

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Tapping into the Brilliance of Gregory Hines

U.S. Postal Service Honors Legendary Entertainer with Black Heritage Series Stamp

What: The 42nd stamp in the Black Heritage series honors Gregory Hines, whose unique style of tap dancing injected new artistry and excitement into a traditional American form. A versatile performer who danced, acted and sang on Broadway, television and in movies, Hines developed the entertainment traditions of tap into an art form for a younger generation and is credited with renewing interest in tap during the 1990s.

The first-day-of-issue event is free and open to the public. News of the stamp is being shared with the hashtags #GregoryHinesForever and #BlackHeritageStamps.

Who: Gary Barksdale, Acting Chief Postal Inspector and Dedicating Official

When: Monday, Jan. 28, 2019, at 11 a.m. EST

Where: Peter Norton Symphony Space
2537 Broadway at 95th Street
New York, NY 10025-6990

RSVP: Dedication ceremony attendees are encouraged to RSVP at usps.com/gregoryhinesblackheritage.

Background: Gregory Hines (1946-2003) was nominated for Tony Awards in the 1970s for his

performances in three Broadway musicals — “Eubie!,” “Comin’ Uptown,” and “Sophisticated Ladies” — and won a Tony Award in 1992 for his starring role in “Jelly’s Last Jam.” He danced alongside his brother, Maurice, in Francis Ford Coppola’s 1984 film “The Cotton Club” and alongside ballet legend Mikhail Baryshnikov in the 1985 movie “White Nights,” and he appeared in the 1989 movie “Tap,” which highlighted three generations of tap dancers. He also hosted an Emmy-winning Public Broadcasting Service show about tap dancing, recorded a No. 1 R&B duet with Luther Vandross, twice hosted the Tony Awards, and acted in television sitcoms.

The stamp features a 1988 photograph by Jack Mitchell that shows a smiling Hines on one knee in a red blazer and gray pants, with one foot raised to show the taps on the bottom of his shoe. Art director Derry Noyes designed the stamp.

The Gregory Hines stamp is being issued as a Forever stamp and will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce price.

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shop, by calling 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724), by mail through *USA Philatelic* catalog or at Post Office locations nationwide.

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