

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts announces

# Screening of UNTITLED: DAVE CHAPPELLE DOCUMENTARY

## Accompanied by Remarks from Filmmakers Steven Bognar, Julia Reichert, and Dave Chappelle

## August 1, 2021 in the Concert Hall

(WASHINGTON)—The Kennedy Center today announced the screening of 2019 Mark Twin Prize recipient Dave Chappelle's documentary on Sunday, August 1 at 8:00 p.m. in the Concert Hall. The untitled Pilot Boy Production documentary is produced by Dave Chappelle and produced and directed by Oscar® and Emmy®—winning filmmakers Julia Reichert and Steven Bognar (*American Factory*). The film takes a glimpse into the challenges facing a rural village in Ohio during the early days of the pandemic, the emotions erupting across the nation following the Black Lives Matter movement, and the remarkable leadership of the town's youth who started weekly marches and rallies. This special screening will be accompanied by remarks from the filmmakers, Steve Bognar, Julia Reichert, and Dave Chappelle.

Fueled by the murder of George Floyd, shut-in by the closures of business and unable to perform around the country, the movie follows Chappelle as he provides the community he calls home with two things desperately needed in difficult times—economic and comic relief. What began as an experimental socially-distanced live comedy show in a neighbor's cornfield, grew into an unforgettable summer with his neighbors, friends, and fellow comedians. Ultimately, Chappelle's cornfield concerts would serve as a model of courage not just for his community, but for the entire live entertainment industry.

Directed by Ohio-based Reichert and Bognar, Academy Award® and Primetime Emmy®-winning documentarians, the film signifies an important chapter in their decades-long career.

"Dave is our neighbor. We see him in the grocery store, and on the street. When Dave came to us with the idea, we were immediately struck by the challenge to tell the story of our part of the world during the pandemic and the national reckoning on racial injustice," said Reichert. "This was a historic moment and we really wanted to chronicle this place and this time—it just felt right."

"Dave and his friends entrusted our team of amazing young filmmakers from Ohio with intimate moments which enabled us to create a moving portrait of artists as they navigated a time of fear and isolation," said Bognar.

Tickets for the screening are currently on-sale via the <u>Kennedy Center website</u> or by calling (202) 467-4600. All patrons attending the screening will be required to <u>wear masks</u> and place phones in a <u>Yondr pouch</u>.

Capital One® is the Presenting Sponsor of Comedy at the Kennedy Center.

### **About Dave Chappelle**

Dave Chappelle is an American comedian, screenwriter, television and film producer, and actor. Recognized as one of the greatest comedians of all time, Chappelle was awarded the prestigious Mark Twain Prize for American Humor from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2019. Chappelle's work in stand-up comedy, writing, producing, and acting has earned him more than 30 nominations and awards in television and film for projects that include his groundbreaking sketch comedy television series, *Chappelle's Show*, guest appearances on *Saturday Night Live*, and his comedy specials, most recently earning his third and fourth Emmy Awards® for *Sticks & Stones* in 2020. In audio content, Chappelle has won the Grammy Award® for Best Comedy Album three years in a row, 2018 through 2020. In 2017, Netflix cited *Dave Chappelle: Collection* 1 as the most-viewed comedy special ever on their network.

## **About Pilot Boy Productions**

Pilot Boy Productions, founded in 1992 by comedian and actor Dave Chappelle, is a film and television production company dedicated to producing thought-provoking, cutting edge and award-winning television, concert films and live events. Chappelle jokes the name "Pilot Boy" comes from the numerous pitches he made to television executives in his younger days. "I'd walk thru the door and say, 'Here comes Pilot Boy!" Since then, Chappelle has self-produced six nominated and award winning concert films and recently signed deals with both Netflix and Luminary to produce content for their streaming platforms.

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#### **Press Contact**

Brendan Padgett BEPadgett@kennedy-center.org