



PROGRAMMING ALERT

The Incredible Story of Four Brave Men Who Stood Up To Racism
And Social Injustice By Taking A Seat...

Seizing Justice: The Greensboro 4

Premiering Sunday, July 25 at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Smithsonian Channel

**Nurse Jackie Actress and Civil Rights Activist Anna Deavere Smith Narrates
Special Commemorating 50th Anniversary of the Desegregation of Greensboro
Woolworth Lunch Counter**

New York, NY July 12, 2010 – Smithsonian Channel

It was an average Woolworth's lunch counter, but these four men were no average customers. What transpired on Elm Street in Greensboro, North Carolina on February 1, 1960 sent shockwaves across America. **SEIZING JUSTICE: THE GREENSBORO 4** tells the story of the Greensboro 4, college freshman who led a nonviolent sit-in and taught a country that it was finally time to serve everyone. The new Smithsonian Channel special premieres **Sunday, July 25 at 8 p.m. ET/PT**, marking the 50th anniversary to the day of when that particular Woolworth lunch counter was desegregated. Acclaimed actress, playwright and professor **Anna Deavere Smith**, currently in the Emmy-nominated SHOWTIME comedy series NURSE JACKIE, narrates the documentary.

In February of 1960, a simple coffee order at America's favorite five-and-dime store sparked a series of events that would help put an end to the Jim Crow laws of the South. **SEIZING JUSTICE: THE GREENSBORO 4** details the extraordinary story of four otherwise ordinary young men – Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, David Richmond and Ezell Blair, Jr. – African-American college students, whose nonviolent sit-in at a Woolworth's lunch counter helped spark a revolution.

Anna Deavere Smith is a Tony Award® and Pulitzer Prize nominated actress, playwright and professor. A 1996 recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship, often referred to as the "genius grant," she also won the 2006 Fletcher Foundation Fellowship for her contribution to civil rights issues. Smith wrote and starred in the one-woman play, *Fires In The Mirror*, which examined a Brooklyn race riot (1991) when age-old racial tensions between Black and Jewish neighbors exploded.

On television, Smith currently appears in the role of hospital administrator Mrs. Akalitus in the hit SHOWTIME comedy series NURSE JACKIE. Among her earlier television work were roles on THE WEST WING and THE PRACTICE. Her feature films credits include RACHEL GETTING MARRIED, THE KINGDOM, RENT, THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE, THE HUMAN STAIN, THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT, PHILADELPHIA and DAVE.

ABOUT SMITHSONIAN NETWORKS

Smithsonian Networks (SNI/SI Networks L.L.C.) is a joint venture between Showtime Networks Inc. and the Smithsonian Institution, formed to create channels featuring programs largely inspired by the assets of the Smithsonian Institution, the world's largest museum complex. Smithsonian Channel features award-winning original documentaries, series, and groundbreaking programs highlighting America's historical, cultural and scientific heritage. Smithsonian Channel brings the American experience home in high definition and Dolby Digital 5.1 and is currently available to customers of DirecTV, Time Warner Cable, Charter Communications, Cablevision, Verizon, AT&T, and more. Learn more at www.smithsonianchannel.com.

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