**PBS *American Portrait*** **Project**

PBS American Portrait is a real-time, multimedia, self-made portrait of America where people across the country share their individual stories by responding to one of a number of thought-provoking prompts. The aim of the project is to put together a picture of life in America today. Everyone is welcome — the more stories told, the more a real, complex, fascinating portrait of America will emerge. You can see the trailer for the project [here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.proofpoint.com%2Fv2%2Furl%3Fu%3Dhttps-3A__www.youtube.com_watch-3Fv-3DlW5CyHriGs8%26d%3DDwMFaQ%26c%3DQX2OfGk7aRC3kh1nmtbeQQ%26r%3Dtcd9_tnOWVrG6XW8zZyGwY-Fji4f-3JDNLyFlj1aLMo%26m%3Dt_GW6kZ9QO4yPJi98ap1Vld_SQzgskDOkXhQ3tnvkSk%26s%3DLzrAY82AbEhInJrSyeYVzlV79zNmIdf-MIakr4aV4V0%26e%3D&data=04%7C01%7Csvoigt%40caiu.org%7C7943047e0b7e4dedc15108d88a530630%7C38fb8206a6b342a28d6a68106ec36fd8%7C1%7C0%7C637411436474150517%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=CMacjlCKDItut3j1zjHqh55C3JtrCyOiLPSiVUsZCzU%3D&reserved=0), and explore more stories on the project website [here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pbs.org%2Famerican-portrait%2F&data=04%7C01%7Csvoigt%40caiu.org%7C7943047e0b7e4dedc15108d88a530630%7C38fb8206a6b342a28d6a68106ec36fd8%7C1%7C0%7C637411436474160508%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=JY9CHHJc9pSIvC8YAfOwqFR%2F4kEirpjvyu%2FuUYF9yJc%3D&reserved=0). 

Last spring and this fall schools, educators, and students have faced unprecedented circumstances. WITF wants to help Central PA schools tell the story of what it has been like.  **This December WITF will be producing a localized American Portrait television special to highlight stories.**They are seeking video stories that represent the diversity of Central Pennsylvania to include all corners of our 19-county coverage area and walks of life. Teachers and students aged 13 and older are encouraged welcome to submit videos to the

Click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Htfd0DK801g&list=PLYbUTmbEAoVMegYTQH0EcG_nv_RAA0lGq&index=10) for an example of a student perspective. Click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akh0hkQitqc&list=PLYbUTmbEAoVMegYTQH0EcG_nv_RAA0lGq&index=8) for an example of a teacher perspective. Videos do not need to be this long or produced.  One minute videos are fine!

Questions should be directed to Debbie at [debbie\_riek@witf.org](mailto:debbie_riek@witf.org) .

**THINGS TO KNOW:**

* Participants can be located ANYWHERE in the United States. But we're primarily focused on collecting stories from Central PA.
* Stories, once uploaded, will live on the online story-telling platform.
* Submissions might be included on other American Portrait platforms, including featured collections, on American Portrait or PBS social media, or for the national and local documentary series slated to broadcast nationally on PBS on WITF TV in January 2021.

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE - 5 EASY NEXT STEPS:**

1. Visit [PBS American Portrait](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pbs.org%2Famerican-portrait%2F&data=04%7C01%7Csvoigt%40caiu.org%7C7943047e0b7e4dedc15108d88a530630%7C38fb8206a6b342a28d6a68106ec36fd8%7C1%7C0%7C637411436474160508%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=JY9CHHJc9pSIvC8YAfOwqFR%2F4kEirpjvyu%2FuUYF9yJc%3D&reserved=0).
2. Choose one of the 16 prompts on the website and think of how you will answer it as it relates to your identity as an educator in our Central PA community.
   1. *Suggested prompts: “I was raised to believe...,” “The tradition I carry on is...,” “At this point in my life...,” “Most days I feel…”*
3. Create a 20-60 second self-recorded video answering the prompt. There’s no need to introduce yourself on video, simply start recording with your selected prompt and then get right into your answer.*OR, submit a photo or just a plain text story!*
4. [Upload to the website](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.pbs.org%2Famerican-portrait%2Fcreate&data=04%7C01%7Csvoigt%40caiu.org%7C7943047e0b7e4dedc15108d88a530630%7C38fb8206a6b342a28d6a68106ec36fd8%7C1%7C0%7C637411436474170501%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QxAXaRFl2VSL080sWtjHy2BXgfJ57wmkMt8PKp99kiQ%3D&reserved=0) - this will require you to register your email. Feel free to check out the [60 second How-To-Upload Video](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.proofpoint.com%2Fv2%2Furl%3Fu%3Dhttps-3A__drive.google.com_file_d_1NNFD5LU0lsbshbuCUhdt0pO1kkwf2g4q_view-3Fusp-3Dsharing%26d%3DDwMFaQ%26c%3DQX2OfGk7aRC3kh1nmtbeQQ%26r%3Dtcd9_tnOWVrG6XW8zZyGwY-Fji4f-3JDNLyFlj1aLMo%26m%3Dt_GW6kZ9QO4yPJi98ap1Vld_SQzgskDOkXhQ3tnvkSk%26s%3Dbo8j9AapZAuoG2klrsODDQZFeZwsq8pUhB446Azlk9E%26e%3D&data=04%7C01%7Csvoigt%40caiu.org%7C7943047e0b7e4dedc15108d88a530630%7C38fb8206a6b342a28d6a68106ec36fd8%7C1%7C0%7C637411436474180497%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=2%2B%2BaNL1ihZJW0MGZ8%2FHOZ0l2EAL2y3oOIKl1HD6UMaw%3D&reserved=0)

**NOTE**: Do not email your video or send as an attachment. It must be uploaded to the platform (Chrome recommended over Safari).

1. You will receive a link to your story once you have uploaded it to the site. Feel free to share your story to your social media page(s) and nominate a friend or family member whose answer you’d like to see (related to your topic or another topic)!