



Reconnecting Roots Premieres This Summer on Public Television Stations Nationwide

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May 1, 2019 - Reconnecting Roots TV Show to launch, July 2019, premiering on public television stations nationwide! A half-hour series hosted by Gabriel McCauley with a purpose to bridge (reconnect) the generational gap by portraying American progress through music, culture, and history over the last 150 years while highlighting what values we may be losing as time goes on. Portraying American life across past generations, this series exhibits the American journey of unbounded progress with the hope of understanding how exactly we fit in and why. We're reconnecting to our shared backstory to better understand where we're going by way of conversations.

Just imagine if *Prairie Home Companion* showed up on the set of *Austin City Limits* with *Ken Burns* and *Bill Nye*...that's a little bit like Reconnecting Roots.

It's definitely no surprise that life in America today looks little like it did 150 years ago. America faces an era of unparalleled abundance, thanks to free enterprise and the freedom of individual expression. It's because of these fundamental values that we've steadily improved far beyond our basic needs, (food, clothing, shelter), and it's also because of these values that we're asking some fundamental questions: As we progress, are we losing touch with some of the basic principles that helped us improve our way of life? In what ways are we making life more difficult? Do we need to bring back things that never meant to be left? Why are we seeking progress in the first place? We believe that if we can answer even some of these questions, it'll help get us back on track with authentically making a better home for all of us.

You may be wondering how this idea even came about. Frank Smith is a Canadian/American engineer and inventor/manufacturer. His huge success in the cultivation of his mining equipment companies (Smith Equipment USA and TowHaul) has allowed him to now step away from the mining industry and pursue his other passion, storytelling. A true American success story, Frank's own personal experience compelled him to combine his passions for music & history with authentic storytelling in order to encourage today's generation to continue to improve on yesterday's successes.

So with Frank's idea, the Nashville based film and video production company, liiDRAGON created this TV series. liiDRAGON is passionate about using the medium of film to influence the world. The most effective way to communicate a message is by telling a story and filmmaking is the most captivating method available for any platform. liiDRAGON has engaged audiences

through authentic storytelling through film and television for the past 16 years. Their core belief is that the stories they tell define who they are. Reconnecting Roots is not only an important work, but one that they are entirely interconnected with and inherently passionate about because it's all of our story.

With an amazing story to tell and a team to make it happen, the show needed that final unique host. Meet Gabe McCauley - the host of Reconnecting Roots. He's an actor and film director as well as the founder of the production company, liiDRAGON. He has directed more than four seasons of the television series *The Joey+Rory Show*, hundreds of commercials, music videos, and the feature film, *Heaven Bound*. As the host of Reconnecting Roots, Gabe combines his own comedic personality with his passion for telling stories with purpose. Gabe strives to use media to shape the culture for tomorrow.

Reconnecting Roots is produced by liiDRAGON TV in association with SCETV Presents. The series is produced by Joel McAfee and written by Dave Boyd. The series theme song, "We're Home," is written and performed by firekid and Mandy McCauley. Anthony Padgett is executive-in-charge for SCETV Presents. Support for Season 1 is provided in part by TowHaul in Bozeman, Montana and by public television viewers nationwide. Follow @reconnectingrootstv on Facebook and Instagram to see behind-the-scenes clips and pictures of the show! www.ReconnectingRoots.com

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