



## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **The Inquisitor Film Screening and Discussion: The Life and Legacy of a Civil Rights Icon**

*Filmmaker Virtual Visit and Panel Discussion to Follow*

CAPITOLA, California — Santa Cruz Public Libraries (SCPL) is pleased to invite the community to participate in a powerful screening and discussion of the film *The Inquisitor*, in celebration of Black History Month and the contributions of countless Black citizens who have dedicated their lives to creating an America that lives up to its ideals. The event takes place Saturday, February 7, at 2:00 p.m. at the Capitola Branch Library, 2005 Wharf Rd.

The film highlights the legacy of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, shining a light on how her public influence shaped U.S. politics, while exploring the complexities of her personal identity. Jordan was a groundbreaking Texas congresswoman whose sharp intellect and moral clarity transformed U.S. politics. From Nixon's impeachment to civil rights battles, her voice demanded accountability, even as she privately faced struggles few ever knew about. While Jordan's political legacy is the center of *The Inquisitor*, the film also looks at Jordan's personal life, exploring her intersectional identity navigating a landscape of politics and discrimination.

The screening will be followed by an in-person panel discussion moderated by Ayo Banjo, Community Organizer, Keynote Speaker, Elected Delegate and Vice Chair of the Progressive Caucus for the CA Democratic Party, and Project Director for the Village Project.

Other panelists include:

- Elaine Johnson, Executive Director of Housing Santa Cruz, President of the NAACP Santa Cruz County Branch, and Member of Santa Cruz County Democratic Party
- Ami Chen Mills, Member of AAPI Santa Cruz, Democratic Party (Elected Member of DCC, District 3), and Radio and Podcast Host of Moment of Truth
- Carmelita Limas, Board of Directors at The Diversity Center
- Virtual visit with Director/Producer Angela Tucker

*The Inquisitor* will debut on INDEPENDENT LENS on February 23, 2026, at 10 p.m. ET on PBS and the PBS app (check local listings). This event is brought to you through a partnership with Indie Lens Pop-Up, ITVS, and INDEPENDENT LENS.

Registration is recommended and walk-ins are welcome. Register at [bit.ly/SCPL-Inquisitor](https://bit.ly/SCPL-Inquisitor). For more information, visit the SCPL calendar: <https://santacruzpl.org>

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## **ABOUT THE SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM:**

Santa Cruz Public Libraries (SCPL) brings people, information, and resources together to enrich lives and strengthen the community. SCPL gives every Santa Cruz community member the opportunity to learn through educational resources, classes, and staff support. The Library develops programs for the broad community as well as for specific groups like students, seniors, and those who are most vulnerable, including the unhoused and incarcerated. SCPL also curates specialty collections, like genealogy and local history. Learn more about SCPL at [SantaCruzPL.org](https://www.santacruzpl.org) or on social media. To access the SCPL Press Kit visit <https://www.santacruzpl.org/press-kit/>.

### **About Angela Tucker**

Angela Tucker is an Emmy Award-winning producer of *Belly of the Beast*. Past directorial work includes *All Skinfolk Ain't Kinfolk*, *Black Folk Don't*, and *(A)Sexual*. She is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, a recipient of Film Independent's Amplifier Fellowship and a Chicken and Egg 2023 Award.

### **About Indie Lens Pop-Up**

For more than 20 years, the award-winning Indie Lens Pop-Up program has partnered with local organizations across the country to bring people together for film screenings and community-driven conversations. Inspired by the documentaries featured on PBS' INDEPENDENT LENS, Indie Lens Pop-Up is a space for sharing ideas and making connections that shape our understanding of ourselves and the world around us. Since its inception in 2005, nearly half a million participants have come together at Indie Lens Pop-Up events to discuss issues that impact local communities. Learn more at [pbs.org/indielenspopup](https://pbs.org/indielenspopup).

### **About INDEPENDENT LENS**

INDEPENDENT LENS is an award-winning documentary series that fosters understanding, seeks to build empathy, and encourages a more united society. Produced by ITVS, INDEPENDENT LENS documentaries have premiered on PBS for 25 years and streamed on YouTube, helping Americans foster deeper connections between communities and themselves. From the Oscar-nominated "I Am Not Your Negro" to the Peabody-acclaimed docuseries "Philly D.A." and the Emmy® Award-winning "The Invisible War," INDEPENDENT LENS provides viewers with in-depth, nuanced storytelling reflecting the experiences of people from a variety of voices and communities. INDEPENDENT LENS is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting: a private corporation funded by the American People, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Ford Foundation, Acton Family Giving, Park Foundation, and Wyncote Foundation.