



**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TELEVISION ACADEMY FOUNDATION TO COMMEMORATE  
AND EXPLORE 70 YEARS OF BLACK ANIMATION IN  
NATIONAL EVENT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS**

**'Access: Behind the Screens - Margin to Mainstream,' a Special  
Virtual Presentation to Celebrate Diverse Talent in Animation,  
Gaming and Creative Technology on Feb. 25**

(**LOS ANGELES** – Feb. 12, 2026) — The Television Academy Foundation today announced it will present a free, virtual event for media-arts students and early career professionals nationwide — "Access: Behind the Screens - Margin to Mainstream" — Wednesday, Feb. 25, 1 - 2 p.m. / 4 - 5 p.m. EST.

In celebration of Black History Month, the event, available to students, will explore 70 years of Black animators' contributions — from the trailblazers of the 1960s to today's global innovators spotlighting the cultural, artistic and technological milestones that have shaped animation history. Black animators have played a vital role in the industry, pushing creative boundaries while challenging stereotypes and opening doors for more authentic and inclusive storytelling.

The online forum will encompass a blend of storytelling, archival imagery, video and curated case studies and will serve as both a historical guide and forward-thinking conversation on representation, access and opportunity in animation.



The featured speaker for this live event is Keith White, co-founder of AfroAnimation, the largest summit in the U.S. celebrating diverse talent in animation, gaming and creative technology, and founder of the Creative Job Fair SoCal, which connects emerging creators with top studios and employers.

"Black animators have shaped the imagination of generations, breaking barriers while expanding what's possible in storytelling and art," said Tina Perry, chair of the Television Academy Foundation. "This virtual event is an opportunity to honor those pioneering

voices and to inspire college students across the country to see themselves as the next innovators and leaders of the animation industry.”

Access: Behind the Screens is the Foundation's education program that offers behind-the-scenes access to the television industry for students and early career professionals nationwide through masterclass workshops and panel discussions with top industry professionals.

Students can register for the online discussion at  
[TelevisionAcademy.com/access-bts/register/260225](https://www.televisionacademy.com/access-bts/register/260225)



### **About the Television Academy Foundation**

The Television Academy Foundation is dedicated to inspiring tomorrow's Emmy winners today by discovering and championing future television leaders. Through its celebrated nationwide programs — including its [Internship Program](#) and [College Television Awards](#) — the Foundation opens doors for emerging talent, empowering them to launch careers in television. The Foundation also produces [The Interviews: An Oral History of Television](#), an extraordinary archive that preserves the stories of the industry's most influential voices. Together, these initiatives inspire creativity, foster inclusion and shape the future of television. For more information on the Foundation, please visit [TelevisionAcademy.com/Foundation](https://www.televisionacademy.com/Foundation).

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