

Excellence in Journalism

Huell Howser

When Huell Howser moved to Los Angeles in 1981 from his home state of Tennessee to become a reporter for KCBS-TV in Los Angeles, he had no idea he'd fall in love with California. His enthusiasm for his new home inspired the idea for the television series that started it all, **California's Gold**. Huell had a simple idea: if he traveled the state with an open heart and an open mind, a microphone and a camera, he would uncover a treasure of California stories.

A native of Tennessee, Huell began his television career at WSM-TV in Nashville after receiving his B.A. degree from the University of Tennessee, serving on the staff of a United States Senator and a stint in the U.S. Marine Corps. He later joined WCBS-TV in New York City as host of a magazine-style series. He then came to Los Angeles in 1981 to work as a reporter for KCBS-TV. Huell joined public television station KCET/Los Angeles in 1987 to produce "Videolog," a series of short programs featuring the stories of people from all walks of life. This series captured the imagination of viewers and led directly to an expanded format which covered people and places throughout the state.

And now after over 15 years in production, **California's Gold** is one of the longest running and most beloved series about California ever produced. The success and popularity of the show helped to launch six additional series about life in California: **Visiting with Huell Howser, Road Trip with Huell Howser, California's Golden Parks, California's Green, California's Water** and the newest series, **Downtown**. Huell Howser's shows can be viewed six nights a week on KCET, and at various times on California PBS stations statewide and in Oregon, Nevada and Tennessee. He lives in Los Angeles and Twenty-Nine Palms.

