

**Emmy Winning Storyteller  
Bobby Norfolk Presents**



# Gateway to the West: Early St. Louis (1764-1857)



The Old  
Courthouse



Dred Scott

**Imagine a time when steam-powered paddle boats crowded the downtown riverfront, cargo was hauled along the historic cobblestone streets, and slaves were bought and sold as property.**

A former National Park Ranger at the Gateway Arch and Old Courthouse, Bobby brings early St. Louis to life, exploring its history, culture and personalities, providing fascinating, entertaining, thought-provoking, and sometimes unsettling glimpses into the past.

Highlights include:

- ♦ The importance and meaning of the Gateway to the West - How settlers walked 2000 miles to California & Oregon, including their encounters with nature and Native Americans
- ♦ The significance of the Mississippi River
- ♦ Pierre Laclède and the founding of St. Louis by French settlers in 1764
- ♦ Auguste Chouteau and the fur trade
- ♦ Jim Beckwourth, infamous Mountain Man
- ♦ York, the slave who traveled with the famous explorers Lewis & Clark
- ♦ Early St. Louis as it might have looked in 1800s
- ♦ The cholera epidemic of 1830's
- ♦ The Great Fire of 1849
- ♦ The Dred Scott Decision of 1857 which led to the Civil War

*This program is ideal for grades 3 through adult and addresses the grade level expectations for History and Social Studies.*