 10pm ET WORLD Channel, [WORLDChannel.org](#), YouTube and on the PBS app

Likened by Buddhists to the Vatican City, Ganden is considered the most influential monastery of Tibetan Buddhism. Monks lived in the monastery for more than 500 years before a brutal invasion drove them to India. *Ganden: A Joyful Land* is a look at the lives and remembrances of the remaining generation of monks to have studied at the monastery in Tibet where the Dalai Lama's lineage began.

[The Accused on Doc World](#)

May 21 at 10pm ET on WORLD Channel, [WORLDChannel.org](#), YouTube and on the PBS app

Powerful cleric Khadim Rizvi has one mission: to preserve blasphemy laws in Pakistan - they prescribe a death sentence for disrespecting the Prophet Muhammad. He is running for the country's highest office to carry out his goal, silencing anyone who tries to change the law with death. The film follows the rise of Rizvi's push for power as people who have been accused are just pawns in his game.

[Asian American Stories of Resilience and Beyond on Local, USA](#)

Monday, [May 22](#) and [May 29](#) at 9pm ET on WORLD Channel, [WORLDChannel.org](#), YouTube and on the PBS app

A Filipino daughter struggles with depression and reunites with her COVID survivor father after 14 months apart. A Cambodian American refugee lives under the specter of deportation for a 20-year-old mistake. A Sikh community grapples with the aftermath of a deadly mass shooting. These and other true stories of tribulation and perseverance are the slice-of-life subjects featured in two episodes of *Local, USA: Asian American Stories of Resilience and Beyond*, a special for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Resilience is the latest storytelling initiative WORLD Channel has co-produced in an ongoing partnership with the Asian American Documentary Network (A-Doc) and Center for Asian American Media (CAAM). It is a showcase for emerging AAPI filmmakers who are committed to transforming even the most challenging experiences into opportunities for understanding and human connection.

[Event for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month: The Invisible Becoming Visible](#)

Monday, May 22 at 6pm ET

This year, WORLD Channel and Boston public media producer GBH's annual Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month community event celebrates the rise of AAPI individuals serving in leadership positions - the invisible become visible. These influential professionals are bringing new voices to the table, educating, inspiring and advocating for AAPI interests in the



communities where they work and live. These AAPI leaders also serve as role models, opening doors and inspiring future generations of leaders to get involved and achieve their career aspirations. Community members are invited to attend a series of screenings and panel discussions led by WORLD Channel co-executive producer Liz Cheng that explore how AAPI leaders in government, arts, business and the non-profit sector are making an impact in government in Massachusetts and in national communities. [RSVP to attend in person at GBH or to stream the event virtually.](#)

Additional AAPI Heritage Month content is available to stream on the WORLD Channel [website](#), [YouTube](#) channel, PBS Passport and the [PBS App](#).

For more information and films, visit www.WORLDchannel.org or follow @worldchannel on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#) and [YouTube](#). Join the social conversation with #AAPIfilms and #AANHPIIM, #AANHPIHeritageMonth.

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About WORLD Channel

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries and programming. WORLD's original series examine the issues and amplify the voices of those often ignored by mainstream media. The multicast 24/7 channel helps audiences understand conflicts, movements and cultures from around the globe. Its original work has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, an International Documentary Association Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award, two Webby Awards and many others honoring diversity of content and makers. WORLD is carried by 193 member stations in markets representing 75% of US TV households. Funding for WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts and Artworks. WORLD is produced by GBH in partnership with WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT). Find out more at WORLDChannel.org.