Celebrate Human Rights Day by joining us in an online screening of the film “I Am Not Your Negro,” a film about the life of James Baldwin.

WHEN: Thursday, December 10, 2020

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Online

Register here:
https://macp.wildapricot.org/event-4055269

PROGRAM
Networking starts 6:30 PM
Online access will be provided to registrants
Movie Screening 7:00 PM
Link access will be provided to registrants
Panel Discussion 8:30 PM
Same access for Networking hour

Join in the worldwide celebration of Human Rights Day on December 10, 2020. The Mass. Association of Consulting Planners as part of the global observance will be hosting an online screening of the film I Am Not Your Negro, along with a discussion of the film. We will explore how the film’s themes touch on contemporary struggles for human rights, and how planners can engage, support and advance race equity and human rights.

PANELISTS

David Lee is an urban designer/architect and principal of Stull & Lee, a pioneering Black-owned architectural firm that designed Roxbury Community College and played a key role in the planning and urban design of the award-winning Southwest Corridor and Orange Line.

Ted Landsmark is a Professor of Public Policy at Northeastern University and a member of the Boston Planning and Development Authority board. As a young attorney, Ted was attacked with an American flag outside Boston City Hall by a white mob opposed to busing. He has been involved professionally in planning and design in Boston and nationally advocating for civil and human rights.

Quintin Miller is the Baldwin Professor of English at Suffolk University and specializes in the study of James Baldwin. The film, I Am Not A Negro, is based on James Baldwin's writings and works.

Daphne Politis, AICP and Principal of Community Circle will be the moderator. Daphne is the past president of MassACP and on the Executive Committee.
I Am Not Your Negro is a film by Haitian-born film-maker Raoul Peck about the life of James Baldwin. The film is inspired by Baldwin’s unfinished manuscript, Remember this House, about his friendship with three civil rights leaders—Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr, who were all murdered within five years of each other. In the film, Peck examines the civil rights movement and American culture’s resistance to it.

I Am Not Your Negro film was selected by the International Literature Festival for worldwide screening as part of commemorating the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations on December 10, 1948. The UDHR asserts that all human beings are born free and equal and advances many of the principles embodied in the Bill of Rights, the U.S. Constitution as well as the AICP Code of Ethics. Human Rights Day celebrates the UDHR. Join us in learning more and reflecting on the work we still need to do to advance human rights and race equity in our communities and world.

“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.” (James Baldwin)

The film, “I Am Not Your Negro,” illuminates the continuity of racism and documents the resistance against it. It is intended to emphasize our responsibility to process the history of colonization and racism. Four hundred years after the first slaves were brought ashore in chains in Jamestown, Virginia, the equal treatment of whites and People of Color is by no means established – not in the Americas, nor in Europe, nor in other regions on the globe.

Participation in this international film festival, on the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations in 1948, will help to elevate the importance of the issues explored in the film.

In 1979, James Baldwin wrote a letter to his literary agent describing his next project, "Remember This House." The book was to be a revolutionary, personal account of the lives and assassinations of three of his close friends: Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. At the time of Baldwin’s death in 1987, he left behind only 30 completed pages of this manuscript. Filmmaker Raoul Peck envisions the book James Baldwin never finished.

James Arthur Baldwin, born in Harlem in 1924, was an American novelist, playwright, essayist, poet, and activist. His essays, as collected in Notes of a Native Son, explore intricacies of racial, sexual, and class distinctions in Western society, most notably in regard to the mid-twentieth-century United States.

Read more in the Fall 2020 issue of the APA-MA Massachusetts Planning Magazine. Written by Kathleen McCabe, FAICP, Vice President Massachusetts Association of Consulting Planners “Consulting Planners’ Perspective