



****FILMMAKER/SUBJECT INTERVIEWS AND SCREENING LINK
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MSNBC FILMS PRESENTS DOCUMENTARY FEATURE BATTLEGROUND GEORGIA

***Directed by Daresha Kyi (Mama Bears)
Debuts Sunday, May 19 at 9 p.m. ET on MSNBC***

[WATCH TRAILER HERE](#)

The 2020 election cycle was an opportunity for grassroots organizers to show how voter registration efforts could empower those who historically chose to remain outside the political process. Georgia became emblematic of the power of this work when a coalition registered over two million new voters flipping a reliably red state, electing Joe Biden and the state's first Black and the first Jewish senators. This shift in the national political landscape set off a wave of backlash utilizing the voter suppression playbook written by white supremacists over a century ago. While state legislatures are introducing voter restriction bills that overwhelmingly target voters of color, Georgia's changemakers are ramping up their efforts to fight these new laws heading into another high stakes Presidential election. In *Battleground Georgia*, the leaders of multiple voting rights groups and political figures from both parties discuss the challenges of protecting a representative government. As Americans prepare to go to the polls in 2024, this film provokes thoughtful questions about the health and future of the US democracy.

Battleground Georgia was directed by Daresha Kyi who embedded with Black Voters Matter for almost a year across 13 states. The film is an important model, success story, and rallying cry about the power of grassroots organizing, examining how the movement is working to keep voters engaged ahead of the 2024 election.

Produced by MSNBC Films, Time Studios, Trevor Noah's Day Zero Productions, Sugar23, and Mainstay, *Battleground Georgia* is the eighth installment of The Turning Point documentary series tackling the big issues of the era — from voting rights to civil rights, human rights to climate change, to the fight for American democracy.

PREVIEW CLIP HIGHLIGHTS:

Emory University Professor of African American Studies Carol Anderson on registering people to vote in Georgia: “Grassroots organizers have played an enormous role in getting Georgia to a rate of 95% of all age-eligible Georgians registered to vote. 95%.”

[HIGHLIGHT CLIP 1](#)

Black Voters Matter Co-Founder, LaTosha Brown on challenging the two-party system in America: “We’ve got these systems in place that do not support pluralism, which means they’re going to have to be replaced, themselves.” Adding: “We’ve got a new generation of thinkers, of innovators, of creators that are actually thinking very differently about everything. They’re challenging all of the existing structures, and I think that there’s a lot that can come out of that.”

[HIGHLIGHT CLIP 2](#)

CEO of the New Georgia Project, Kendra Cotton on the civic participation of the New Georgia Majority: “Here in Georgia, we take a lot of pride in the fact that we showed our fellow brethren across the former Confederate states that you can catch a W out here statewide.” Adding: “People are paying attention to Georgia now, but I want to be clear. Before 2020, they left us for dead too.”

[HIGHLIGHT CLIP 3](#)

*****FILMMAKER AND SUBJECT INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST*****

Credits

- **Director:** Daresha Kyi (Mama Bears)
- **Producer:** Natalie Jowett (When Truth Isn't Truth: The Rudy Giuliani Story)
- **Editor:** Jason Pollard (Louis Armstrong's Black and Blues)

- **Executive Producers:** Rashida Jones, Rebecca Kutler, Amanda Spain, Loren Hammonds, Alexa Conway, Elizabeth Waller, Trevor Noah, Sanaz Yamin, Michael Sugar, Ashley Zalta, David Hillman, Norman Aladjem, and Derek Van Pelt
- **Co- Executive Producers:** Dan Zubrzycki and Rebekah Gitlitz

Film Subjects

- **LaTosha Brown**, *CoFounder of Black Voters Matter Fund; Award-winning community organizer*
- **Deborah Scott**, *Chief Executive Officer, Georgia STAND-UP*
- **Carol Anderson**, *Charles Howard Candler Professor of African American Studies at Emory University*
- **Baoky Vu**, *Former vice-chair of the DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections in Georgia*
- **Janell Ross**, *Senior correspondent on race and identities for TIME*
- **Joy Reid**, *Host of MSNBC's The ReidOut*
- **Cliff Albright**, *Co-Founder and CEO, Black Voters Matter*
- **Adelina Nicholls**, *Executive Director of Georgia Latino Alliance for Human Rights*
- **Helen Butler**, *Executive Director of the Georgia Coalition for the Peoples' Agenda*
- **Nsé Ufot**, *CEO, New Georgia Project 2014-2022*
- **Kendra Davenport Cotton**, *Chief Executive Officer, The New Georgia Project*

ABOUT MSNBC FILMS

MSNBC Films, a division of MSNBC, produces and acquires documentary features and short films for distribution across the NBCUniversal News Group platforms. MSNBC Films collaborates with top filmmakers to deliver a variety of thought-provoking films that reveal the humanity beyond the headlines, combining the extraordinary journalism of NBCUniversal News Group. For more information, please visit <https://www.msnbc.com/films>.

MEDIA CONTACTS:

For any questions or interview requests for "Battleground Georgia," please reach out to Elektra.Gray@nbcuni.com and Haylie.Reichner@nbcuni.com.

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