



Preserving Nevada's Past. Exploring America's Story.

A presentation to Vegas PBS

Ted Faye & James Markham Hall, Co-Founders



Ted Faye — Nevada Northern Railroad, A Sure Bet



*We tell the stories that
explain how Nevada
became Nevada.*

— Ted Faye, Gold Creek Films

Our Mission

Gold Creek Films creates documentaries and historical programming that uncover the people, events, and turning points that shaped Nevada and the American West.

Our work combines historical scholarship, compelling storytelling, and cinematic craft to make history meaningful for modern audiences.

Nevada's history is not just local history — it is American history.

The Team



Ted Faye

Producer, Director & Co-Founder

Award-winning filmmaker and historian with more than three decades of documentary production on the desert histories of the American West.

Author of three Arcadia "Images of America" books: *The Twenty Mule Team of Death Valley*, *Death Valley Gold Rush*, and *Goldfield*.

Produced museum signage across Nevada, including a full exhibit on the history of the mule in America for the American Mule Museum in Bishop, California.



James Markham Hall

Producer, Cinematographer & Co-Founder

Experienced producer and cinematographer with a background in documentary and feature film production, as well as extensive post-production expertise. James's perspective as an African American filmmaker is directly woven into Gold Creek's mission

James is also an accomplished VR producer and Epic Games grant recipient and was contracted by Death Valley National Park to shoot a VR production at Scotty's Castle through Gold Creek VR."

"The stories that built Nevada deserve to be preserved before they are forgotten." — Ted Faye

Original Series



Mark and Ted's History Adventures

Ongoing Series

Hosted by Ted Faye and Nevada historian Mark Hall-Patton, the series explores historic sites, forgotten stories, and the rich heritage of Nevada and the Southwest.

Designed to bring local history to life for contemporary audiences — featuring one of the state's most trusted voices in public history.



History To Go

Short-Form Historical Storytelling

Bite-sized historical content designed for engagement across broadcast, digital, and social platforms.

History To Go makes Nevada's past accessible and shareable — ideal for interstitial programming, digital distribution, and audience development.

Three Films. One Nevada Story.

*Each film explores a different dimension of the same question:
How did Nevada become one of the most unique places in America?*

ORIGINS



A Sure Bet

How Las Vegas was born

IDENTITY



The Longest Fight

*How Nevada emerged on the
national stage*

LEGEND



The Story of Queho

How Nevada created its mythology

ORIGINS

A Sure Bet

The Birth of Las Vegas

*Supported by the
Las Vegas Centennial Commission*

- The American West
- Entrepreneurship
- Railroad Expansion
- Risk & Opportunity

The Story

Between 1904 and 1906, a remote desert oasis became one of America's most iconic cities — through the collision of water, railroads, ambition, speculation, and ordinary people who chose to stay.

Drawing from newly uncovered letters, diaries, and firsthand accounts, the film follows legendary figures such as William Andrews Clark, Helen Stewart, J.T. McWilliams, and Charles “Pop” Squires — whose personal stories reveal a city taking shape one decision, one building, and one dream at a time.

More than a story of a railroad or a land auction — it is the untold origin story of Las Vegas, and a reminder that every great city begins with a gamble.

IDENTITY

The Longest Fight

*Joe Gans and the Making
of Modern Nevada*

- Civil Rights
- Sports History
- Race in America
- Nevada Heritage
- Origins of Fight Culture

*Based on the book The Longest Fight
by William Gildea*

The Story

Joe Gans was the first Black boxing champion in American history.

In 1906, he fought a legendary championship bout in Goldfield, Nevada — an event that drew national media, transformed the young state's reputation, and foreshadowed Las Vegas's future as the fight capital of the world.

The Longest Fight explores Gans's rise from poverty to championship, the significance of the Goldfield mining boom, and how a single prizefight helped establish Nevada as a place the entire nation would pay attention to.

Drawing on Gold Creek Films work on the acclaimed Showtime Sports documentary, *Iverson*, the team brings experience in sports biographies past and present.

Long before the neon, Nevada was already building its story.

LEGEND

The Story of Queho

Nevada's Most Enduring Legend

*Developed in partnership with
the Weird Tales Festival*

- Nevada Folklore
- Myth & Memory
- History & Storytelling
- Cultural Identity

The Story

Every region has its legends. Queho is one of Nevada's most enduring — and most misunderstood.

Part history, part folklore, part mystery, The Story of Queho separates the real man from the myth — examining what his story reveals about race, isolation, fear, and the way communities create legends to make sense of the unknown.

It's a window into early Southern Nevada that bears exploration in film.

Developed in conjunction with the Weird Tales Festival, the project explores the intersection of history, storytelling, and cultural memory — a story as haunting as the desert itself.

Community & Partnerships

Our Network

Gold Creek Films has built deep roots throughout Nevada's historical, cultural, and civic communities:

- Las Vegas Centennial Commission (grant support)
- Mark Hall-Patton (historian & series co-host)
- Nevada Historians, Museums and Educators.
- Bob Werner & Jim Marsh (preservation advocates)
- Neighboring Tecopa, California's first annual Weird Tales Festival. (Project Partnership)

These relationships help build audiences, secure partnerships, and ensure community trust around every story we tell.

Why Vegas PBS

Vegas PBS is owned by the Clark County School District — the fifth largest school district in the nation. That means education isn't just a PBS value here; it's the institution's core identity.

Gold Creek Films is built to serve that mission:

- Historical content with classroom applications
- Underrepresented voices & diverse stories
- Local history that connects to national themes
- Nevada heritage that CCSD students can claim

We don't just make films for broadcast. We make content that teachers can use, students can connect with, and communities can be proud of.

Beyond the Film — Preserving the Fight Site

Gold Creek Films is a named partner in the Gans/Goldfield Historic Park Proposal — a 6.5-acre preservation site at the exact location of the 1906 championship fight.



Gans vs. Nelson Historic Site — aerial tour map



Proposed ring recreation with boardwalk pathway and interpretive panels

Partners: Nevada Land Trust • Our Story, Inc. • Gold Creek Films • Goldfield Historical Society • PBS Reno • MPT (Maryland Public Television) • Friends of Joe Gans, Baltimore • Cornerteam, Inc.

Education & Curriculum Development

Vegas PBS is owned by the Clark County School District — the fifth largest in the nation. That changes this conversation. Gold Creek Films isn't just a documentary producer seeking broadcast distribution. We're a potential long-term educational content partner.

Classroom Curriculum Guides

Each film accompanied by teacher guides aligned to Nevada Social Studies standards — ready to use in CCSD classrooms.

Student Screening Programs

Organized screenings for CCSD schools with Q&A, historian participation, and discussion materials for civic engagement.

Short-Form Educational Content

History To Go segments purpose-built for classroom use — covering Nevada history topics that align with curriculum requirements.

Diverse Voices in History

Joe Gans, Queho, early Las Vegas settlers — stories that reflect the full diversity of Nevada's past, for students who deserve to see themselves in history.

Behind the Scenes — People & Production

Gold Creek Films in the field — Nevada Northern Railroad, Las Vegas Valley, and beyond



Ted Faye & James Markham Hall with First Assistant Camera Joe Provenzano — Nevada Northern RR location, A Sure Bet



James, Lisa, Bob Stoldal (Historian) and Ted— on set interview, A Sure Bet



Mark Hall-Patton interview on location, Clark County Museum — A Sure Bet



Lisa, Claytee White (Historian), Ted and James – on set, A Sure Bet

Sets, Craft & Historical Accuracy

Then & Now — The Saloon



c.1905 — "The Boozy Burros" (original photograph)



2026 — Gold Creek Films recreation, *A Sure Bet*



Tent house exterior — built from scratch, donated to Clark County Museum

A Permanent Contribution to Nevada History

Every set built for *A Sure Bet* was researched from period photographs. The tent house presented a unique challenge: no surviving example existed anywhere in the state of Nevada. Gold Creek Films researched, designed, and built one from scratch for the film — then donated the completed structure to the Clark County Museum, where it now stands as a permanent exhibit of early Las Vegas life.

Opportunities for Collaboration

A Sure Bet

The Birth of Las Vegas — supported by the Las Vegas Centennial Commission

Ready for Distribution Discussion

The Longest Fight

Joe Gans, Goldfield, and the Making of Modern Nevada

In Active Development

The Story of Queho

Nevada's Most Enduring Legend — partnered with the Weird Tales Festival

In Development

Mark and Ted's History Adventures

Nevada's historic sites with historian Mark Hall-Patton

Ongoing — Expansion Potential

History To Go

Short-form content ideal for digital, social, and interstitial programming

Ongoing



*"Nevada is often defined by casinos and neon.
But beneath that image are extraordinary stories of
pioneers, visionaries, champions, and legends.*

*Gold Creek Films is dedicated to preserving those stories
and sharing them with new generations
before they disappear."*

Ted Faye | Gold Creek Films

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