

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE



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The Kennedys

Monday, May 18, 2009 at 9pm on PBS (check local listings)
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On August 25, 2008, just two months after undergoing surgery for a malignant brain tumor, "The Lion of the Senate" and the Kennedy family's lone male survivor—Edward M. Kennedy—surprised attendees with an unscheduled speech at the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado.

"As I look ahead, I am strengthened by family and friendship. So many of you have been with me in the happiest days and the hardest days. Together we have known success and seen setbacks, victory and defeat," Kennedy said.

The Kennedy story is unlike any other: a saga of ambition, wealth, family loyalty and personal tragedy. From patriarch Joseph Kennedy's rise on Wall Street and frustrations in politics, John Kennedy's march to the White House, Robert Kennedy's near-certain presidential victory, preempted only by his tragic death, and through Edward Kennedy's withdrawal from the 1980 presidential race following the scandal of Chappaquiddick, the family has left a lasting legacy that continues to influence politics.

CREDITS

Executive producer for *The Kennedys*
Elizabeth Deane

Senior producer
David Espar

Producers
Phillip Whitehead, Marilyn Mellowes, James A. DeVinney

Written by
Geoffrey C. Ward, David Espar, Phillip Whitehead, James A. DeVinney

Edited by
Richard Smigelski, Charles Scott, David Espar

Music by
Michael Bacon

Narrated by
Stacy Keach

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Senior producer Sharon Grimberg
Executive producer Mark Samels

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ACCESSIBILITY

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE is closed captioned for deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers, and described for people who are blind or visually impaired by the Media Access Group at WGBH. The descriptive narration is available on the SAP channel of stereo TVs and VCRs.

ABOUT AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

Television's most-watched history series, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE has been hailed as "peerless" (*Wall Street Journal*), "the most consistently enriching program on television" (*Chicago Tribune*), and "a beacon of intelligence and purpose" (*Houston Chronicle*). On air and online, the series brings to life the incredible characters and epic stories that have shaped America's past and present. Acclaimed by viewers and critics alike, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE documentaries have been honored with every major broadcast award, including twenty-four Emmy Awards, four duPont-Columbia Awards, and fourteen George Foster Peabody Awards, one most recently for *Two Days in October*.

ABOUT WGBH BOSTON

WGBH Boston is America's preeminent public broadcasting producer. More than one-third of PBS's prime-time lineup and companion Web content as well as many public radio favorites are produced by WGBH. The station also is a pioneer in educational multimedia and in access technologies for people with disabilities. For more information visit wgbh.org.

For more information about AMERICAN EXPERIENCE and *The Kennedys*, visit pbs.org/americanexperience

Promotional photography is available for download from pbs.org/pressroom and pressroom.wgbh.org.

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