



Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., PhD

10 Million Names Advisory Board Member

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University. He is an Emmy and Peabody Award-winning filmmaker, literary scholar, journalist, cultural critic, and institution builder. Dr. Gates has produced and hosted an array of documentary films. *The Black Church* (PBS) and *Frederick Douglass: In Five Speeches* (HBO), which he executive produced, each received Emmy nominations. His latest history series for PBS is *Making Black America: Through the Grapevine*. *Finding Your Roots*, Dr. Gates's groundbreaking genealogy and genetics series, has completed its ninth season on PBS and will return for a tenth season in 2024. He is an Honorary Trustee of American Ancestors.

“Researching family trees has been a passion in my life since I was nine years old, and I am thrilled to know the desire to learn about the past through the roots and branches of one’s own ancestry will now be greatly facilitated through the Family Heritage Experience in Boston. It is difficult to imagine a greater honor in my career and I look forward to the luminous discoveries that will be made at this landmark visitor center in the city I love and where I have lived and taught for over half of my professional life. May the joys of genealogy seeded here continue to flower throughout the generations.”