



Donna Matrazzo
The Writing Works

15500L NW Ferry Rd., Slip #14
Portland, OR 97231
(503) 621-3049
matrazzo@msn.com
www.donnamatrazzo.com

**Northwest African American Museum
Formations Exhibit Design
Odyssey Productions**

**"We Are the Northwest"
in The Journey Gallery**

Shooting Script

"We Are the Northwest" in The Journey Gallery

Shooting Script

Fade in:

1. Program Title: "We are the Northwest"

Sequence #1: Introductions -- a quick-paced montage

(This dialogue is based on telephone interviews. Each will be a similarly-framed close-up; each person will be identified by name on the screen.)

2. Slater Turner on camera.

Slater: "I'm a District Ranger for the U.S. Forest Service."

3. Nate Moxely on camera.

Nate: "I'm the Executive Director of a non-profit that provides life-changing opportunities for high school students."

4. Penda Diakite (15-year old)

Penda: "I'm always writing and I've been making movies since 5th grade."

5. Obo Addy

Obo: "I've been a drummer all my life. I compose, I play, I sing."

6. Loti Walker

Loti: "I'm a portrait photographer and the Director of a teen photography program."

7. Eric Silvers

Eric: "I'm a State Farm insurance agent."

8. Brandon Leonard

Brandon: "I'm a junior in high school; I play baseball -- first base."

9. Esther Mumford.

Esther: "I'm a researcher and a writer, mostly African-American history."

10. Baba Wague Diakite

Baba Wague: "I was always an artist and a storyteller."

11. Roy Pittman

Roy: "I work with Parks and Recreation, and I'm head coach of a wrestling club."

11A. Jaclyn Davis

Jaclyn Davis: "I'm in 8th grade; I'm really busy all the time in sports."

12. Naomi Andrade Smith

Naomi: "I have a coffee roasting business and a Mexican deli takeout."

Sequence #2: People and their stories

13. Nate Moxley on camera (Seattle)

Background: Perhaps his office with young people in the background.

Nate:

[something like this]

"I'm the Executive Director of The Service Board. We offer young people community service, life skills, job skills, mentoring -- and snow-boarding. Magic happens up there -- with the challenge, the learning together, the growth. It's been amazing. It

provides a network for young folks who might not have an adult who cares about them."

14. Penda and Baba Wague Diakite on camera together (Portland)

Background: Perhaps their living room, which is filled with art.

Baba Wague:

[something like this]

"I met Penda's mother 24 years ago when she was an artist who came to Africa. I was an art apostle, introducing children to traditional folks tales through puppet shows. Our life together was triggered by an appreciation of art. Our children were born and raised in the Northwest.

Penda:

[something like this]

We go to Africa, to Mali, every other year. My sister and I get to see our father's big family and see different cultures.

[She shows her book-- "I Lost my Tooth in Africa"]

I wrote this book from my experiences there that my father illustrated -- and this month we went to New York for an award.

15. Eric Silvers on camera (Yakima)

Background: Possibly at his office desk with something that says "State Farm Insurance"

Eric:

[something like this]

"My family moved from West Virginia to Roslyn, Washington around 1890 as strikebreakers in the coal mines. Roslyn had so much racial tension, most of the blacks lived in Ellensburg and rode the train back and forth. The dance hall was

the center of the African American community. The cemetery in Roslyn for that time period is segregated."

Sequence #3: Montage: The African-American community in the NW

16. Nate Moxley.

Nate: *[something like this]*

"Gentrification has had devastating effects on the black community in Seattle. Thriving areas have slowly and surely eroded."

17. Loti Walker.

Loti: *[something like this]*

"When my family comes to visit they ask where are all the black people? Because we're kind of all spread out. To someone on the outside looking in we may seem a little invisible. While we seem thin we're pretty thick. There's a lot of love in the black community here."

18. Eric Silvers.

Eric: *[something like this]*

"There aren't many opportunities for young black men in Yakima, and so the black population is dwindling here."

18A. Jaclyn Davis.

Jaclyn: *[something like this]*

"I have some difficulties in middle school,

teachers and stuff. They have stereotypes. They make preconceptions. They judge you."

19. Baba Wague Diakite.

Baba Wague: *[something like this]*

"There aren't a lot of African Americans in the northwest, but there's a real community here."

Sequence #4: More people and their stories

20. Obo Addy on camera. (Portland)

Background: Perhaps in a music studio with his drums.

Obo:

[something like this]

"I'm a musician, an African drummer. Through music I teach about African culture, Ghanaian culture. I take college students for an 8-week course in Ghana where they study drumming, dancing, peace, politics and culture."

21. Loti Walker on camera. (Seattle)

Background: Maybe in the photography gallery with the student exhibit.

Loti:

[something like this]

"My program, 'Youth in Focus,' provides free photography classes for 13-19-year-olds. It's amazing to see young people show up here and be dedicated in a darkroom 6, 7, 10 hours a week, instead of playing sports or video games.

[she shows Katie's photograph of her mother in the exhibit]

"We teach the basic skills and give assignments like photographing someone you love. Here you can definitely see the love this student has for her mother. The young people keep me on my toes. I'm humbled by their spirit."

22. Brandon Leonard on camera. (Seattle)

Background: Perhaps a baseball field.

Brandon:

[something like this]

"I've been here all my life. I like studying U.S. history, and world history. I'm thinking of maybe going to Clemson University in South Carolina for college; I like their baseball program.

"Compared with other cities, Seattle is pretty quiet, as in not loud activities, violence toward one another, like the cities where things are kind of crazy, with shootings every night and no place to go to escape it. Seattle's pretty liberal, pretty clear-minded."

23. Esther Mumford on camera. (Seattle)

Background: Perhaps in her home office, or a place with books.

Esther:

[something like this]

"I came to Seattle in 1961 at the invitation of my aunt and uncle who lived here since World War II. I'm part of the pattern of people from all racial groups, where family members come and invite other family members to join them.

"I belong to St. Clemens Episcopal Church. I'm a religious person and I need that weekly connection to a spiritual base.

"I find myself involved in supporting civil rights -- I think it's important to work to make a difference for all of us."

Sequence #5: Montage: Why we love the NW

24. Nate Moxley

Nate: *[something like this]*

"I love the natural environment in the Northwest, the rain and the earth. The diversity--you see every spectrum of skin tone and hair and language..."

25. Penda Diakite.

Penda: *[something like this]*

"I like the rain."

25A. Jaclyn Davis.

Jaclyn: *[something like this]*

"I like everything but the rain."

26. Erik Silvers.

Eric: *[something like this]*

"I like the dry, sunny climate."

27. Naomi Andrade Smith.

Naomi: *[something like this]*

"Here people can define themselves and their experience."

28. Loti Walker.

Loti: *[something like this]*

"Ocean, mountains, you can't beat that."

29. Obo Addy.

Obo: *[something like this]*

"People smile and are warm to me and that's why I decided to base here."

30. Esther Mumford.

Esther: *[something like this]*

"I love the libraries, of course."

Sequence #6: More people and their stories

31. Roy Pittman on camera. (Portland)

Background: Maybe wrestling gym.

Roy:

[something like this]

"My grandfather was a porter on the railroad and thought that the northwest was the land of opportunity. My father worked on the railroad, too.

"I worked with Parks and Recreation beginning in 1970, then got involved in wrestling and ended up being an Olympic coach. Our club produced several national champions and three Olympians."

32. Naomi Andrade Smith on camera. (Seattle)

Background: Perhaps at her Mexican takeout deli.

Naomi:

[something like this]

"My mother was from Mexico and my father was from Oklahoma -- African American, Native American, Scottish and possibly some Spanish. My family moved to Mexico and then to L.A. where my aunt opened a restaurant catering to African

American servicemen in San Diego. She called it 'The Breakfast Club' and that's where the name comes from for the coffee I'm roasting.

[she shows a package of the coffee with her aunt's picture on it]

"I make Mexican food for a living. I make burritos, but with black beans, rice -- and collard greens. My father taught my mother how to cook the greens, but she cooked them in the Mexican way."

33. Slater Turner on camera.

Background: At Crooked River National Grasslands

Slater:

[something like this]

"I graduated from Alabama A&M and came to the Northwest in a forest training program. I worked my way up through various positions and now I'm the District Ranger for the Crooked River National Grasslands. I have full responsibility for land management, fire safety and recreation."

Sequence #9: Montage: The Northwest African American Museum

34. Nate Moxley.

Nate: *[something like this]*

"The Northwest African American Museum is an amazing spot that I hope creates a fire."

34A. Jaclyn Davis.

Jaclyn: *[something like this]*

"I've helped with the museum, working at fairs and community events. I met

important people I wouldn't expect to meet at my age. I'd like to be a docent. I just like helping people learn educational stuff about African Americans in the Northwest."

35. Esther Mumford.

Esther: *[something like this]*

"It means the culmination of a dream."

36. Slater Turner.

Slater: *[something like this]*

"It's a great opportunity for young people to see ways to make a difference, and career possibilities they might not otherwise consider."

37. Loti Walker.

Loti: *[something like this]*

"I may not have the words to sum up the museum: I feel like it's a presence, I feel like it's love, like it's enrichment, it's connecting, it's tangible. For the black community, I feel like the museum is saying, here we are. It's for everybody. I feel like it's home."

Fade out