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For Immediate Release

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A month after the historic inauguration of our first African-American president, we celebrate again with the performance of “I’m Not Getting On Until Jim Crow Gets Off”. This theatrical program explores a pivotal time in the African-American struggle for civil equality in the United States, and will be presented by award-winning and internationally known storyteller, actor and artist Awele Makeba. “I’m Not Getting On Until Jim Crow Gets Off” features historic acts of defiance by Rosa Parks and other women and teenagers against Jim Crow laws during the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The program is presented by Colorado Humanities as part of their annual American Spirit Series on Thursday, February 19 at 7:00pm at the New Hope Baptist Church, 3701 Colorado Boulevard in Denver. The performance tours multiple venues throughout the Denver Metro and Pikes Peak regions that week.

I’m Not Getting On Until Jim Crow Gets Off

Our 8th Annual American Spirit Series will present Awele Makeba in an interactive theatre performance based on oral histories and primary source documents that explore the history of Jim Crow laws and the South. Awele's talking timeline presents the Montgomery Bus Boycott's significance in advancing democracy in the United States. Different historical players' voices and stories weave together a narrative as Awele interacts with the audience to deconstruct this complex time in America.

Awele Makeba is an award-winning and internationally known actor, emerging playwright, storyteller, recording artist, and educator. She researches, writes, and performs hidden African American history while inviting audiences to wrestle with complex and emotionally laden issues that teach us about our common humanity, potential, and our purpose for being in the world. Ms. Makeba has mesmerized audiences from the United States, Russia, Australia, Taiwan, France, and Canada. Her performances have been featured at national conferences such as The Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, The National Association of Multicultural Educators, and The Oral History Association.

Sam Wineburg of Stanford University says, "Awele Makeba engages all facets of our humanity . . . she unsettles our understanding of what we thought we knew so that we can come to know in new ways."

All proceeds from this event benefit Colorado Humanities programs and operations. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased via credit card online at coloradohumanities.org (link to Blacktie-Colorado.com) or by phone at 303-894-7951 X10.

