



FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREE SCREENING AND FILM DISCUSSION: TWO TOWNS OF JASPER



Flint, MI – WDCQ-TV, PBS, and the Flint Institute of Arts invite you to join your neighbors for a reception, dialogue, and screening of the POV documentary *Two Towns of Jasper* on Thursday, November 16 at the Flint Institute of Arts.

The brutal murder of African American James Byrd, Jr., who was chained to a pick-up truck and dragged to his death by three white supremacists in Jasper,

Texas, shocked the nation. Filmmakers Whitney Dow and Marco Williams decided to do something: they made a documentary, *Two Towns of Jasper*. Sharing the concerns of so many Americans, Dow and Williams wondered why this had happened, and took to the streets of Jasper during the murders' trials to see what the town had to say - and they decided to do this with segregated crews. Williams, who is African American, filmed the Black community, while Dow, who is white, filmed the white community. The resulting portrait in the film is an explicit accounting of the racial divide in the United States - and eye-opening montage of contrasting realities that somehow inhabit the same place and time. Revelatory and sobering, *Two Towns of Jasper* ultimately invites an intense, important discussion about race in the U.S.: its history, its future, and most importantly, how the question of race plays out in our daily lives.

A panel discussion, moderated by Soul Issue host Darold Newton, will follow the film. Filmmaker Whitney Dow will be available via Skype during the panel discussion as well and questions from the audience will be taken.

THE PANEL

Charles Schoder, Civil Rights Specialist, Michigan Department of Civil Rights

Dr. Dawn Hinton, Professor of Sociology, Saginaw Valley State University

Honorable Terry Clark, Chief Judge, 70th District Court

Dr. Otrude Moyo, Department Chairperson, School of Social Work - University of Michigan-Flint

Whitney Dow, filmmaker, *Two Towns of Jasper*

The screening is FREE and open to the public, but due to the nature of the film, no children under 6 will be admitted. The event begins at 7 p.m. and seating is first come, first served.

ABOUT THE FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

The Flint Institute of Arts is Michigan's second largest art museum and one of the largest museum art schools in the nation. The FIA's mission is to advance the understanding and appreciation of art for all through collections, exhibitions, and educational programs. The FIA is located at 1120 East Kearsley Street in the Flint Cultural Center. The museum is open Mon–Fri 12p–5p.; Sat 10a–5p. and Sun 1p–5p. Admission to the FIA is free to members and children under 12; Adults are \$7; Senior Citizens and Students with I.D. are \$5. Saturdays are free thanks to Huntington Bank. For more information, please call 810.234.1695 or visit www.flintarts.org.