

FOR LOVE OF LIBERTY

THE STORY OF AMERICA'S BLACK PATRIOTS

JEFF STETSON

Mr. Stetson is an internationally acclaimed award-winning playwright and screenwriter for film and television. His stage plays include: *Keep the Faith: A musical on the life and times of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.*; *Fathers and Other Strangers* (recipient of Columbia College's Theodore Ward Award); *Fraternity* (winner Seattle Group Theater's Multi-Cultural Festival); *And the Men Shall Also Gather*, (developed at the O'Neill National Conference under the direction of Lloyd Richards); *To Play a Black Man*; *Love You Better*; *The Apology*; and *The Meeting*, which has been produced in all fifty-states and several countries including South Africa, the Netherlands, Canada, the Virgin Islands, England and Austria. It received eight N.A.A.C.P. Image Awards, including best play and best writer, a Louis B. Mayer Award and an Ohio State Achievement Award. He adapted the play for P.B.S. and American Playhouse where it received an Emmy award for technical achievement. His most recent play: "The Bayou Legend," is a musical adaptation of Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*; a collaboration with Debbie Allen and James Ingram. His television credits include the one-hour drama "First Time" for Nickelodeon's Sports Theater hosted by Shaquille O'Neill. It was a finalist for the prestigious Humanitas Prize and was also nominated for a Writers Guild Award. He wrote and produced a half-hour special "One Day" produced by the Children's Television Network in association with the Disney Channel directed by Debbie Allen. He co-created and wrote the pilot and first six episodes of: "My Parents, My Sister & Me," a half-hour sitcom which had its national premiere on the N.B.C. Network, November 2009. He also wrote and co-executive produced the half-hour pilot "Sunday in Paris" which starred Debbie Allen and Diahann Carroll broadcast on N.B.C. as well as several other half-hour and one-hour pilots for N.B.C, C.B.S. and FOX.

He has written and developed more than two-dozen films and television movies for the major studios as well as H.B.O, Showtime and Lifetime Network. His screenplays in development include, "Civil Wars" written for Sally Field for Columbia pictures in association with Larry Gordon and Fogwood Films; "Out of Ashes" for Steven Spielberg's Amblin Productions in association with Touchstone Pictures; "Divided Soul: The Marvin Gaye Story" for Gordy\DePasse; "Keep the Faith: The Story of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr." for Warner Brothers, Chuck Roven producer; "The Buffalo Soldiers" for United Image Productions; "Witness to an Assassination: The Gene Roberts Story" for H.B.O. and the production rewrite of "Passenger 57" starring Wesley Snipes for Warner Bros.

Mr. Stetson's first novel: "Blood on the Leaves" was published by Warner Books in 2004. He adapted it for Paramount Pictures for Academy Award winning actor, Jamie Foxx.

His most recent project was serving as Producing Consultant on the first episode of "The History of Blacks in Entertainment" a twelve-part documentary on the struggles and triumphs of African American performers in film, television and theater produced by Blair Underwood and Wren Brown.

Mr. Stetson was the formal Dean of Faculty and Staff Affairs and Director for Public Affairs and University Relations for the California State University system. He has served as a writing mentor at Robert Redford's Sundance Institute and Professor at the Theater Arts and Dance Department at California State University, Los Angeles where he has taught creative writing for stage, film, and television. He also taught the first Professional Workshop for African-American

FOR LOVE OF LIBERTY

THE STORY OF AMERICA'S BLACK PATRIOTS

Screenwriters established by Bill and Camille Cosby in 1994 at the USC School of Cinema-Television.