



KVIE Public Television
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To Whom It May Concern:

January 17, 2017

On behalf of KVIE, it is my pleasure to express interest in the documentary by filmmaker Sharon Styles, ***Speak My Name and I Shall Live Again***.

Speak My Name tells the fascinating story of Ms. Styles, a Sacramento resident who joined with others to investigate, preserve and honor their ancestors buried in a once-forgotten cemetery in Falls County, Texas. Though she began the project as a simple endeavor to research her family tree, the documentary traces the remarkable growth of that effort, especially its eventual inclusion of historians, doctoral students, other descendants, even the great-great-grandson of the original land and slave owner.

What emerges is a compelling story of discovery, cooperation, and re-connection to those once enslaved and nearly lost to history. The combined efforts of all the interested parties culminated in the re-dedication of Bull Hill Cemetery attended by members of the Texas Historical Commission and the NAACP, as well as politicians and family descendants of both slaves and slave owners.

As the PBS station serving the nation's 20th largest television market, KVIE recognizes its role in capturing pivotal periods in America's history, and sharing the emotional and crucial efforts by Americans to discover and commemorate the struggles and sacrifices of their ancestors. ***Speak My Name*** is a story of past cruelty and sorrow, and the tragic near-erasure of a hallowed ground; but it is also a story of redemption, hope, and forgiveness. We believe it will become another essential chapter in the story of African-American history.

I would sincerely encourage your full support for ***Speak My Name***. It promises to be an important and evocative program, one that will certainly make for outstanding television.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Sanford".

Michael Sanford
Vice President of Content Creation
KVIE Public Television
Sacramento, California

About KVIE

Located in the heart of California's Central Valley, KVIE reaches 1.4 million households in the nation's 20th largest television market. With one of the largest geographic areas in the country, KVIEHD and KVIE2 can be viewed in 28 counties, and on more than 60 cable systems and satellite providers. We are one of the most active and well-regarded producers of public television programming in the country for local, statewide and national carriage.