

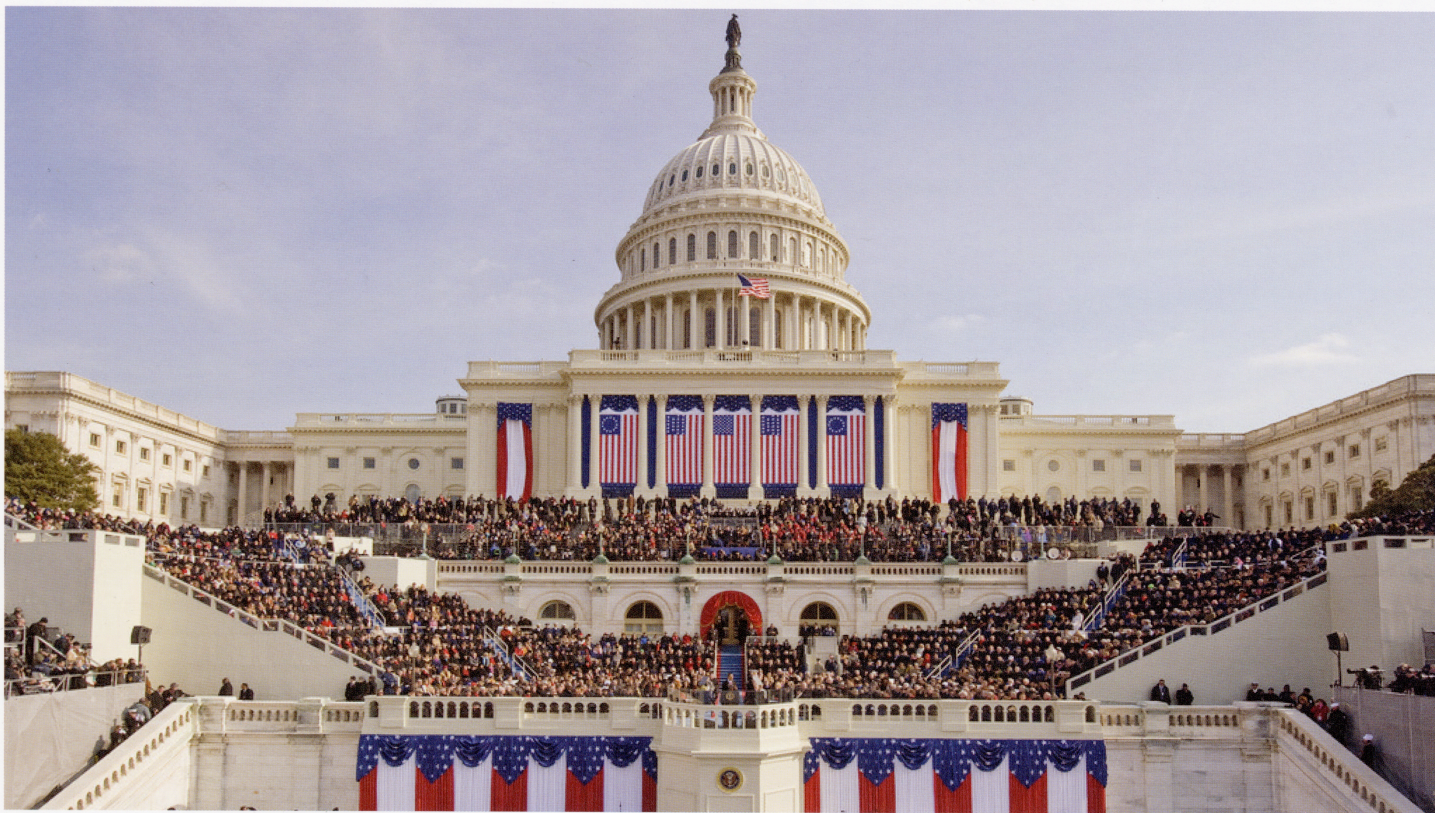
BackStory

WITH THE **American History Guys**

BackStory on Presidential Inaugurations

JANUARY 19, 2013 • 11:00 A.M.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY
WASHINGTON, D.C.



2009 Inauguration on Capitol Hill— *Architect of the Capitol*

WELCOME!

Welcome to a special live presentation of public radio's *BackStory with the American History Guys*, a program of the **Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (VFH)**, hosted today by the **Smithsonian's National Museum of American History (NMAH)** and the **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**. The show will explore past presidential inaugurations, examining what these moments reveal about the social and political forces at work around them. Which fiercely contested 19th-century presidential election nearly resulted in two rival inaugurations? Which president has been invoked by all subsequent presidents—even Confederate President Jefferson Davis—in inauguration ceremonies?

As the nation pauses on the occasion of the inauguration of President Barack Obama to a second term in office, the *BackStory* Guys—**Peter Onuf**, **Ed Ayers**, and **Brian Balogh**—are delighted that you are joining them here in the Museum's Flag Hall, as they tackle these and other questions, connecting present and past in a characteristically irreverent take on history. *BackStory* also welcomes the cablecast and webcast viewers of C-SPAN3's American History TV. *BackStory's* radio listeners regularly call-in, and we encourage today's live in-house and media audience to take that role and join the program with questions for the Guys.

backstoryradio.org

ABOUT *BackStory*

Public radio's contemporary take on American history, *BackStory with the American History Guys* is a national, weekly one-hour show and podcast—a program of the **Virginia Foundation for the Humanities** (VFH). *BackStory* brings historical perspective to daily events, moving from today's headlines to drill down into U.S. history in an engaging and accessible way. Each week the American History Guys—Brian, Ed, and Peter—plumb the connections between present and past, spanning three centuries of American history. They offer lively, non-partisan conversation, a surprising exploration of ideas, events, and their continuing impact on us.

BackStory isn't history the way you may remember it. The Guys deliver smart, deeply informed talk on such wide-ranging topics as the history of marriage, extreme weather, birthing, homeownership, apocalyptic thinking, college sports, alcohol, the post office, the War of 1812, and American exceptionalism, among many others. Brian, Ed, and Peter trade ideas with guest experts, debate each other, present features that delve into the little-known past, and talk with listeners who call in. The result: Fresh and inviting radio that has the easy style of a stimulating chat with your brightest friends around the kitchen table.

BackStory ON THE AIR

From June 2008 through May 2011, *BackStory* was distributed as a *monthly* program. Episodes were broadcast by more than 130 primary stations in 39 states—29 in top 50 markets. With a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and additional corporate, foundation, institutional, and individual support, *BackStory* moved from monthly to weekly production and broadcast in May 2012. The weekly *BackStory* can now be heard on 23 public radio stations and in 57 communities nationally, and is available online as a podcast.

All of Virginia's public radio stations, along with WAMU in Washington, WBEZ in Chicago, WFYI in Indianapolis, KVCR in San Bernardino, Calif., and Vermont Public Radio—plus other stations in Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin—have begun broadcasting the program weekly. Also, 28 stations in 24 states have aired *BackStory* episodes as specials—among these, broadcasters in San Francisco, Seattle, New Orleans, Cleveland, Des Moines, Bangor, Boise, and Columbus (GA). Total *BackStory* podcast downloads have passed the 2 million mark. Visit **backstoryradio.org**, to find out how to tune-in weekly or subscribe to the podcast.

FUNDING FOR *BackStory*

BackStory is made possible with major support from the **National Endowment for the Humanities**, the **University of Virginia**, **The Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation** and an Anonymous Donor. Additional funding is provided by Weinstein Properties, History Channel/HISTORY.com and the W. L. Lyons, Jr. Charitable Foundation.



backstoryradio.org

MEET THE *BackStory* GUYS



PETER ONUF

BackStory's Eighteenth-Century Guy, an expert on the founding period, is Thomas Jefferson Foundation Professor of History, Emeritus, at the University of Virginia. He has written extensively on sectionalism, federalism, and political economy, with a particular emphasis on the political thought of Thomas Jefferson. He is the author and editor of eleven books, including *The Mind of Thomas Jefferson*, *The Revolution of 1800: Democracy, Race, and the New Republic* (with James Horn and Jan Ellen Lewis), *Jefferson's Empire: The Language of American Nationhood*, and *Jeffersonian America* (with Leonard Sadosky).



ED AYERS

The show's Nineteenth-Century Guy is President and Professor of History at the University of Richmond. He was formerly the Hugh P. Kelly Professor of History at the University of Virginia and Dean of U.Va.'s Graduate School and College of Arts & Sciences. He is the author of *In the Presence of Mine Enemies: Civil War in the Heart of America*, winner of the Bancroft Prize and the Beveridge Prize. He has written and edited nine other books, including *The Promise of the New South: Life After Reconstruction*, a finalist for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. His digital history project, *The Valley of the Shadow*, has attracted millions of users and won major prizes in the teaching of history.



BRIAN BALOGH

BackStory's Twentieth-Century Guy is Compton Professor of History at the University of Virginia and Chair of the National Fellowship Program at U.Va.'s Miller Center of Public Affairs. He is the author of *A Government Out of Sight: The Mystery of National Authority in Nineteenth Century America* and *Chain Reaction: Expert Debate and Public Participation in American Commercial Nuclear Power, 1945–1975*. He edited *Integrating the Sixties: The Origins, Structures and Legitimacy of Public Policy in a Turbulent Decade*.

Photos by Tom Cogill.

BackStory's PRODUCTION TEAM

Tony Field is *BackStory's* Senior Producer.

Jess Engebretson and **Eric Mennel** are Associate Producers.

Jamal Millner is Technical Director.

Chioke l'Anson is Producer in Residence.

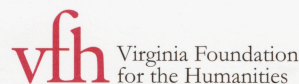
Allen Chen is our intern.

Andrew Wyndham is *BackStory's* creator and Executive Producer.

Contact: awyndham@virginia.edu; 434-924-6894

About the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities

The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (VFH), established in 1974, encourages discovery and connection through the humanities by supporting and producing programs for a wide public audience. VFH works with individuals and communities to explore the past, confront issues of the present, and discover a promising future. Since its founding, the Foundation has produced more than 40,000 humanities programs serving communities large and small throughout Virginia, the nation and the world. In addition to Foundation-directed programs including festivals, publications, CDs, digital initiatives, conferences, teacher institutes, and public radio programs, VFH has contributed to more than 3,000 grant projects and 300 individual and collaborative fellowships. For more information about VFH, visit VirginiaHumanities.org.



About the National Museum of American History

Opened in January 1964, the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History dedicates its collections and scholarship to inspiring a broader understanding of our nation and its many peoples. Some 4 million visitors pass through its doors each year. The NMAH creates opportunities for learning, stimulates imaginations, and presents challenging ideas about our country's past. The Museum collects and preserves more than 3 million artifacts. Its collections form a fascinating mosaic of American life and comprise the greatest single collection of American history. For more information on the NMAH, visit americanhistory.si.edu.



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Today's live *BackStory* show will feature an interview with **Harry R. Rubenstein**, Chair of the Division of Political History at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, who will display and discuss some rarely seen inaugural artifacts from the Museum's presidential history collection. He has curated or co-curated more than 20 exhibitions, including *The American Presidency and Abraham Lincoln: An Extraordinary Life*, and is currently working on a new exhibition, *American Democracy: The Great Leap of Faith*, scheduled to open in 2015.

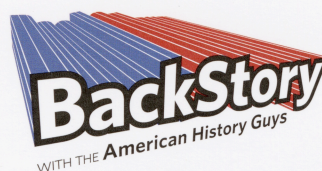
About the National Endowment for the Humanities

Because democracy demands wisdom, the National Endowment for the Humanities serves and strengthens our republic by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans. Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the NEH, one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States, supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at: www.neh.gov.



Special Support

Today's NMAH program is made possible with the generous support of **History Channel**, a sponsor of *BackStory*.



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