



HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

Henry Louis Gates, Jr., is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and the Director of the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University.

He is Editor-in-Chief of the Oxford African American Studies Center, the first comprehensive scholarly online resource in the

field of African American Studies and Africana Studies. He is co-editor with K. Anthony Appiah of the encyclopedia *Encarta Africana* published on CD-ROM and in book form under the title *Africana: The Encyclopedia of the African and African American Experience*. Oxford University Press published an expanded five-volume edition of the encyclopedia in 2005. He is most recently the author of *Finding Oprah's Roots*, *Finding Your Own*, a meditation on



genetics, genealogy, and race. His other recent books are *America Behind the Color Line: Dialogues with African Americans*, *African American Lives*, and *The Annotated Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

In 2006, he wrote and produced the PBS documentary also called "African American Lives," the first documentary series to employ genealogy and science to provide an understanding of African American history. In 2007, a follow-up documentary, "Oprah's Roots: An African American Lives Special," aired on PBS, further examining the genealogical and genetic heritage of Oprah Winfrey, who had been featured in the original documentary. He also wrote and produced the documentaries "Wonders of the African World," "America Beyond the Color Line," and the sequel to "African American Lives."

He serves on the boards of the New York Public Library, the Whitney Museum, Lincoln Center Theater, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Aspen Institute, the Brookings Institution, the Studio Museum of Harlem, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford.

SPEAKING TOPICS: The African American Century: What Next?

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