

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FROM: WYPR 88.1 FM / StoryCorps

CONTACTS:

Amy Burke Friedman, Profiles, Inc.
afriedman@profilespr.com, 410-243-3790

StoryCorps Press Desk
646-723-7020 ext. 75,
press@storycorps.org

**STORYCORPS, THE GROUNDBREAKING ORAL HISTORY PROJECT,
TO VISIT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND**

WYPR 88.1 FM will host StoryCorps for four weeks to help record the stories of local residents

April 28, 2016 – StoryCorps, a renowned nonprofit organization celebrating the stories of everyday Americans, will record interviews in Baltimore from **May 19 to June 17** as part of its cross-country MobileBooth tour. Having collected more than 65,000 interviews from Americans in all 50 states, StoryCorps has gathered one of the largest single collection of human voices ever recorded.

StoryCorps' MobileBooth—an Airstream trailer outfitted with a recording studio—will be parked at **MICA's Cohen Plaza**. Reservations will be available at 10am on **May 5** and can be made by calling StoryCorps' 24-hour toll-free reservation line at **1-800-850-4406** or visiting **storycorps.org**. Additional appointments will be available on May 20 at 10am.

In StoryCorps' MobileBooth, two people are able to record a meaningful conversation with one another about who they are, what they've learned in life, and how they want to be remembered. A trained StoryCorps facilitator guides them through the interview process. At the end of each 40-minute recording session, participants receive a complimentary CD copy of their interview. With participant permission, a second copy is archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress for future generations to hear.

Founded in 2003 by award-winning documentary producer and MacArthur Fellow Dave Isay, StoryCorps has traveled to every corner of the country to record interviews in the organization's effort to create a world where we listen closely to each other and recognize the beauty, grace and poetry in the lives and stories we find all around us.

"StoryCorps tells the true American story—that we are a people defined by small acts of courage, kindness and heroism. Each interview reminds people that their lives matter and will not be forgotten," said Isay. "By strengthening connections between people and building an archive that reflects the rich diversity of American voices, we hope to build StoryCorps into an enduring institution that will touch the lives of every American family."

In Baltimore, StoryCorps will partner with WYPR 88.1 FM, Baltimore's NPR station. WYPR will air a selection of the local interviews recorded in the StoryCorps MobileBooth and create special programs around the project. StoryCorps may also share excerpts of these stories with the world through the project's popular weekly NPR broadcasts, animated shorts, digital platforms, and best-selling books.

"StoryCorps is an incredible opportunity for members of the community to record their personal stories and impressions of life here in Baltimore," said Tony Brandon, general manager of WYPR. "And I believe there are many stories to share."

About StoryCorps

Founded in 2003 by MacArthur Fellow Dave Isay, the nonprofit organization StoryCorps has given more than 100,000 Americans the chance to record interviews about their lives, pass wisdom from one generation to the next, and leave a legacy for the future. It is the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered. In the coming years StoryCorps hopes to touch the lives of every American family.

Participating in StoryCorps couldn't be easier: You invite a loved one, or anyone else you chose, to one of the StoryCorps recording sites. There you're met by a trained facilitator, who greets you and explains the interview process. You're then brought into a quiet recording room and seated across from your interview partner, each of you in front of a microphone. The facilitator hits "record," and you share a 40-minute conversation. At the end of the session, you walk away with a CD, and a digital file goes to the Library of Congress, where it will be preserved for generations to come. Someday your great-great-great-grandchildren will be able to meet your grandfather, your mother, your best friend, or whomever it is you chose to honor with a StoryCorps interview.

StoryCorps shares edited excerpts of these stories with the world through popular weekly NPR broadcasts, animated shorts, digital platforms, and best-selling books. These powerful stories illustrate our shared humanity and show how much more we share in common than divides us.

StoryCorps has also launched a series of successful national initiatives, including:

- [The September 11th Initiative](#), helping families memorialize the stories of lives lost on September 11, 2001, in partnership with the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center;
- [The Griot Initiative](#), now the largest collection of African American voices ever gathered, in collaboration with the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture;
- [The Historias Initiative](#), the largest collection of Latino and Latina stories ever gathered;
- [The Military Voices Initiative](#), honoring the stories of post-9/11 service members, veterans and their families;
- [StoryCorps OutLoud](#), which documents the powerful, varied experiences of LGBTQ people across America; and
- [StoryCorpsU \(SCU\)](#), an interactive, standards-based college-readiness curriculum for high-needs schools uses StoryCorps content and interviewing techniques to engage the hearts and minds of young people and promote positive student outcomes.

With the 2015 TED Prize awarded to Dave Isay, StoryCorps has launched an app that puts the StoryCorps experience entirely in the hands of users and enables anyone, anywhere to record meaningful conversations with one another. These interviews are preserved at the U.S. Library of Congress and on the StoryCorps.me website, a growing, global archive of the wisdom of humanity.

StoryCorps aims to be an enduring institution that celebrates the dignity, power, and grace that can be heard in the stories we find all around us, and helps us recognize that every life and every story matter equally.

About Station

WYPR is Baltimore's NPR News station, covering the state of Maryland with simulcast stations in Frederick and Ocean City, reaching over 175,000 listeners weekly. The station produces and broadcasts local programs including *Midday and Maryland Morning* as well as news coverage and special editorial programming. As a listener-supported radio station, all contributions to the station are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. For more information, visit www.wypr.org or call 410-235-1660.