To this day we barely understand the full impact of the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities in search of a better life. This migration—driven not by one single leader but by six million Americans seeking political asylum in their own country—reshaped culture and politics, North and South, and set in motion the current racial challenges and disparities we now face as a country.
This program is part of the Pulitzer Prizes Centennial Campfires Initiative, a joint venture of the Pulitzer Prizes Board and the Federation of State Humanities Councils in celebration of the 2016 centennial of the Pulitzer Prizes.