



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF DIVERSE VOICES

PROUD SPONSOR OF TOMORROW'S STORYTELLERS

The 20th Annual
ABFF
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL JUNE 15-19, 2016

MIAMI BEACH @ABFF #ABFF20

HBO The 20th Annual
ABFF
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL
#HBOINSPIRES #ABFF20

PRESENTING & FOUNDING



PRESENTING



TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE PRESTIGE SEDAN HAS BEEN REINVENTED.
INTRODUCING THE FIRST-EVER CADILLAC CT6.



Cadillac

DARE GREATLY

A DARING EXPRESSION OF AMBITION.
CADILLAC.COM/CT6

Preproduction model shown. Available Early 2016.
©2016 General Motors. All Rights Reserved. Cadillac®

Founder's Welcome	04
Black Enterprise Welcome	06
HBO® Welcome	08
GMCVB Welcome	10
Event Schedule	11-14
Screening Schedule	15-18

OFFICIAL FILM SELECTIONS

Opening Night Film	20
Spotlight Screenings	21-22
Narrative Features	24-28
Documentaries	30
HBO® Short Film Competition	32
Web Originals	34

Talent Discovery Programs	36-40
Talk Series Events	42
Master Classes & Industry Coaching Sessions	44
"Best of Festival" Awards Ceremony	46
Festival Venues & Registration	48
Event Staff	50-52
Special Thanks	54
2016 Sponsors	58



COMCAST NBCUNIVERSAL

and the



Talent Infusion Programs

are proud to support

The 20th Annual



AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL JUNE 15-19, 2016



TALENT
KNOWS
NO
BOUNDARIES

WELCOME



Success for filmmakers in Hollywood requires years of rigorous training, building a solid network and, most importantly, unwavering tenacity. For African Americans, fulfilling these requirements presents a particular challenge; and even when the challenge is met, they encounter resistance. More than any other group, they have been forced to navigate within an industry that rarely embraces true diversity or fully appreciates the vision of auteurs of color.

That's why 20 years ago we launched the American Black Film Festival, initiating what has grown into the premiere professional development and networking platform for African American filmmakers, artists and industry influencers. As such, we have used our festival to showcase and celebrate the accomplishments of a range of exceptional African Americans within the industry - both veterans and newcomers - to share our stories and inspire the next generation.

I must say that I arrive at this moment in our incredible journey bursting with pride for what we have been able to achieve -- introducing an untested format two decades ago to with a mere 90 people in sunny Acapulco and watching it evolve in to an event that now brings together more than 10,000

black film and television enthusiasts annually. The result: we offer one of the nation's most powerful networking platforms, enabling legions of filmmakers to expand contacts, deepen relationships and conduct business with one another.

From the beginning, we have steadfastly kept our eye on the prize: Diversification of the entertainment industry through the creation of a showcase for talented visionaries, ensuring them the opportunity for their work to be seen by the widest audience possible. The ABFF has been critical in projecting to the world a range of unique images, stories, lifestyles and viewpoints. We have continued to demonstrate the undeniable fact that black people in America are not a monolith, but a population with an infinite variety of backgrounds, cultures, experiences and points of view.

I have always been extremely proud and, along with our attendees, thoroughly impressed with the trailblazers and luminaries who have graced our festival. But what has given me the greatest sense of exhilaration has been my discovery and connection with industry disruptors who employ audacity, resilience and revolutionary ideas. In fact, I have witnessed a number of them cut deals, gain financing, acquire contracts and forge partnerships as a result of their ABFF experience.

As evidenced by the events of this year, we all realize that we must further strengthen and expand our presence within the filmmaking community to ensure our stories are told as well as to facilitate the linkages between entrepreneurs in business, finance and tech with creative visionaries. So we mark this milestone event by renewing our commitment to serve as the chief advocate for an inclusive Hollywood. We have designed ABFF 20 and beyond to help filmmakers of color fully embrace innovation, use their creativity to attract financing and build formidable ventures, and become integral participants in the entertainment industry.

I'm proud to say that ABFF will continue to serve as a catalyst for the advancement of black independent filmmaking. As we continue face tough challenges and identify promising developments, the ABFF will continue to promote industry-wide excellence and stoke our indomitable creative spirit.

Jeff Friday
Founder & CEO,
Film Life & ABFF Ventures



CRAZY SEXY HOT!

GOLF+TENNIS+SPA+NIGHTLIFE+TASTING+NETWORKING+DANCING+RELAXING



PERFORMING: **STEPHANIE MILLS**

PERFORMING: **MC LYTE**

Sept. 1-4, 2016
LABOR DAY WEEKEND

PGA National Resort & Spa
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

TO REGISTER & FOR MORE INFORMATION

VISIT EMAIL CALL TWEET

WWW.BLACKENTERPRISE.COM/GT
BEEVENTS@BLACKENTERPRISE.COM
212-886-9590
#BEGT

HOST SPONSOR



WELCOME

On behalf of **BLACK ENTERPRISE**, and in enthusiastic partnership with Film Life, Inc., it's my privilege and pleasure to welcome you to the premiere film and television event for African-American content creators, artists and industry influencers: the landmark 20th annual American Black Film Festival. We are extremely excited to help bring this truly unique forum for the creative and business communities driving diversity in film and TV back to Miami.

It's been more than a year since **BLACK ENTERPRISE** joined in partnership with Film Life to form ABFF Ventures, and our journey together since has been nothing short of amazing—highlighted by our presentation of the “ABFF Awards: A Celebration of Hollywood,” which aired on BET Networks in February. I join my business partner and friend Jeff Friday, the founder of ABFF and CEO of Film Life, in expressing gratitude to our sponsors for the 20th anniversary edition of ABFF.

Of course, you, and people like you, are what makes ABFF such a unique and necessary event. This dynamic gathering of industry leaders, creatives, executives, innovators and Black film fans from every corner of America and beyond, together comprise the ultimate networking event for African Americans in the industry. In addition, as the unabashed film-lovers among you know, ABFF has earned its legacy as a great showcase for groundbreaking cinema. I urge you to take full advantage of the world premieres, panels, master classes, parties and other events of the next several days. Don't forget to follow and share all the happenings on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook using the hash tag #ABFF20. And of course, you'll want to follow coverage of everything ABFF at BlackEnterprise.com.

Finally, thank you to both the ABFF and the **BLACK ENTERPRISE** staff as they combine their prodigious talents, vision and powers of execution, to produce an experience like no other.

ABFF is back in Miami—and there is no cooler place to be!

Best,

Earl "Butch" Graves Jr.
President & CEO
BLACK ENTERPRISE



FROM HERE TO ANYWHERE.

*Get to the places that matter most with
the most nonstop flights of any airline.*



WELCOME



Dear ABFF Attendees:

HBO welcomes you to The American Black Film Festival (ABFF) in celebrating a milestone anniversary and the return home to Miami, Florida. For 20 years, the ABFF continues to be the apex in its commitment and empowerment of the black film community. In celebrating the efforts and talents of black filmmakers, HBO shares the festival's mission that black artists deserve the same opportunities as their fellow counterparts. We could not be more proud to be a presenting sponsor this year, having been a founding sponsor for the past 19 years. As we commence this extraordinary festival, we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to The American Black Film Festival and its sponsors. We hope our support and dedication furthers this important work within the film community. Our long-standing partnership with the ABFF has allowed us to play an integral role in supporting emerging filmmakers. By sharing our vision and creative resources, we have been able to provide its participants networking opportunities, workshops, panels and competitions. Attending representatives from several HBO divisions will

provide full support in Film Programming, Documentary, Original Programming, Talent Relations, Marketing, Production, Business Affairs, Human Resources and Corporate Social Responsibility.

This year, HBO is sponsoring key events where attendees will have the opportunity to network with HBO representatives and fellow artistic colleagues.

The 19th Annual HBO® Short Film Award competition continues to be an unparalleled opportunity in identifying and investing in the next generation of diverse and talented filmmakers. Of the many extraordinary filmmakers competing, five finalists vie for Short Film Award and a cash prize of \$10,000. The finalists will also have the opportunity to license their film with HBO. We invite you to join us at the final round of competition on June 16, 2016 at the Colony Theater. The Best of ABFF Awards will be held on Saturday, June 18th where the winner for the Short Film Award will be announced.

The 4th Annual ABFF Comedy Wings Competition Finals will be held on June 17, 2016 at the Loews Hotel. Currently in its fourth year of consecutive HBO sponsorship, this competition is committed to discovering, cultivating and showcasing talented, undiscovered comedians. Joined by fellow industry professionals, HBO executives from our Original Programming groups are thrilled to participate as judges in search of fresh comedic voices.

We offer a special thanks to our partner Jeff Friday and to his incredible staff. Their involvement in developing such an influential forum provides public and industry recognition to diverse talent.

We look forward to seeing you at the festival!

Sincerely,
Dennis Williams
VP, Corporate Social Responsibility
HBO



EMBRACE, ENGAGE AND REDISCOVER MIAMI'S MULTICULTURAL JEWELS

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau Congratulates
The American Black Film Festival on its 20th Anniversary



MiamiandBeaches.com



WELCOME

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) is excited to partner with the American Black Film Festival (ABFF) - 20th Year Anniversary Celebration.

The American Black Film Festival is highly regarded as the premier film and entertainment festival in the country dedicated to helping elevate persons of color in the industry. This year's star-studded lineup of film and workshops coupled with celebrity participation is a sure recipe for one of the best festivals in the 20-year history!

The theme for GMCVB's Multicultural initiatives is Engage, Embrace and Rediscover Miami's Multicultural Jewels as it is important that all of Miami is showcased to our visitors and convention delegates. We are excited about the festivities on Miami Beach and also about the community day of activities scheduled for Downtown Miami at the Historic Lyric Theater in Overtown which are open to the general community to participate.

Thanks to all of the visitors that decided to attend ABFF in Miami this week!! It is our hope that the hospitality shown while here in the "305" will exceed your expectations!

Yours Truly,
Connie W. Kinnard
Vice President, Multicultural Tourism & Development
Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau

EVENT SCHEDULE

Please note: All daytime sessions at the Loews and the Ritz-Carlton are 90 minutes.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

11 AM – 8 PM
REGISTRATION CENTER
Venue: Ritz-Carlton, 1 Lincoln Rd., Grand Ballroom, Salon 1

11 AM – 6 PM
THE POWER LOUNGE
Hosted by Cadillac
Check-in for Deco passholders with celebrity meet & greet with David Ramsey at 4 pm.
Venue: Loews Hotel, 1601 Collins Ave., Cowrie 2

11 AM – 6 PM
CADILLAC OUTDOOR SHOWROOM
Venue: Loews, Palm Court

6:15 PM
SHUTTLE BUS PICKUP TO OPENING NIGHT FILM
(Sobe & Deco passholders only)
Departs: Loews Driveway

6:30 PM
RED CARPET ARRIVALS
Venue: Olympia Theater, 174 E. Flagler St.

7:30 PM
FESTIVAL WELCOME
Venue: Olympia Theater, 174 E. Flagler St.

8 PM
OPENING NIGHT FILM: CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Courtesy of Warner Bros., presented by the MPAA.
Venue: Olympia Theater, 174 E. Flagler St.

10:30 PM
SHUTTLE BUS PICKUP TO OPENING NIGHT PARTY
(Sobe & Deco passholders only)
Departs: Olympia Theater

11 PM – 3 AM
OPENING NIGHT PARTY
Hosted by Coors Light
Music by D-NICE
Venue: Story, 136 Collins Ave.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

9 AM – 6 PM
REGISTRATION CENTER
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salon 1

9 AM – 5 PM
THE POWER LOUNGE
Hosted by Cadillac
Catered breaks and celebrity meet & greet with Elise Neal at 4 pm. *This event is a perk for Deco passholders.*
Venue: Loews, Cowrie 2

9 AM – NOON
MASTER CLASS: ACTORS BOOT CAMP, Session 1
(Master Class ticket required)
Instructor: **Bill Duke**
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

10 AM – 6 PM
CADILLAC OUTDOOR SHOWROOM
Venue: Loews, Palm Court

11 AM – 11 PM
OFFICIAL FILM SCREENINGS: Narrative Feature & Documentary Sections
Venue: Regal Cinemas (Screens 17 & 18) 1120 Lincoln Rd.

12 NOON
A CONVERSATION WITH COMMON
Presented by American Airlines
A dynamic discussion with Oscar-winning recording artist & multi-Grammy winner and actor **Common** (Barbershop: The Next Cut, Selma, Smokin' Aces, American Gangster).
Moderator: **Roland S. Martin**.

journalist & host
(NewsOne Now, TV One)
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

NOON – 5 PM
AMERICAN AIRLINES PASSHOLDER LOUNGE
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salon 1

1:30 PM
SPOTLIGHT SCREENING: ABFF INDEPENDENT
courtesy of ASPIRE
Season Premiere
Join Grammy Award-winning music producer, recording artist and actor David Banner (Ride Along, Lee Daniel's The Butler) for the season premiere of ASPIRE's popular original series that presents the best of independent shorts and docs from emerging African American artists.
Venue: Colony Theatre

5 PM
SPOTLIGHT SCREENING: ANGIE TRIBECA
courtesy of TBS
***Free Community Screening for passholders & FL residents.
Preview a brand-new episode of "Angie Tribeca," along with one of the show's stars, Deon Cole, who will participate in a lively discussion following the screening.
Moderator: **Lisa Bonner**, EBONY magazine
Venue: Colony Theatre

5 PM
ABFF INDUSTRY CONNECT
An industry networking event where festival attendees will have a chance to hear from and connect directly with reps from SAGIndie, Motion Picture Editors Guild, the Atlanta Mayor's Office of Film and Entertainment and other industry organizations.
Limited entry. RSVP required to attend this event via ABFF.com
Venue: Loews, New York Sands

7:45 PM
RED CARPET ARRIVALS
Venue: Colony Theatre

8:30 PM
HBO SHORT FILM COMPETITION
Five emerging filmmakers showcase their unique stories while vying for the prestigious HBO Short Film Award in its 19th year. Hosted by **Bevy Smith** (Bevelations, SiriusXM)
Venue: Colony Theatre
Seating for this event is limited, admission is on a first come first served basis.

10:30 PM
#SoMiami WHITE PARTY
Attire: **Chic Miami White**
Music by **DJ Self**
Venue: Pearl at Nikki Beach, 1 Ocean Drive

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

9 AM – 6 PM
REGISTRATION CENTER
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salon 1

9 AM – 5 PM
THE POWER LOUNGE
Hosted by Cadillac
Catered breaks and celebrity meet & greet with **Omari Hardwick** at 4 pm.
This event is a perk for Deco passholders.
Venue: Loews, Cowrie 2

9 AM – 11 AM
VH1 UNSCRIPTED STORYTELLING WORKSHOP
(for selected candidates only)
Venue: Loews, Moon Room

9 AM – NOON
MASTER CLASS: ACTORS BOOT CAMP, Session 2
(Master Class ticket required)
Instructor: **Bill Duke**
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

10 AM – 6 PM
CADILLAC OUTDOOR SHOWROOM
Venue: Loews, Palm Court

11 AM–11 PM
OFFICIAL FILM SCREENINGS:
Narrative Feature & Documentary Sections
Venue: Regal Cinemas (Screens 17 & 18)

11 AM
WEB ORIGINALS SHOWCASE
Host: **Dennis White**, (Notorious, Parenthood)
Six highly entertaining webisodes compete for the Best Web Original Award, presented by Comcast Xfinity. Meet the minds behind the series ideas post-screening.
Venue: Colony Theatre

11:30 AM
ABFF FIRST LOOK: THE BIRTH OF A NATION
Presented by the MPAA, courtesy of Fox Searchlight.
An enlightening conversation with The Birth of a Nation director, writer, filmmaker and actor **Nate Parker** (Beyond the Lights, Red Tails), along with actress **Aja Naomi King** (How To Get Away with Murder) and actress **Gabrielle Union** (Being Mary Jane, Bad Boys II). They will showcase behind-the-scenes clips on the making of the film, as well as discuss the film's incredible journey to date.
Moderator: **Star Jones** journalist & author
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

NOON – 5 PM
AMERICAN AIRLINES PASSHOLDER LOUNGE
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salon 1

1:30 PM
INDUSTRY COACHING SEMINAR with AKIL PRODUCTIONS
Mara Brock-Akil and **Salim Akil** discuss how to navigate a career in

screenwriting, and will introduce the ABFF Women's Writers Lab, a new ABFF initiative.
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

2 PM
LADIES FIRST: EMERGING BLACK WOMEN IN CINEMA * ABFF Women's Initiative**
Presented by Facebook and The Root

Produced by Daughters of Eve Media
Celebrate Black women working behind the camera as two rising filmmakers whose work includes documentaries, shorts and web series are recognized by the **Kathleen Collins**/ABFF Women's Initiative. **Lorna Lowe** (Shelter, Romeo) and **Crystle Clear Roberson** (Next Doors Next, The End Again) share highlights of their work and reveal their experiences as women in the industry.
Venue: Colony Theatre

3 PM
THE MAKING OF ALMOST CHRISTMAS
Presented by Comcast NBC Universal, courtesy of Universal Pictures.
An inside look at Universal's new comedy with writer/director/executive producer **David E. Talbert** (Baggage Claim), producer **Will Packer** (Ride Along, Think Like a Man series) and actress and executive producer **Gabrielle Union** (Being Mary Jane). Moderator: **BuzzFeed** pop culture editor **Sylvia Obell**.
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

5 PM
TV One PRESENTS "CELEBRITY SCENE STEALERS"
Popular actors perform scenes from TV One's annual screenplay competition, where one talented writer wins the opportunity to have their movie made by TV One.
Host: **Keith Robinson** (Get On Up, Dreamgirls)

Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

5 PM
SPOTLIGHT SCREENING: STEPPING UP: STORIES OF JAZZ & CARE GIVING
***Free Community Screening for passholders & FL residents.

STEPPING UP: Stories of Jazz and Caregiving lovingly opens a door into the lives of four musicians and their families as they struggle to balance the roles of artist, caregiver and patient. Narrated by multi-award-winning actor **Wendell Pierce** (The Wire, Treme, Selma) and filled with great music, dance and laughter, the film moves from Brooklyn to New Orleans to shed light on the pain, poignancy and joy that is woven into what it means to be a caregiver today. A post-cocktail reception will follow the screening, both courtesy of AARP.
Venue: Colony Theatre & Segafredo

4 PM
ALUMNI SCREENING: THE LAND
The story of four teenage boys who devote their summer to escaping the streets of Cleveland, Ohio, to pursue a dream life of professional skateboarding. Followed by Q & A with writer, director and ABFF alum **Steven Caple, Jr.**, provided courtesy of IFC Films & MACRO
Venue: Regal Cinemas

7:30 PM
COMEDY WINGS PRE-SHOW MIXER
Hosted by Coors Light
Passholders are invited to stop in for a beer before the start of the show.
Venue: Loews, Americana Foyer

8 PM
ALUMNI SCREENING: 86-32
86-32 is the story of 19-year-old boxing Olympian Roy Jones, Jr. and the harrowing lesson that all that glitters ain't gold. Followed by Q & A with director and ABFF alum **Randy Wilkins**, provided courtesy of ESPN

8:30 PM
ABFF "COMEDY WINGS" COMPETITION
hosted by **Cedric the Entertainer**
Presented by HBO
The festival's hilarious comedy night, where five of the funniest new comics from around the country battle it out to take home the 2016 Comedy Wings "Winner" title and have meetings with HBO's creative executives.
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

10:30 PM
ABFF GAME NIGHT PARTY
hosted by **Vine star Skye Townsend**
Presented by McDonald's
We've brought the games to Miami! Take on fellow festivalgoers at karaoke, poker and some of your other favorite games, in what promises to be a night of big fun!
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

9 AM – 5 PM
REGISTRATION CENTER
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salon 1

9 AM – 11 AM
VH1 UNSCRIPTED STORYTELLING WORKSHOP
(for selected candidates only)
Venue: Loews, Moon Room

9 AM – NOON
MASTER CLASS: TV PRODUCTION - THE HBO WAY
(Master Class ticket required)
Instructors: **Bruce Richmond**,

WEEKEND EVENT GUIDE

CELEBRITY SCENE STEALERS

LIVE CELEBRITY TABLE READ

KEITH ROBINSON | TYLER LEPLY
ROBERT RI'CHARD, AND MORE!
LIVE TABLE READ FOR THIS YEAR'S
TV ONE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION

FRI JUNE 17 | 5P

RITZ-CARLTON BALLROOM 2 & 3



BAD DAD REHAB

SPOTLIGHT SCREENING & CAST Q&A

MALIK YOBA | ROBERT RI'CHARD | ROB RILEY
WESLEY JONATHAN | RICK GONZALEZ

SAT JUNE 18 | 2P

THE COLONY THEATRE



RINGSIDE

SPOTLIGHT SCREENING & CAST Q&A

TYLER LEPLY | SEVYN STREETER | JACKIE LONG

SAT JUNE 18 | 5P

REGAL SOUTH BEACH STADIUM 18

EVENT SCHEDULE

Executive Vice President, Production, and **Gena Desclos**, Senior Vice President, Production, for Home Box Office
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

10 AM – 5 PM THE POWER LOUNGE
Hosted by Cadillac
Catered breaks and celebrity meet & greet with **Tichina Arnold** (4 pm – 5 pm).
This event is a perk for Deco passholders.
Venue: Loews, Cowrie 2

10 AM – 6 PM CADILLAC OUTDOOR SHOWROOM
Venue: Loews, Palm Court

10:30 AM BISHOP T.D. JAKES TALKS FAITH, FILM & TV
T. D. Jakes, one of the most influential voices in America, discusses his latest faith-genre film and television entertainment ventures, his extraordinary journey and how faith remains the center of his universe.
Moderator: **Shaun Robinson** journalist & author
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

11 AM SPOTLIGHT SCREENING: UNITED SHADES OF AMERICA
****Free Community Screening for passholders & FL residents. Courtesy of CNN Original Series*
Join comedian and political gadfly **W. Kamau Bell** for a sneak peek of a new season's fascinating exploration of this country, and the groups and subcultures that dwell within.
Venue: Colony Theatre

11 AM–11 PM OFFICIAL FILM SCREENINGS:
Narrative Feature & Documentary Sections
Venue: Regal Cinemas (Screens 17 & 18)

NOON – 5 PM AMERICAN AIRLINES PASSHOLDER LOUNGE
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salon 1

2:00 PM SPOTLIGHT SCREENING: BAD DAD REHAB
Winner of the 2015 TV One Screenplay Competition
World premiere, courtesy of TV One
After turbulence with their respective baby mamas and ex-wives forces them to take definitive action, four men attend a rehab for deadbeat dads that employs unusual methods to help them become true fathers.
Followed by a Q & A with the writer **Keronda "KIKI" McKnight** director **Carl Seaton** and cast members including **Malik Yoba, Wesley Jonathan, Robert Riley, Rick Gonzalez, Robert Ri'chard** and **Kandi Burruss**.
Venue: Colony Theatre

2:00 PM VIRTUAL REALITY & IMMERSIVE STORYTELLING SEMINAR
Venue: Loews, Ponciana 1 & 2

2 PM BLACK WOMEN IN HOLLYWOOD: THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT
****ABFF Women's Initiative Presented by Planned Parenthood of America*
A new crop of diverse and highly talented actors is changing the complexion of our industry. Meet the players as we discuss and celebrate their work. Panelists include **Teyonah Parris** (Survivor's Remorse, Chiraq), **Nicole Behari** (Sleepy Hollow), **Emayatzy Corienaldi** (Miles Ahead) and **Aja Naomi King** (The Birth of a Nation, How to Get Away with Murder).
Moderator: **Soledad O'Brien**, journalist & CEO (Starfish Media Group)

Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

5 PM NEXT...ON HBO
Join us for a conversation with stars from HBO hit series and hear how they've made it onto many of television's best shows and films! Plus enjoy an exclusive screening of the premiere episode of Ballers, Season 2. Panelists include: **Jacob Anderson** (Game of Thrones), **Nathalie Emmanuel** (Game of Thrones), **Jazmyn Simon** (Ballers) and **John David Washington** (Ballers).
Moderator: **Bevy Smith** host (Bevelations, SiriusXM)
Venue: Colony Theatre

5 PM THE ART OF STORYTELLING THROUGH COSTUME DESIGN
Presented by Prudential Financial
Acclaimed costume designer **Ruth E. Carter** (Roots, Sparkle and Malcolm X) discusses the collaborative process of planning the wardrobe for a film, and its powerful impact on story. Includes a preview of up-and-coming designer **Laquan Smith**.
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

5 PM SPOTLIGHT ALUMNI SCREENING: RINGSIDE
Courtesy of TV One
An undefeated boxer prepares for a game-changing fight. In order to win, he must zone out of the chaos, groupies, gambling and other distractions, including his family and friends. Followed by Q & A with director and ABFF alum **Russ Parr** and cast members **Tyler Lepley, Sevyn Streeter** and **Jackie Long**.

8 PM RED CARPET ARRIVALS
(Press Activity)
Venue: Loews, Rotunda

9 PM THE "BEST OF THE FESTIVAL" AWARDS CEREMONY
The festival's star-studded closing night ceremony, announcing the 2016 award-winning films and filmmakers.
Host: **Chris Spencer** co-creator, executive producer (Real Husbands of Hollywood)
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

11 PM HENNESSY POST-AWARDS RECEPTION
Hennessy Cognac pays tribute to the ABFF's 20-Year Legacy.
Venue: Loews, Americana Foyer

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

10 AM – 1 PM MASTER CLASS: WRITING FOR TELEVISION
(Master Class ticket required)
Instructor: **Karen Horne**, SVP Programming Talent Development & Inclusion, NBC Entertainment & Universal Studios.
Featured speaker: **Courtney Kemp** (Power, The Good Wife)
Ritz: Lummus, McArthur, Ocean, Tuttle

11 AM– 6:30 PM ABFF COMMUNITY DAY
presented by the GMCVB at the LYRIC
The festival comes to a close in the heart of Miami's historic Overtown district with encore screenings of TV One's Bad Dad Rehab, directed by Carl Seaton; Service to Man, directed by ABFF alum Aaron Greer and Seth Panitch; and TV One's Love Under New Management: The Miki Howard Story, directed by ABFF alum Christine Swanson.
Host: **Brave Williams**
Venue: The Lyric Theater in Historic Overtown, 819 NW 2nd Ave.

SCREENING SCHEDULE

All screening time blocks have an added 15 mins to the film duration to accommodate a brief Q&A directly following the film's conclusion.

- Spotlight Screenings
- Narrative Features
- Documentaries
- HBO Short Film Competition
- Web Originals



THURSDAY JUNE 16			FRIDAY JUNE 17		
AUDITORIUM #17	AUDITORIUM #18	COLONY THEATRE	AUDITORIUM #17	AUDITORIUM #18	COLONY THEATRE
11:00AM EVERYTHING BUT A MAN 11:00AM 112 MINS	HALFWAY 11:00AM 103 MINS		HOW TO TELL YOU'RE A DOUCHEBAG 11:00AM 80 MINS	DADDY DON'T GO 11:00AM 88 MINS	WEB ORIGINALS SHOWCASE 11:00AM 60 MINS
12:00PM					
1:00PM					
2:00PM THE FIX 2:07PM 103 MINS	KILLING LAZARUS 1:58PM 117 MINS	ABFF INDEPENDENT 1:30PM 90 MINS	OLYMPIC PRIDE, AMERICAN PREJUDICE 1:35PM 77 MINS	SECRETS 1:53PM 107 MINS	LADIES FIRST: EMERGING BLACK WOMEN IN CINEMA 2:00PM 90 MINS
3:00PM					
4:00PM					
5:00PM ILLICIT 5:05PM 119 MINS	DESTINED 5:10PM 95 MINS	ANGIE TRIBECA 5:00PM 90 MINS	THE LAND 4:00PM 104 MINS	EVERYTHING BUT A MAN 4:55PM 112 MINS	STEPPING UP: STORIES OF JAZZ & CAREGIVING 5:00PM 90 MINS
6:00PM					
7:00PM			SERVICE TO MAN 7:06PM 92 MINS		
8:00PM FINDING HER 8:19PM 90 MINS	JIM BROWN'S AMER-I-CAN DREAM 8:00PM 82 MINS	HBO SHORT FILM COMPETITION 8:30PM 90 MINS		86-32 8:00PM 14 MINS	
9:00PM					
10:00PM					
11:00PM					

SCREENING SCHEDULE


All screening time blocks have an added 15mins to the film duration to accomodate a brief Q&A directly following the films conclusion.

- Spotlight Screenings
- Narrative Features
- Documentaries
- HBO Short Film Competition
- Web Originals



SATURDAY JUNE 18

SUNDAY JUNE 19 | ABFF Community Day presented by **GMCVB**

	AUDITORIUM #17	AUDITORIUM #18	COLONY THEATRE		LYRIC THEATRE	
11:00AM	9 RIDES 11:00AM 86 MINS	THE FIX 11:00AM 103 MINS	UNITED SHADES OF AMERICA 11:00AM 90 MINS			
12:00PM						
1:00PM					SERVICE TO MAN 12:30PM 92 MINS	
2:00PM	DESTINED 1:41PM 95 MINS	SERVICE TO MAN 1:58PM 92 MINS	BAD DAD REHAB 2:00PM 84 MINS			
3:00PM						
4:00PM						
5:00PM	HOW TO TELL YOU'RE A DOUCHEBAG 4:41PM 80 MINS	RINGSIDE 5:00PM 84 MINS	NEXT...ON HBO FEATURING BALLERS - SEASON 2 PREMIERE 5:00PM 90 MINS			MIKI HOWARD 4:30PM 84 MINS
6:00PM						
7:00PM						
8:00PM						
9:00PM						
10:00PM						
11:00PM						

OPENING NIGHT FILM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 8:00 PM

OLYMPIA THEATER

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Presented by:
Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA)

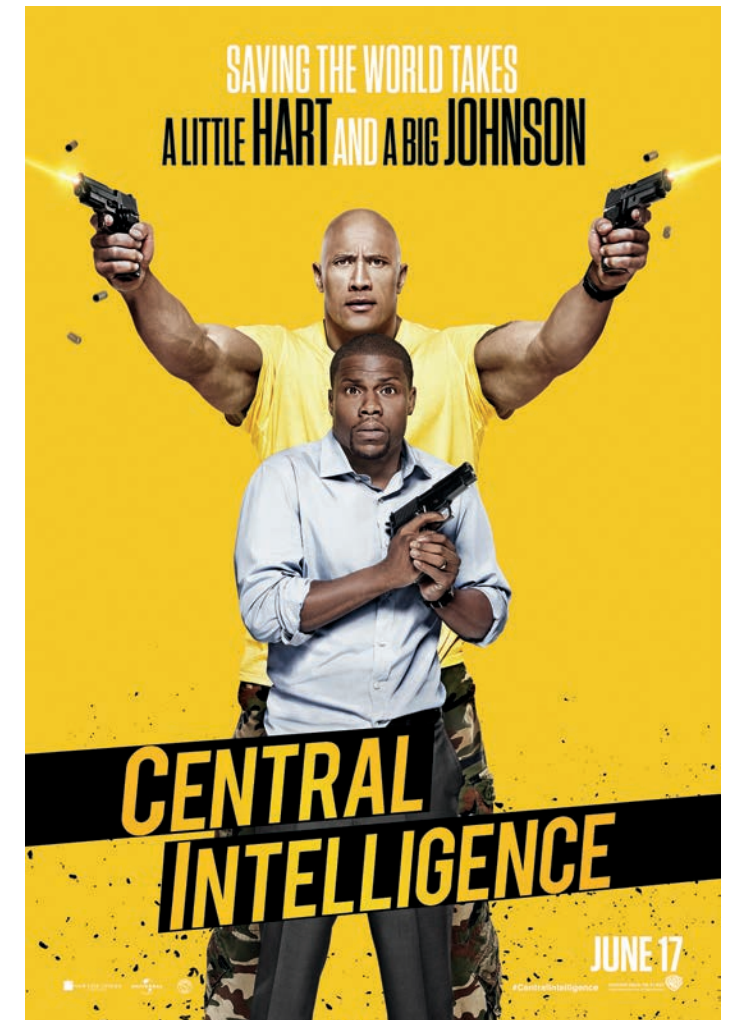
Courtesy of:
Warner Bros. Pictures

Director:
Rawson Marshall Thurber

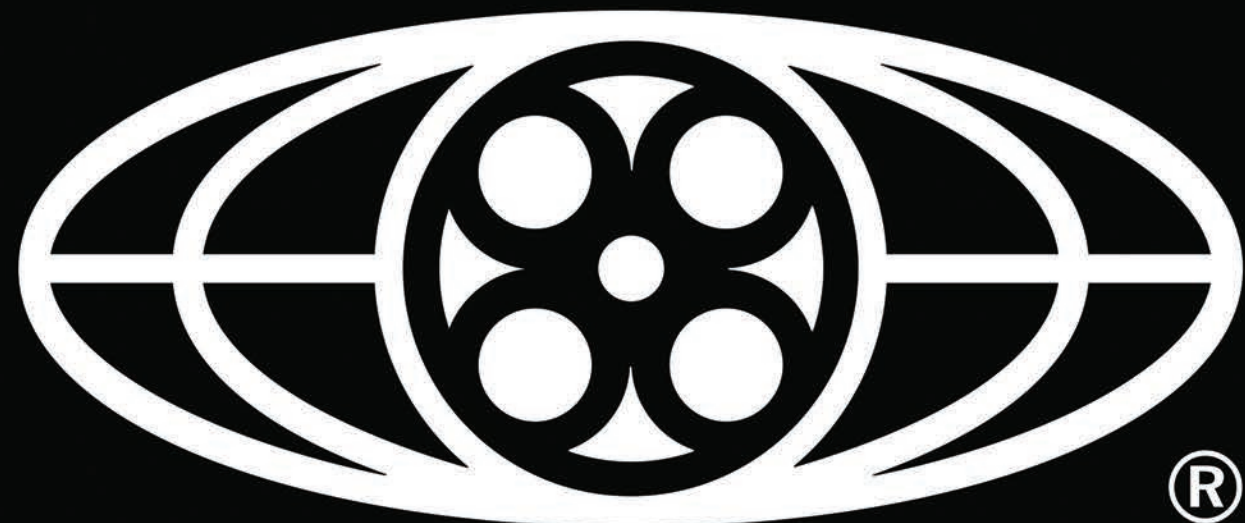
Writer:
**Rawson Marshall Thurber, Ike Barinholtz,
David Stassen**

Producers:
**Scott Stuber, Peter Principato,
Paul Young, Michael Fottrell**

Cast:
**Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Amy Ryan,
Aaron Paul, Danielle Nicolet**



“Central Intelligence” follows a one-time bullied geek, Bob (Dwayne Johnson), who grew up to be a lethal CIA agent, coming home for his high school reunion. Claiming to be on a top-secret case, Bob enlists the help of former “big man on campus,” Calvin (Kevin Hart), now an accountant who misses his glory days. But before the staid numbers-cruncher realizes what he’s getting into, it’s too late to get out, as his increasingly unpredictable new friend drags him through a world of shoot-outs, double-crosses and espionage that could get them both killed in more ways than Calvin can count.



MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.



We are the voice of one of the country’s strongest and most vibrant industries – the American motion picture, home video and television industry. We aspire to advance the business and the art of filmmaking and celebrate its enjoyment around the world. Our members include: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLC; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

Senator Christopher J. Dodd
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

John C. Gibson
Advisor for Diversity and Multicultural Outreach
ABFF Advisory Board Member

SPOTLIGHT SCREENINGS



ABFF INDEPENDENT. Courtesy of **ASPIRE** Season Premiere
Join Grammy Award-winning music producer, recording artist and actor David Banner (Ride Along, Lee Daniel's The Butler) for the season premiere of ASPIRE's popular original series that presents the best of independent shorts and docs from emerging African American artists.

6/18 Colony Theatre 1:30 pm

ANGIE TRIBECA. Courtesy of **TBS**

Preview a brand-new episode of "Angie Tribeca," along with one of the show's stars, Deon Cole, who will participate in a lively discussion following the screening.

Moderator: Lisa Bonner, EBONY magazine

6/16 Colony Theatre 5:00 pm



LADIES FIRST: EMERGING BLACK WOMEN IN CINEMA

Produced by **Daughters of Eve Media**

Celebrate Black women working behind the camera as two rising filmmakers whose work includes documentaries, shorts and web series are recognized by the Kathleen Collins/ABFF Women's Initiative. Lorna Lowe (Shelter, Romeo) and Crystle Clear Roberson (Next Doors Next, The End Again) share highlights of their work and discuss their experiences as women in the industry.

6/17 Colony Theatre 2:00 pm



STEPPING UP: STORIES OF JAZZ & CAREGIVING. Courtesy of **AARP**

STEPPING UP: Stories of Jazz and Caregiving lovingly opens a door into the lives of four musicians and their families as they struggle to balance the roles of artist, caregiver and patient. Narrated by multi-award-winning actor Wendell Pierce (The Wire, Treme, Selma) and filled with great music, dance and laughter, the film moves from Brooklyn to New Orleans to shed light on the pain, poignancy and joy that is woven into what it means to be a caregiver today. A post-cocktail reception will follow the screening, both courtesy of AARP.

6/17 Colony Theatre 5:00



UNITED SHADES OF AMERICA. Courtesy of **CNN Original Series**

Join comedian and political gadfly W. Kamau Bell for a sneak peek of a new season's fascinating exploration of this country, and the groups and subcultures that dwell within. Moderator to be announced.

6/18 Colony Theatre 11:00 am



BAD DAD REHAB. Courtesy of **TV One**

After turbulence with their respective baby mamas and ex-wives forces them to take definitive action, four men attend a rehab for deadbeat dads, which employs unusual methods to help them become true fathers.

Director: Carl Seaton
Writer: Keronda "KiKi" McKnight
Producer: Roger M. Bobb and Angi Bones of Bobbcat Films
Cast: Malik Yoba, Robert Ri'chard, Rick Gonzalez, Wesley Jonathan, Rob Riley, Kandi Burruss and Brave Williams, with a guest appearance by Rich Homie Quan
Running Time: 84 mins

6/18 Colony Theatre 2:00 pm



NEXT...ON HBO: FEATURING BALLERS SEASON 2 PREMIERE

Join us for a conversation with stars from HBO hit series and hear how they've made it onto many of television's best shows and films! Plus enjoy an exclusive screening of the premiere episode of Ballers, Season 2.

Panelists include: Jacob Anderson (Game of Thrones), Nathalie Emmanuel (Game of Thrones), Jazmyn Simon (Ballers) and John David Washington (Ballers).

Moderator: Bevy Smith
6/18 Colony Theatre 5:00 pm



RINGSIDE

An undefeated boxer prepares for a game-changing fight. In order to win, he must zone out of the chaos, groupies, gambling and other distractions, including his family and friends.

Director/Writer: Russ Parr
Producer: Eric Tomosunas and Keith Neal for Swirl Films
Cast: Tyler Lepley, Allen Maldonado, Tequan Richmond, Jackie Long, Amber "Sevyn" Streeeter, DaVone McDonald, Kwame Patterson, Raney Branch, Julissa Bermudez, Chalemagne the God, Joel Steingold
Running Time: 84 mins

6/18 Regal Auditorium 18 5:00 pm

THE LAND

THE LAND tells the story of four teenage boys who devote their summer to escaping the streets of Cleveland, Ohio to pursue a dream life of professional skateboarding. But when they get caught in the web of the local Queen-pin, their motley brotherhood is tested, threatening to make this summer their last. (Per IMDB Pro)

Director/Writer: Steven Caple Jr.

Executive Producer: Charles D. King, Poppy Hanks, Nasir "Nas" Jones, Jennifer Levine, Nicolaas Bertelsen
Producer: Lizzie Friedman, Karen Lauder, Greg Little, Tyler Davidson, Steven "Dr" Love, Blake Pickens
Cast: Jorge Lendeborg Jr., Moises Arias, Rafi Gavron, Ezri Walker, Kim Coates, Linda Emond, Natalie Martinez, Erykah Badu, Michael Kenneth Williams, Melvin Gregg,
provided courtesy of IFC Films & MACRO
Running Time: 104 min

6/17 Regal Auditorium 17 4:00 pm



86-32

86 - 32 is the story of 19 year old boxing Olympian Roy Jones Jr. and the harrowing lesson that all that glitters ain't gold.

Director: Randy Wilkins
Executive Producer: Spike Lee
Producer: Dena Greenbaum
Cast: Roy Jones Jr., Wallace Matthews, Teddy Atlas and Nabaté Isles. **provided courtesy of ESPN**
Running Time: 14 Min

6/17 Regal Auditorium 18 8:00 pm

COMMUNITY DAY

Bad Dad Rehab (See p.21)*

Service to Man (See p.26)*

The Miki Howard Story*

LOVE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT: THE MIKI HOWARD STORY

From homeless teenager to R&B royalty, Miki Howard's journey was paved with abuse, heartache and a desperate search for love – one that ends ultimately in triumph.

Written by: Rhonda F. Baraka and Christine Swanson
Directed by: Christine Swanson
Produced by: Eric Tomosunas for Swirl Films and Carl Craig
Cast: Teyonah Parris, Darius McCrary, Vanessa Bell Calloway, Gary Dourdan, LisaRaye McCoy and Amari Cheatom
Running time: 84 mins

* Lyric Theater - see screening schedule for times.



Prudential is proud to sponsor the 20th Annual American Black Film Festival

How are you changing your story?

#NewFacesofWealth

NARRATIVE FEATURES IN COMPETITION

In competition for the Grand Jury Awards for **Best Screenplay**, presented by **Time Warner** (\$2,500); **Best Actor**; **Best Director**, presented by **Cadillac** (\$25,000) and **Best Narrative Feature**, presented by **Prudential** (\$5,000).

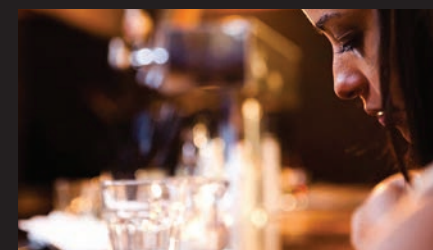


DESTINED

Writer/Director: Qasim Basir
Producers: Tommy Oliver, Rick Rosenthal, Matt Ratner
Cast: Cory Hardrict, Jesse Metcalfe, Margot Bingham, Robert Christopher Riley, Zulay Henao, Jason Dohring, Mo'Nique, La La Anthony, Hill Harper, James McCaffrey, Curtiss Cook

"Destined" tells the parallel stories of Sheed and Rasheed (Cory Hardrict) as they explore the idea of destiny as well as how the smallest incident can become a life-changing event.

6/16	Regal Auditorium 18	5:10 pm
6/18	Regal Auditorium 17	1:41 pm



THE FIX

Writer/Director: Paris Bauldwin
Producers: Paris Bauldwin, Kenny Lofton, Brenton Earley
Cast: Meta Golding, Eric Roberts, Asia Queen, Nicole Steinwedell, Blaine Gray, Jeremy Suarez, Sean O'Bryan, Timon Kyle Durrett, Jeremy Luke

Abigail witnesses the shooting of an unarmed teen by an LAPD officer, with whom she is carrying on an affair. To further complicate things, a teenaged girl appears claiming to be the daughter Abigail gave away at birth.

6/16	Regal Auditorium 17	2:07 pm
6/18	Regal Auditorium 18	11:00 am



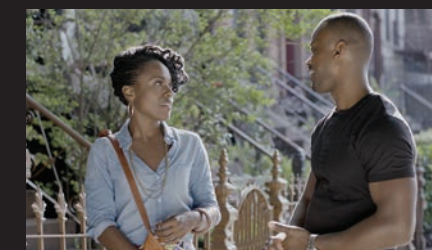
WORLD PREMIERE

EVERYTHING BUT A MAN

Writer/Director: Nnegest Likké
Producers: Nnegest Likké, Jimmy Jean-Louis, Steven J. Wolfe
Cast: Monica Calhoun, Jimmy Jean-Louis, Camille Winbush, Dio Johnson, Mike Faiola, Laura Hayes, Dave Brown

A successful career woman has a life-changing romance with a mysterious man from another culture, whose radical lifestyle differences challenge her perspective on love, relationships and what it means to be a "strong" woman.

6/16	Regal Auditorium 17	11:00 am
6/17	Regal Auditorium 18	4:55 pm



HOW TO TELL YOU'RE A DOUCHEBAG

Writer/Director: Tahir Jetter
Producers: Julius Pryor, Marttise Hill, Tahir Jetter
Cast: Charles Brice, DeWanda Wise, Jenna Williams, William Jackson Harper, Tonye Patano, Alexander Mulzac

A womanizer falls in love in this modern romantic comedy about chauvinism, courtship and millennial woes.

6/17	Regal Auditorium 17	11:00 am
6/18	Regal Auditorium 17	4:41 pm



Rick Smith, founder of a movement called *Random Acts of Kindness Everywhere*, believes that the littlest thing can change someone's day or, perhaps, their life. So he's traveling his movement to communities across the country. Like Rick, we're deeply rooted and always connected to communities everywhere.



NARRATIVE FEATURES IN COMPETITION



In competition for the Grand Jury Awards for **Best Screenplay**, presented by **Time Warner**; **Best Actor**; **Best Director**, presented by **Cadillac** and **Best Narrative Feature**, presented by **Prudential**.



WORLD PREMIERE

SERVICE TO MAN

Directors: Aaron Greer, Seth Panitch

Writer: Seth Panitch

Producers: Aaron Greer, Seth Panitch

Cast: Morgan Auld, Christopher Livingston, Lamman Rucker, Keith David

Two outsiders from radically different backgrounds struggle to find a common purpose within the pressure cooker of Nashville's all-black medical school in the 1960s.

6/17 Regal Auditorium 17 7:06 pm
6/18 Regal Auditorium 18 1:58 pm

NARRATIVE FEATURES WORLD SHOWCASE



HALFWAY

Writer/Director: Ben Caird

Producer: Jonny Paterson

Cast: Quinton Aaron, Jeffrey DeMunn, Gillian Zinser, Amy Pietz, TJ Power, Marcus Henderson

A recently released convict finds himself trapped between his urban criminal past and his new life on probation as the only back man in a conservative, white Wisconsin farming town.

6/16 Regal Auditorium 18 11:00 am



9 RIDES

Writer/Director: Matthew A. Cherry

Producers: Jerome Caldwell, Matthew Keene Smith, Datar Turner, Monica Young, Natasha Ward, Jaia Thomas, R. Vaughn Gill

Cast: Dorian Missick, Omar J. Dorsey, Robinne Lee, Xosha Roquemore, Amin Joseph, Thomas Q. Jones, Skye P. Marshall, Aasha Davis, Sujata Day, Tracie Thoms

On the busiest night of the year, an Uber driver in Los Angeles gets life-changing news.

6/18 Regal Auditorium 17 11:00 am

AFRICA AWAITS YOU

With exclusive, premium sports and entertainment from Africa and the world, Kwesé is Africa's newest and hottest entertainment brand. Our multi-platform, multi-screen services provide luxury of choice to a continent that craves it. We go beyond the obvious to find content that resonates and engages.

**YOUR CONTENT. OUR NETWORK.
LET'S CHAT.**
hello@kwese.com

KWESÉ

NARRATIVE FEATURES WORLD SHOWCASE



U.S. PREMIERE

FINDING HER

Director: Vlad Feier

Writers: Vlad Feier, Peter Gutter

Producers: Vlad Feier, Ana Paula Rivera, Regina Bang

Cast: Johnny Whitworth, Maurice McRae, Afton Williamson, Jeremy Holm, Larry Pine, Danny Johnson

Monique Watson goes missing. Police are not doing anything to find a lead. The mission drops on the desk of journalist Christian Baker.

6/16

Regal Auditorium 17

8:19 pm



KILLING LAZARUS

Writer/Director: Desmond Faison

Producer: Jahmela Biggs

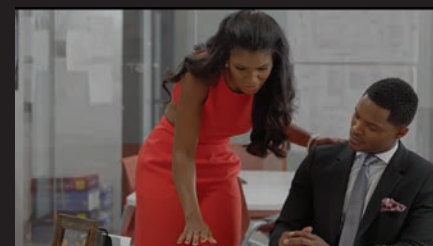
Cast: Deji LaRay, Tracey Dukes, Wade Maurice Johnson, Jr., Robert Davis, Jahmela Biggs, Rome Green, Jr., Amanuel Richards, Shayla Hale, Billy Mayo

Childhood friends turned adult drug dealers struggle to define what's next in their strained friendship. Anything but typical, "Killing Lazarus" is unlike anything you've seen.

6/16

Regal Auditorium 18

1:58 pm



SECRETS

Director: Juwan Lee

Writers: Juwan Lee, Jamal Hill

Producers: Jamal Hill, Kia Hicks Freeman, Gregory Freeman

Cast: Harold Moore, Denyce Lawton, Denise Boutte, Dennis White, Tobias Truvillion

When a successful businessman has a sexual appetite larger than what's on his plate at home, chaos erupts. Tarron's irresistible co-worker serves it up, while his wife, who's ironically named Secret, releases a few secrets of her own.

6/17

Regal Auditorium 18

1:53 pm



WORLD PREMIERE

ILLICIT

Director: Corey Grant

Writers: Corey Grant, Lanett Tachel

Producers: Kevin Fleming, Lanett Tachel Corey Grant, McKinley Freeman, David Ramsey

Cast: David Ramsey, Shireen Crutchfield, McKinley Freeman, Michele Weaver, Lanett Tachel, Dean Cain, Vivica A. Fox, Dionne Gipson, Michael Monks, Essence Atkins, Vincent A. Ward, Sade Kimora Young, Durrell "Tank" Babbs, Charlie Farrell, Adam Senn

Sasha and Guy's marriage is tested when they are independently seduced by sexy, young lovers, both with dark pasts and hidden nefarious agendas.

6/16

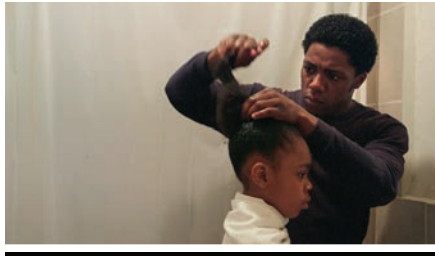
Regal Auditorium 17

5:05 pm



DOCUMENTARIES

In competition for the **Best Documentary Award**, presented by **Hennessy**.



DADDY DON'T GO
Director: Emily Abt, Andrew Osborne
Writer: Emily Abt
Producers: Emily Abt, Keryn Thompson, Suzette Burton, Omar Epps, Malik Yoba

"Daddy Don't Go" explores the crisis of fatherlessness in America, documenting two years in the lives of four disadvantaged fathers in New York City as they fight to defy the odds against them. It provides compelling portraits of men who are unwavering in their commitment to parenthood despite the challenges they encounter.

6/17 Regal Auditorium 18 11:00 am



JIM BROWN'S AMER-I-CAN DREAM
Director/Writer: Aurora Ferlin
Producers: Monique Brown, Aurora Ferlin, Keith Cardwell, Ronnie Barron
Cast: Jim Brown, Monique Brown, Ray Lewis, John Wooten, Rockhead Johnson, Ronnie Barron, Aqeela Sherrills, Julian Mendoza, Tonie Jackson, Anthony Blanks, Jacques White-Barron

NFL legend Jim Brown forges an unlikely coalition with former convicts and gang members to stop the deadly wave of violence on America's streets.

6/16 Regal Auditorium 18 8:00 pm



OLYMPIC PRIDE, AMERICAN PREJUDICE
Director/Writer: Deborah Riley Draper
Producer: Deborah Riley Draper, Blair Underwood, Dr. Amy Tiemann, Michael Draper, Deborah Riley Draper
Cast: Isiah Thomas, Carl Lewis, Ambassador Andrew Young, Joanna Hayes, Dr. Tommie Smith, Anita DeFrantz

In 1936, when 18 African American athletes, dubbed the "black auxiliary" by Hitler, participated in the Berlin Olympic Games, defying Nazi Aryan supremacy and Jim Crow racism, history forgot all except one – Jesse Owens. This is the story of the other 17.

6/17 Regal Auditorium 17 1:35 pm

The Motion Picture
Editors Guild
CONGRATULATES

All the Participants
for the

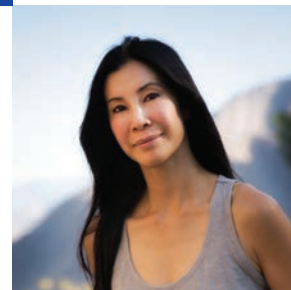
20th ANNUAL
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL
AWARDS





HBO

Turner



Time Warner

IS PROUD TO SUPPORT

ABFF

and present the Grand Jury Award for Best Screenplay

HBO SHORT FILM COMPETITION

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 8:30 PM | COLONY THEATRE

This prestigious competition carries a grand prize of **\$10,000**, awarded by **HBO** to one filmmaker at the “**Best of Festival**” awards ceremony, **June 18, 2016**. All finalists will receive **\$5,000** and the opportunity to have their entries licensed by **HBO** for exhibition on the **HBO service, HBO Go, and HBO Now**.



WORLD PREMIERE

THE BIG CHOP

Director: Derek Dow
Writer: Alisha Cowan
Producer: Katrell Kindred, Cayman Grant
Cast: Simone Missick, Chinedu Unaka, McKenzie Franklin, Kevin Kilumbu

“The Big Chop” takes a look inside the world of natural hair, following a child’s once positive outlook on her hair, through to her adult years, when her perspective is shaken by negative hints from peers, family and media.



WORLD PREMIERE

FLOWERS

Directors: Nikyatu Jusu, Yvonne M. Shirley
Writers: Nikyatu Jusu, Yvonne M. Shirley
Producers: Nikyatu Jusu, Yvonne M. Shirley
Cast: Ameer Apedo, Belle LeGrand, Grant Tambellini

When Brooklyn teens Mya and Erin seek revenge on a teacher their well-calculated plans quickly spiral out of control.

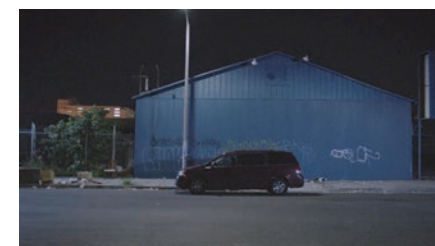


WORLD PREMIERE

GUBAGUDE KO (BLOOD IS UPON THEM)

Director: Philiang Phang
Writer: Philiang Phang
Producers: Annick Jaegy
Cast: Mahershala Ali, Erica Tazel

A man witnesses a young woman’s rape and experiences the guilt of his inaction.

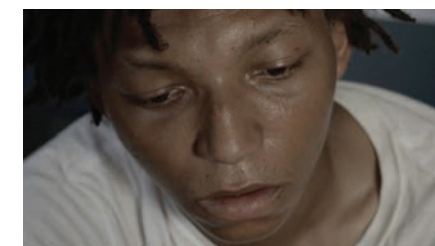


WORLD PREMIERE

ON TIME

Director: Xavier Burgin
Writers: Xavier Burgin, Tiara Marshall
Producers: Tony Ducret, Kendra Cole, Tim Astor, Angelica Lopez
Cast: Inger Tudor, Arijia DaCosta, Kevin Craig West, John Marrot, Louis Baker, Jordana Berliner, Amani Starnes

Renee Johnson, a mother living in South Central LA, must make a difficult decision when she’s late for her job interview.



WORLD PREMIERE

UGLY

Director: LeRon Lee
Writer: LeRon Lee
Producer: Derrick Williams
Cast: Devon Moyd, Andrea-Rachel Parker, Jamal Steven Defreitas, Jo Lee, Kevin Bennett, Jr.

A coming-of-age story about a boy looking for love in the wrong place...his own environment.

PRODUCTION
 TRAINING
 EDUCATION
 DEVELOPMENT

YOUR RESOURCE FOR FILM, CULTURE
 AND ENTERTAINMENT IN ATLANTA.

WEB ORIGINAL SHOWCASE

FRIDAY, JUNE 17 11:00AM | COLONY THEATRE

In competition for the **Best Web Original Award**, presented by **Comcast Xfinity**.



2 SELF HELP BOOKS AWAY FROM BEING PERFECT

Director: Lopez Williams
Writer/Creator: Kimberly Young
Producers: Lopez Williams, Kimberly Young, Morris Young, Richard Monroe, Lori Stewart Tannis, Sam Baumel
Cast: Kimberly Young, DJ Cipha Sounds, Nate Gill, Carmen Lynch, Sharron Paul, Jourdan Guyton, Jared Prudoff-Smith, Lauren Besser, Gibran Saleem, Godfrey Taylor, Jr., Sue Berch

In "2 Self Help Books Away from Perfect," we follow Kimmy Monroe, a bright-eyed Brooklynite who, through a series of hilarious and sometimes awkward events, learns that finding true love first begins by accepting one's true self.



GET YOUR LIFE

Directors: Amanda Seales, James Bland
Writers: Amanda Seales, Steven Chew
Producers: Amanda Seales, Issa Rae, Benoni Tagoe, Quan Lateef-Hill, Marshon Thomas
Cast: Amanda Seales, Lil Rel, Godfrey, Issa Rae, Yvonne Orji, BT Kingsley, Tehran

"Get Your Life" is an edgy scripted comedy about the very non-scripted life of comedian/actress Amanda Seales and her continuing effort to keep it real and find the funny amidst dating cornballs, Hollywood BS and being a new New Yorker to Los Angeles.



BLACK ACTRESS

Director: William Alexander Runnels
Writers: Andrea Lewis, Austin Hall
Producers: Andrea Lewis, Brian Walker, Essence Atkins, Tatyana Ali
Cast: Andrea Lewis, Allison Edwards Crewe, Rob Vincent, Tristan Wilds

"Black Actress" is a scripted meets documentary style series. Every episode opens with the testimony of a celebrity Black actress, while viewers get to follow the life of Kori Bailey (Andrea Lewis), a struggling Black actress living in New York City, who desperately needs to get out of her own way.



KINGMAKERS OF OAKLAND

Director/Writer: Cheo Tyehimba
Producers: Christopher Chatmon, Judd Flemming, Shaka Jamal
Cast: Christopher Chatmon, Jerome Gourdine, Baayan Bakari, Jahi, AAMA students

"Kingmakers of Oakland" follows the teachers and students of OUSD during the 2015-16 school year as they overcome obstacles both at school and home, and redefine what it means to be a "king."



FIRST DATES

Director: Talibah Newman
Writers: Talibah Newman, Uzo Ometu
Producers: Talibah Newman, Uzo Ometu
Cast: Angela Wildflower, Justin Sams, Shana Solomon, Laci Mosley, Andre Columbus

Samantha, a newly divorced political consultant, tries to get her love life back in order, only to find men, friends and her career getting in the way of finding true love.



THE MOVEMENT

Directors: Christian Mazza, Jimmy Shelton, Justine Bo
Writers: Antonia Hylton, Darnell Moore, Jimmy Shelton
Producers: Antonia Hylton, Regina Delea, John Lagomarsino

"The Movement" is an original docuseries that explores the work of individuals fighting to reclaim and recover marginalized communities and spaces across America



HOW DO I GET INTO FILM FESTIVALS?



You could rely on a quiz, leave it to fate, or wait for a sign from the universe – but if you want to end up with a professional quality film, you'll need to cast experienced talent. As a **FREE** resource, SAGindie guides filmmakers like you through the SAG-AFTRA signatory process so you can cast the talent you need, regardless of budget. Be Independent. Act Professional. sagindie.org



Be Independent. Act Professional.

ABFF

TALENT DISCOVERY PROGRAMS



The **ABFF 4th annual Comedy Wings Competition**, sponsored by **HBO**, is a national search to identify outstanding comedic talent. People who demonstrate a natural ability to be funny! Join **Cedric the Entertainer**, Friday, June 17, at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel, to see the five finalists perform in this last round of the competition. Come see who will win the 2016 title as "funniest new comic," receive a **\$5,000** cash prize, and the opportunity to meet with HBO talent executives post-festival.



Del Harrison
Los Angeles, CA

Gadel Harrison created "Another Sketch Comedy Show" online and kicked it off by spoofing The Mo'Nique Show. The sketch was so hilarious that Mo'Nique personally called Del and invited her to be on her show. Since then, Del has appeared on FOX's Laughs (Season 1 & 2), TruTV's Friends of the People, Wendy Williams and more. Paul Mooney said it best...this young lady has the IT factor.



Kareem "Plug" Chapman
Atlanta, GA

Native Kareem "Plug" Chapman is known for his unique point of view and his ability to make the misfortunes of his life funny. He recently filmed a set for a show Kevin Hart is producing called "Hart Of The City" set to air on Comedy Central this fall. He also is planning his own tour for the summer so catch this up 'n coming comedic star when he is in your city!



Tyree Elaine
N. Hollywood, CA

Tyree Elaine has been seen on NBC's Last Comic Standing, TVOne's Who's Got Jokes?, and has just shot a standup comedy special, produced by Russell Simmons. She's also created internet traction, with her viral "Women Over 40" and "Women Over 30" videos. Currently, Tyree is performing live all over the country.



Anton Shuford
Bear, DE

Anton Shuford, comedian, philosopher, writer, and international gentleman of leisure and travel. Anton's comedy showcases social interaction in a diverse world. And how LOVE or the lack thereof makes all the difference in our world. Winner of Philly's funniest, and finalist in the prestigious Boston Comedy festival and the Great American Comedy festival Anton does shows across the US in clubs and colleges.



Daphnique Springs
Burbank, CA

Daphnique's comedy is dark, honest, and still relatable. Ranging from personal experiences/subjects to social commentary, she has a unique blend of witty and pointed sarcasm. Daphnique conveys a confidence that engages audiences and leads to an unpredictable, unprecedently hilarious show. Daphnique Springs has featured for Martin Lawrence and toured with Katt Williams. Seen on Jimmy Kimmel Live and Laughs on Fox.



McDonald's, **ABFF**, and **Barbershop: The Next Cut** film director, **Malcolm D. Lee** are excited to return with this national video competition for rising filmmakers for the second year! McDonald's challenged filmmakers to create a 90-second film that illustrates McDonald's 365Black mantra, "**Deeply Rooted in Your Community.**" Three finalists have been selected to attend the festival for an exclusive mentor session with critically-acclaimed film director Malcolm D. Lee (Barbershop: The Next Cut, The Best Man Holiday and The Best Man). Their films will screen during the "**Best of Festival**" awards ceremony.

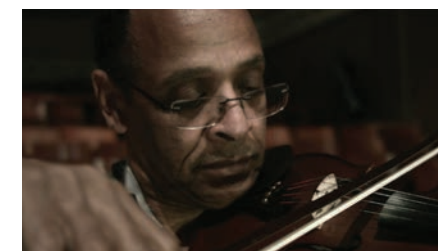


WORLD PREMIERE

RISE ABOVE

Directed by **Marshall Montgomery**

On a quest to find hope in a struggling city, one man chooses to help by being the change he wants to see in his community.



WORLD PREMIERE

RHYTHM

Directed by **Travis Dent**

Carl La Coste, a longtime New Orleans music educator explains how music influences the culture and rhythm of New Orleans.



WORLD PREMIERE

BE THE SEED

Directed by **Tyshun Wardlaw**

A father plants seeds of confidence in his son to become a vibrant and healthy member of his community.



TALENT DISCOVERY PROGRAMS



NBCUniversal has partnered once again with the American Black Film Festival to find the next fresh face for daytime television. Close to 1,000 entries have been whittled down to three talented finalists who will audition live for the NBC executives at the festival this week. One winner will be announced at the **“Best of the Festival”** awards ceremony, June 18. Winner receives **\$1,000** toward performance training classes, **\$500** towards professional headshots, and **VIP Access to NBCU Short Film Festival Finale** in August in NYC and October in LA.

STORYTELLERS

SCENE STEALERS

GAME CHANGERS



Kelcy Griffin

Kelcy is a Chicago Native, now living in New York city. Since moving, she has performed in numerous national tours, major regional theaters, Broadway and television. She is currently playing Dominique in Starz Network Hit TV Show POWER, and has also made appearances on CBS Blue Bloods, and a few film projects. She is also appears on Broadway in CHICAGO the musical.



Theo Perkins

Theo Perkins is the Founder of the Elizabeth Youth Theater Ensemble, a non-profit that has recently partnered with HBO to expose students to the theater and film-making process. TV guest stars: “Lie to Me,” Raising the Bar,” and “N.C.I.S.” Broadway: “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolored Dreamcoat.” Recent theater: “The Golden Dragon” (Boston Court); “Fences” (International City Theatre). BA-Morehouse College; MFA Acting-UCLA.



Jasmine Thomas

Jasmine Thomas was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland and received her BFA in Acting from Syracuse University. Most recently she portrayed Jazmine Walker in the Indie Film “SIX 2 SIX” and Harriet Tubman in Theatreworks USA’s “Freedom Train”. She would like to thank NBCUniversal and ABFF for this exciting opportunity!



Unscripted Storytelling Workshop

ABFF and **VH1** have launched an exciting new search for **Unscripted Storytellers**, created to identify promising content creators of unscripted television with exceptional show ideas. Five talented finalists were selected to participate in a **2-day workshop** focused on teaching the business of unscripted content on television, and how to develop a compelling pitch.



Moses Edouard

Moses Edouard is a Creative who lives for the world of media. A second generation Haitian from Brooklyn, New York, he realized his talent while being a class clown in 5th grade. Moses Edouard has worked for brands such as BET, ABC, Spike TV, and Entertainment One Music. He is an ambitious hustler who seizes every opportunity!



Akilah Lindler

Akilah Lindler is inspired by God to MAKE IT. She is a graduate of Temple University with 19 years of business acumen. She is the creative force behind the Makin’ IT Philly docu-series based on entrepreneurs and owner of the Lindler Consulting Group. She is a member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women and active in her community.



Taneisha Polk

Taneisha Polk is 34 years old and a single mother of 3, the creator and visionary behind reality based show Milfs and her own production company Polkahontas Productions. Polk’s youngest child suffers from a disability and through this experience and countless others, God gave her a vision to inspire women through life’s expectancies. Polk wants other single mothers to know that they are not alone on their personal journeys of motherhood.



Mark Wilson

Mark Wilson, aka Marco a native of Philadelphia, PA, is a creator, writer who has a Cyber-Security degree from UMUC and a student at Full Sail University studying Creative Writing. He has created shows like reality show “Designing ATL, L.A., and MIA. He has other projects in the making such as “Working Wall Street” and “The Packs.”



Dominic Young

A screenwriter from Washington, D.C., Dominic grew up in a household that encouraged cultural studies and world travelling. It is these experiences that would drive his passion as a writer. Dominic attended Howard University where he studied Civil Engineering and has written over two dozen music videos carrying over one hundred million views. Dominic is married and is the father of four children.



VH1 proudly supports Film Life, Inc. and the American Black Film Festival in their mission to promote diversity in the film and television industry.

FROM EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NANCY & STEVE CARELL

ANGIE TRIBECA

MONDAYS 9|8c



Join us for a special screening followed by a Q&A with Deon Cole Thursday, 6/16 @ 5pm

Colony Theatre
1040 Lincoln Road



FINALLY!
A SHOW ABOUT COPS!



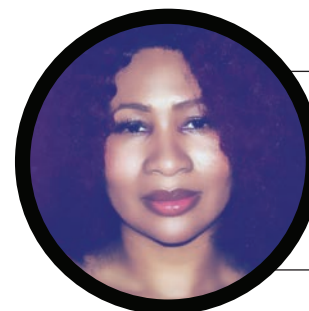
TALENT DISCOVERY PROGRAMS



TV HOSTING WORKSHOP
SPONSORED BY
NBCUniversal

Join **TVOne** for the presentation of the finalists of the **2nd annual TVOne Screenplay Competition**. Popular actors will perform three exciting scenes from the finalists' screenplays. One talented writer will win **\$5,000** and the opportunity to have their screenplay developed and produced to premier at the 2017 American Black Film Festival, and be broadcast on TVOne. Last year's winning screenplay/film, **Bad Dad Rehab**, will premiere, Saturday, June 18, at the Colony Theater at 2:00 pm.

The four selected finalists are:



Tale of a Script
written by
N'Zuri Za Austin



The Fandom
written by
Cherhonda Gunn
and Traci Rooks



Downsized
written by
Michelle McKissic



NBCUniversal Cable Entertainment, in partnership with the American Black Film Festival, produced a **TV hosting workshop** for fifty selected candidates in NYC this April, to help cultivate and discover exceptional on-camera talent. Two promising new hosts were selected from the three-day workshop to attend the ABFF, for hands on experience hosting live from the 2016 ABFF red carpet, and "All Access" interview suite.

The two selected finalists are:



Gia Peppers

Gia Peppers is an entertainment journalist and on-air talent from Washington DC. For host and entertainment journalist Gia Peppers, working is now a way of life. After completing her first internship with Donnie Simpson during his last year in radio in her hometown of the DMV, the then college freshman knew exactly what she wanted to be. Since 2008, she's worked in front of and behind the camera to ensure that she is one of the best of her generation. Every day she strives to improve as a journalist, sister, daughter and person by doing her best to make sure those around her are inspired to follow their dreams by watching her fearlessly go for hers.



J. Aaron Boykins

A proud New Jersey native, J. Aaron is a "handsome young man," as his mother would put it, with a dynamic personality to boot. He also enjoys long walks on the beach and is a Gemini. He's considered a jack-of-all-trades when it comes to entertainment, making his living as a professional musician, songwriter, actor and voice actor. Spending his last 6 years touring with YouTube sensation and vocal band, Duwende, he's made notable appearances on NBC's The Winner Is and America's Got Talent, national TV spots while performing across the globe.

BET Networks is a proud partner of the

AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL

celebrating a shared vision for excellence in storytelling for 20 empowering years.



ABFF TALK SERIES EVENTS

ABFF TALK SERIES EVENTS ARE 90 MINUTES

2016 ABFF AMBASSADOR

A CONVERSATION WITH COMMON

Presented by American Airlines
Moderated by Roland S. Martin, journalist & host (NewsOne Now, TV One)
Thursday, June 16 Noon
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

A dynamic discussion with Oscar-winning recording artist & multi-Grammy winner and actor Common (Barbershop: The Next Cut, Selma, Smokin' Aces, American Gangster).



FRIDAY, JUNE 17

ABFF FIRST LOOK: THE BIRTH OF A NATION
Presented by the MPAA, courtesy of Fox Searchlight
Moderated by Star Jones, journalist & author
Friday, June 17 11:30 am
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

An enlightening conversation with The Birth of a Nation director, writer, filmmaker and actor Nate Parker (Beyond the Lights, Red Tails), along with actress Aja Naomi King (How To Get Away with Murder) and actress Gabrielle Union (Being Mary Jane, Bad Boys II). They will showcase behind-the-scenes clips on the making of the film, as well as discuss the film's incredible journey to date.

THE MAKING OF ALMOST CHRISTMAS
Presented by Comcast NBCUniversal, courtesy of Universal Pictures.
Moderated by BuzzFeed pop culture editor Sylvia Obell
Friday, June 17 3:00 pm
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4



An inside look at Universal's new comedy with writer/director/executive producer David E. Talbert (Baggage Claim), producer Will Packer (Ride Along, Think Like a Man series) and actress and executive producer Gabrielle Union (Being Mary Jane).

TV One PRESENTS "CELEBRITY SCENE STEALERS"

Host: Keith Robinson (Get On Up, Dreamgirls)
Friday, June 17 5:00 pm
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

Popular actors perform scenes from TV One's annual screenplay competition, where one talented writer wins the opportunity to have their movie made by TV One. Appearances by Tyler Lepley, Wesley Jonathan, Rob Riley, Robert Ri'chard, Jackie Long, Sevyn Streeter, Rainy Branch and Julissa Burmudez.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

BISHOP T.D. JAKES TALKS FAITH, FILM & TV

Moderated by Shaun Robinson, journalist & author
Saturday, June 18 10:30 am
Venue: Loews, Americana 3 & 4

T. D. Jakes, one of the most influential voices in America, discusses his latest faith-genre film and television entertainment ventures, his extraordinary journey and how faith remains the center of his universe.

BLACK WOMEN IN HOLLYWOOD: THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

***ABFF Women's Initiative
Presented by Planned Parenthood of America
Moderated by Soledad O'Brien, journalist & CEO (Starfish Media Group)
Saturday, June 18 2:00 pm
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

A new crop of diverse and highly talented actors is changing the complexion of our industry. Meet the players as we discuss and celebrate their work. Panelists include Teyonah Parris (Survivor's Remorse, Chiraq), Nicole Behari (Sleepy Hollow), Emayatzy Corienaldi (Miles Ahead) and Aja Naomi King (The Birth of a Nation, How to Get Away with Murder).

NEXT...ON HBO

Presented by HBO
Moderated by Bevy Smith, host, (Bevelations, Sirius XM)
Saturday, June 18 5:00 pm
Venue: Colony Theatre

Join us for a conversation with stars from HBO hit series and hear how they've made it onto many of television's best shows and films! Plus enjoy an exclusive screening of the premiere episode of Ballers, Season 2. Panelists: Jacob Anderson (Game of Thrones), Nathalie Emmanuel (Game of Thrones), Jazmyn Simon (Ballers) and John David Washington (Ballers).

THE ART OF STORYTELLING THROUGH COSTUME DESIGN

Presented by Prudential Financial
Saturday, June 18 5:00 pm
Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

Acclaimed costume designer Ruth E. Carter (Roots, Selma, Lee Daniels' The Butler, Sparkle, Malcolm X) discusses the collaborative process of planning the wardrobe for a film, and its powerful impact on story. Includes a preview of up-and-coming designer Laquan Smith



THE BEST IN INDEPENDENT FILMS!

ABFF INDEPENDENT

PREMIERES AUGUST 4TH AT 9 PM ET

HOSTED BY
**DAVID
BANNER**



ASPIRETV
Heritage Heart Humor
ASPIRE.tv



ASPIREtv tvASPIRE

MASTER CLASSES & INDUSTRY COACHING SESSIONS



MASTER CLASSES



ACTORS BOOT CAMP

led by **Bill Duke**
actor/director/producer

An intensive two-day class on the business and craft of acting through scene study and lively discussion with Bill Duke and several guests from the world of film and television.

Dates/Times:

THURSDAY, JUNE 16 9:00 AM – 12 NOON

FRIDAY, JUNE 17 9:00 AM – 12 NOON

Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3



TV PRODUCTION – THE HBO WAY

led by **Bruce Richmond**
EVP Production, HBO

Join **Bruce Richmond** – executive vice president, Production, for Home Box Office responsible for supervising production on HBO original series, miniseries and films as well as Cinemax original series – for this dynamic class on all aspects of physical production inclusive of hiring, budgeting, scheduling and post.

Dates/Time:

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 9:00 AM – 12 NOON

Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3



WRITING FOR TELEVISION

led by **Karen Horne**
SVP Programming Talent Development & Inclusion

NBC Entertainment & Universal Studios
Featured Guest Speaker:

Courtney Kemp (Power, The Good Wife)

Want to build a career in television as a writer? Learn what goes into writing an impressive spec script that might get you in the door, to the realities of developing and pitching your own series. Explore story, structure, genre, and discover the differences between writing for cable versus network television.

Dates/Time:

SUNDAY, JUNE 19 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Venue: Ritz, 3rd Floor,
Lincoln/Lummus,/McArthur**

INDUSTRY COACHING SESSIONS | FRIDAY, JUNE 17

1:30 PM INDUSTRY COACHING SEMINAR with AKIL PRODUCTIONS

Mara Brock-Akil and **Salim Akil** discuss how to navigate a career in screenwriting, and will introduce the ABFF Women's Writers Lab, a new ABFF initiative.

Venue: Ritz Ballroom, Salons 2 & 3

9 AM – 11 AM VH1 UNSCRIPTED STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

(for selected candidates only)

Venue: Loews, Moon Room

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

2:00 PM VIRTUAL REALITY & IMMERSIVE STORYTELLING SEMINAR

Venue: Loews, Ponciana 1 & 2



A CNN ORIGINAL SERIES

UNITED SHADES OF AMERICA

W. KAMAU BELL



WATCH ANYTIME ANYWHERE

THE "BEST OF THE FESTIVAL" AWARDS CEREMONY



SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 9:00 PM

AWARDS

Host
Chris Spencer



Grand Jury President
Omari Hardwick



The festival's star-studded closing night ceremony where the winners of the 2016 awards are announced, along with the talent discovery program award winners.

2016 HBO SHORT FILM AWARD
presented by
HBO

2016 STAR PROJECT WINNER
presented by
NBC

2016 MCDONALD'S "MY COMMUNITY"
VIDEO COMPETITION WINNER

2016 TVOne SCREENPLAY
COMPETITION WINNER

2016 BEST WEB ORIGINAL
presented by
Comcast Xfinity

2016 BEST OF THE ABFF AUDIENCE AWARD
presented by
BET

2016 BEST DOCUMENTARY AWARD
presented by
Hennessy, Never Stop. Never Settle.

2016 GRAND JURY AWARD
BEST ACTOR

2016 GRAND JURY AWARD
BEST SCREENPLAY
presented by
Time Warner

2016 GRAND JURY AWARD
BEST DIRECTOR
presented by
Cadillac

2016 GRAND JURY AWARD
BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE
presented by
Prudential



FESTIVAL VENUES & REGISTRATION

The ABFF Registration Center is located at the Ritz-Carlton, 1 Lincoln Road, Grand Ballroom, Salon 1 for pre-registration pick-up and walk-up sales.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Wednesday, June 15	11 am – 8 pm
Thursday, June 16	9 am – 6 pm
Friday, June 17	9 am – 6 pm
Saturday, June 18	9 am – 5 pm

PASSES COLLINS PASS - \$300 | SOBE PASS - \$775 | DECO PASS - \$1,525

TICKETS

MASTER CLASSES

ACTORS BOOT CAMP

led by Bill Duke
Thurs, June 16 & Fri, June 17 | 9:00 am
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$150

TELEVISION PRODUCTION – THE HBO® WAY

led by Bruce Richmond
Sat, June 18 | 9:00 am
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$75

WRITING FOR TELEVISION

led by Karen Horne
Sun, June 19 | 10:00 am
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Lummus, McArthur, Ocean, Tuttle
\$75

INDIVIDUAL EVENT TICKETS

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION (FILM & AFTER PARTY)

Wed, June 15 | 7:45 PM
Opening Night Film | Olympia Theater, 144 E. Flagler St.
After Party | Story, 136 Collins Ave. | 11:00 PM
\$80

A CONVERSATION WITH COMMON

Presented by American Airlines
Thurs, June 16 | 12:00 PM
Loews Hotel, Americana 3 & 4
\$40

INDUSTRY COACHING SEMINAR: FINDING SUCCESS ON YOUTUBE

Thurs, June 16 | 2:30 PM
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$25

MASTER CLASSES

#SoMIAMI WHITE PARTY

Thurs, June 16 | 10:30 PM
Pearl at Nikki Beach, 1 Ocean Drive
Attire: Chic Miami White
\$60

ABFF “FIRST LOOK” THE BIRTH OF A NATION

Presented by the MPAA, courtesy of Fox Searchlight
Fri, June 17 | 11:30 AM
Loews Hotel, Americana 3 & 4
\$40

INDUSTRY COACHING SEMINAR with AKIL PRODUCTIONS

Fri, June 17 | 1:30 PM
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$25

THE MAKING OF “ALMOST CHRISTMAS”

Presented by Comcast NBCUniversal, courtesy of Universal Pictures
Fri, June 17 | 3:00 PM
Loews Hotel, Americana 3 & 4
\$40

TVONE PRESENTS “CELEBRITY SCENE STEALERS”

Fri, June 17 | 5:00 PM
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$40

ABFF “COMEDY WINGS” COMPETITION

Sponsored by HBO
Fri, June 17 | 8:30 PM
Loews Hotel, Americana 3 & 4
\$50
This ticket includes access to Pre-Show Mixer from 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm.

ABFF GAME NIGHT PARTY

Sponsored by McDonald's
Fri, June 17 | 10:30 PM
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$60

BISHOP TD JAKES TALKS FAITH, FILM & TV

Sat, June 18 | 10:30 AM
Loews Hotel, Americana 3 & 4
\$40

BLACK WOMEN IN HOLLYWOOD: THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

Sat, June 18 | 2:00 PM
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$40

VIRTUAL REALITY & IMMERSIVE STORYTELLING SEMINAR

Sat, June 18 | 2:00 PM
Loews Hotel, Ponciana 1 & 2
\$25

THE ART OF STORYTELLING THROUGH COSTUME DESIGN

Sponsored by Prudential Financial
Sat, June 18 | 5:00 PM
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Salons 2 & 3
\$40

THE “BEST OF THE FESTIVAL” AWARDS CEREMONY & HENNESSY TRIBUTE PARTY

Sat, June 18 | 9:00 PM
Awards Ceremony | Loews Hotel, Americana 3 & 4
Hennessy Tribute Party | Loews Hotel, Americana Foyer
11:00 PM
\$150

RITZ-CARLTON, SOUTH BEACH

(Registration and Panels)
June 15-19
1 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Ph: (786) 276-4000
Floors 2 & 3

LOEWS MIAMI BEACH HOTEL

(Showrooms, Lounges, Talk Series, Filmmaker Reunion)
June 15-19
1601 Collin Ave, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Ph: (305) 604-1601

OLYMPIA THEATER

(Opening Night Film)
June 15
174 E. Flagler St, Miami, FL 33131
Ph: (305) 374-2444

STORY NIGHTCLUB

(Opening Night Party)
June 15
136 Collin Ave, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Ph: (305) 538-2424

COLONY THEATER

(Spotlight Film Screenings, HBO Short Film Competition)
June 16-18
1040 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Ph: (305) 674-1040

REGAL CINEMAS

(Narrative and Documentary Film Screenings)
June 16-18
1120 Lincoln Rd, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Ph: (844) 462-7342

PEARL at NIKKI BEACH

June 16
(#SoMiami White Party)
1 Ocean Drive, 2nd Floor, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Ph: (305) 776-8105

LYRIC THEATER

June 19
(ABFF Community Day Film Screenings)
819 NW 2nd Ave, Miami, FL 33136
Ph: (786) 708-4610

EVEN CAREGIVERS NEED TO UNWIND.

No two people will have the same caregiving journey. That's why we're dedicated to making yours easier by standing with you along your way. With a wide variety of free tools and resources, we can help you care for yourself or someone you love. And since we know even caregivers need a night out sometimes, we're helping you relax at free movie nights and other fun events in your neighborhood.

Discover what we're doing for you at aarp.org/blackcommunity



Diversity is at the Core of Excellence.



And the Walter Kaitz Foundation has been at the core of diversity within the cable & telecommunications industry for more than 30 years.

Visit www.walterkaitz.org and learn about the programs and initiatives we provide.



cable's diversity advocate

EVENT STAFF

- Jeff Friday**
Founder/CEO ABFF Ventures & Film Life
- Earl "Butch" Graves Jr.**
Partner ABFF Ventures & President/CEO, Black Enterprise
- Reginald R. Scott**
Co-Producer, Executive in Charge of Production
- Ghana Odet Wilson**
Producer/General Manger
- Melanie Sharee**
Sr. Director-Programming, Creative and Communications
- Amelia M. Winfree**
Sr. Director-Sponsorship and Partnership Marketing
- Jazmin K. Washington**
Manger – Registration, Customer Service and Festival Communications
- Michelle Huff-Elliott**
Director-Public Relations and Communications
- Simone Smalls**
Director-Public Relations and Communications
- Raquel Bruno**
Director-Talent Relations
- Donald Clark**
Director-Front of House
- Jeff Pearl**
Associate Producer/Director of Technical Services
- Genevieve Michel-Bryan**
Video Content Producer
- Kitab Rollins**
Manager – Reserved Seating
- Shatarra Jackson**
Assistant to Founder/CEO
- Dwand Stevens**
Assistant to Founder/Driver
- Alshante L. Squire**
Assistant to Executive in Charge of Production
- Randall Martin Croudy**
Assistant to Technical Director
- Drew Pratt**
Assistant Technical Director
- Kenyatta (MD) DeShazor**
Red Carpet Installations
- Emma Jackson**
Assistant to Producer/General Manager
- Jean Claude Louis**
Manager - Operations, Signage and Logistics
- Jimmy King**
Coordinator - Operations, Signage and Logistics
- Brandon Gillespie**
Coordinator - Operations and Administration
- Kayla Richardson**
Assistant - Operations and Administration
- Maia Miller**
Manager - Film and Programming
- Diamonde Williamson**
Assistant to Director of Programming
- Jamal Easley**
Talent Discovery/Filmmaker Check-In
- Fatima Williams**
Coordinator - Sponsorship Hospitality
- Cherisse Coley**
Coordinator - Sponsorship Hospitality
- Diane Brown**
Coordinator - Sponsorship Hospitality
- Dana Brown**
Coordinator - Sponsorship Hospitality
- Chelsye Burrows**
Assistant - Sponsorship Hospitality
- Michelle McMillan**
Assistant - Sponsorship Hospitality
- Catrina Livermore**
Assistant- Sponsorship Hospitality
- Dominique Steward**
Assistant to Sponsorship Director
- Morgan Kendrick**
Sponsorship Intern
- Renau Daniels (Prudential)**
Sponsorship Hospitality
- Kyle Allman (Apple)**
Sponsorship Hospitality
- Fabiola Roman (AARP)**
Sponsorship Hospitality
- James Gilmer**
Sponsorship Consultant
- Angelique Mitchell**
Comptroller
- Empress Vornado**
Coordinator - Festival Communications & Customer Service
- Sherry Herbert**
Registration - On-site Sales
- Syron Kira**
Registration - On-site Sales
- Natasha Gore**
Registration - Onsite Sales/Special Services
- Rodina McGore**
Coordinator - Pre-Registration
- Camille Johnson Morris**
Customer Service Representative
- Sharon Riggins**
Customer Service Representative
- Tiffany Willis Gilmer**
Customer Service Representative
- Khary Bruyning**
Coordinator - Info. Table Ritz
- Adrienne Chestnut**
Info. Table Ritz
- Tiffany Banks**
Info. Table Regal
- Kenisha Green**
Info. Table Colony
- Deborah Wright**
Info. Table Colony
- Paula Simmons**
Coordinator - Info. Table Loews
- Candra Ward**
Ticket Taker - Regal
- TyKecia Hayes**
Ticket Taker - Colony
- Lisa Eason**
Ticket Taker - Regal
- Kimberly Booker**
Deco Concierge
- Celeste Savage**
Deco Concierge Assistant
- Dimetria Thornton**
Deco Lounge Check-In
- Ariel Rainey**
Manager - Social Media
- Xavier Hamilton**
Coordinator - Social Media
- Amoi K.T. Holmes**
Coordinator- Social Meedia
- Alaina Lewis**
PR Manager
- Melonee Griggs**
RR Manager
- Torran Carter**
PR Assistant
- Serge Jean**
PR Assistant
- Kiki Peterson**
PR Assistant
- Jordyn McClane**
PR Assistant
- Gabrielle Lozano**
PR Assistant
- Thaddaeus McAdams**
Photographer
- Jemal Countess**
Getty Portrait Studio
- Aaron Thornton**
Photographer
- Shana Pendelton**
Photographers Assistant
- Antione Brill**
Photographer

Congratulations to ABFF
for 20 years of celebrating
Black excellence in film
and entertainment.

**Planned Parenthood Action
Fund is proud to support the
American Black Film Festival's
ABFF Talk Series:
Black Women In Hollywood:
The Future Looks Bright**

Loews Hotel Americana Ballroom
Saturday, June 18 at 2:00 pm.

Special thanks to Teyonah Parris (Chiraq),
Nicole Behari (Sleepy Hollow), Emayatzy
Corienaldi (Miles Ahead), and Soledad O'Brien.



EVENT STAFF

Mycache Miller
Coordinator - Talent Hospitality

Tanya Garnett
Coordinator - Talent Hospitality

Chris Caira
Coordinator - Talent Hospitality

Susan Reed
Coordinator - Talent Hospitality

Brittney Cofield-Poole
Coordinator - Talent Hospitality

Armand Hodge
Assistant - Talent Hospitality

Justine Mangum
Assistant - Talent Hospitality

Latika Sye
Assistant - Talent Hospitality

Russell Bruno
Assistant - Talent Hospitality

Sherrese Moise
Manager - Night Events & Award Show

Wanda R. Croudy
Event Manager - Ritz

Denise Pendelton
Event Coordinator - Ritz

Oscar Lyde
Event Assistant - Ritz

Yvette N. Harris
Event Manager/Community Liaison

Frank Dwayne Williams
Event Coordinator - Master Classes

Stephanie Lenoir
Event Assistant - Master Class

Ibukunola "Bukky" Rojuginokan
Event Assistant - Master Class

Ernestine Johnson
Event Manager - Colony Theatre

Tonya Archie
Event Coordinator - Colony Theatre

Stacy Townsend
Event Assistant - Colony Theatre

Jamie Gage
Event Assistant - Colony Theatre

Derrick Williams
Event Manager - Regal Theatre

Michelle McKoy
Event Manager - Regal Theatre -17

Levi Williams
Event Manager - Regal Theatre -18

Heaven Daluz
Event Assistant - Screening & Seating
Regal Theatre 17

Ashley Christopher
Event Assistant - Screening & Seating
Regal Theatre 17

Matthew Serrette
Event Assistant - Screening & Seating
Regal Theatre 18

Ali Milo
Event Assistant - Screening & Seating
Regal Theatre 18

Aynax/Cordell Patterson
Security Consultants

Iman Folayan
Line Ambassadors - Ritz

Timothy Jones
Line Ambassadors - Ritz

Alicia Cuthbertson
Line Ambassadors - Ritz

Stephen Griffin
Line Ambassadors - Ritz

Ashley Beauchamp
Line Ambassadors - Ritz

Vanessa Vergara
Line Ambassadors - Ritz

Colette Byfield
Line Ambassadors - Regal Theatre

Gabriella Webb
Line Ambassadors - Regal Theatre

Keefe Flynn
Line Ambassadors - Regal Theatre

Amanda Robbins
Line Ambassadors - Colony Theatre

Julie Meyer
Line Ambassadors - Colony Theatre

Chase Clark
Line Ambassadors - Colony Theatre

Massudi Stolar
Line Ambassadors - Colony Theatre

Passion Roosevelt
Line Ambassadors - Colony Theatre

Sandra Morris
Line Ambassadors - Loews

Amitria Fanae Lattimore
Line Ambassadors - Loews

Jalyce Mangum
Line Ambassadors - Loews

Allison Bragg
Line Ambassadors - Loews

Taylor Burrell
Line Ambassadors - Loews

Stephen Bernard Spikes
Assistant to Video Content Producer

Tina Oberry
Travel Coordinator

Nikki Holmes
Travel Assistant

Stephanie Knox
Travel Assistant

Janet Toni Mason
Production Assistant

Mecca Naeem Harris
Production Assistant/Intern,
Operations

Kojo Simmons
Production Assistant/Intern,
Ritz and Loews

Zaria Glenn
Production Assistant/Intern,
Festival Communications

Hadassah Amani
Production Assistant/Intern

Alyiah Fleming
Production Assistant/Intern

Skylar Cunningham
Production Assistant/Intern

Tiffany Ortiz
Production Assistant/Intern

Asa Sanon-Jules
Production Assistant/Intern

Glysed Barboza
Production Assistant/Intern

Ce'Mone Jose
Production Assistant/Intern

Batiah Sinepha
Production Assistant/Intern

Valery Ciceus
Production Assistant/Intern

Iles Roopnarine
Production Assistant/Intern

Monica Bissainthe
Production Assistant/Intern

EBONY is a proud media partner of the 2016 American Black Film Festival.

We salute you on your 20th Anniversary!

EBONY

The 20th Annual
ABFF
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL

STAY CONNECTED



Visit us at EBONY.com and follow us for up-to-date news, opinion, exclusive social media giveaways and weigh in on the hot topics of the day.

EBONY→.com



SPECIAL THANKS DECO PASSHOLDERS

Adrienne Bryant
Al Cohen
Al Phillips, Allen
Inner Circle Ent.
Andre Morgan
Andre Williams
Anthony Brooks
Aerial Taylor
B. Allen
Inner Circle Ent
Ben Williams
Beryl Moreland
Brandan Jones
Cameron Lewis
Candice Bourne
Cara Pearson
Christopher Kirk
Cindy Bryant
Dalmacy Films
Danita Byrd
David Rogers
Dig Monroe
Executive Producer, Writer,
Director, Actress, Host
Dr. Deatema LaVaughn Abdul-Latif
Erika Bennett
Ernestine Johnson

ET AL Films
Ethel Calhoun
Fanshen Cox Digiovanni
Florence Greer
GENTLE BEE STAR REAL ESTATE
BROKERAGE AND APPRAISAL SERVICES
Gregory and Kimberly Parris
Gregory Olaniran
Hugh Key
Ingrid Peck
James Webb
Jeffrey Brazzle
Jeffrey Clanagan
Jen Prewitt-Zingg
Jimmy Edmond
Juan D. Anderson
Judia Black
Karen Cox
Kisha Hall
Mama Ethel Lee Carmel Higgins
Entertainer/Lyricist
Mark D. Jackson
Above The Mark Productions
Marla Baker
Make Me Gorgeous Marvin Coleman
Meika Boyce

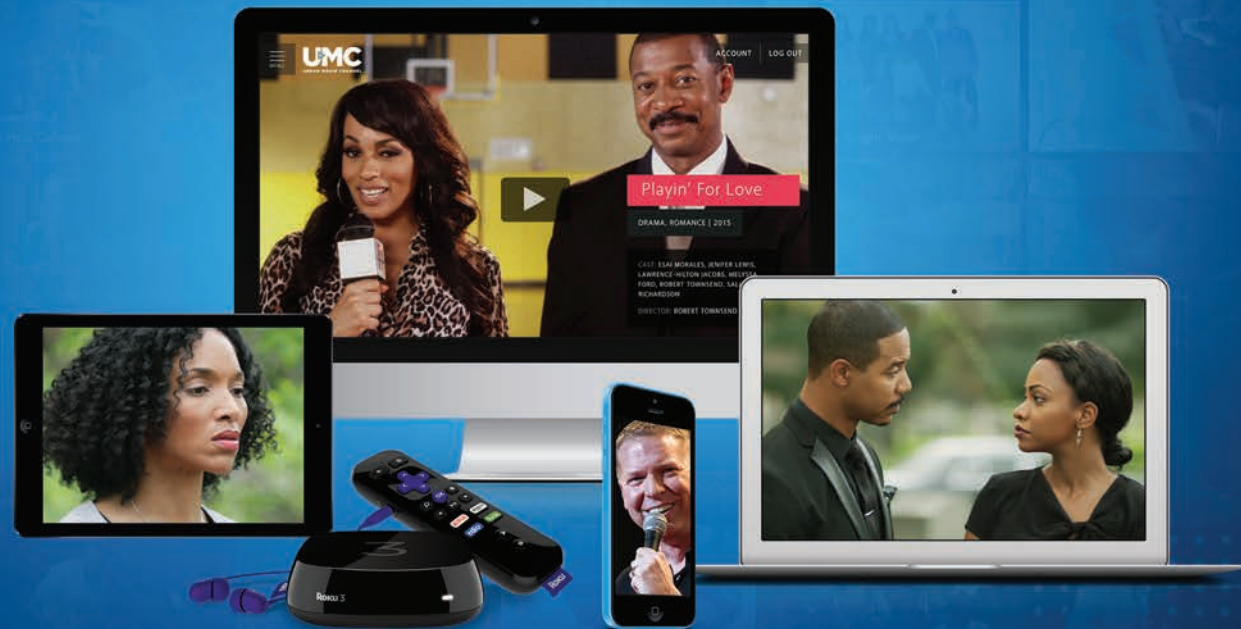
MEENTEE
(Who's Leading You Into Greatness)
The Movie
Michelle Jones, Ph.D.
Mimosa and a Masterpiece In a Box
Monica Cost
MCE Enterprises LLC
Nicole Amarteifio
An African City Limited
Patricia Brissett
Precious Bright
R. Stefan Latoure Sanders
Rhonda Moss
Roman Montagueo
Rosine Sanders
Shawn Morris
Sonja Dumas
Stacy Moultrie
Stephanie Goins
Stephanie Soto, Tene Redmond
Tewodross Melchishua
The Short Film Awards
Timothy Knight
Timothy Senkungu
Tonya Hollis Tykeithia Williams,
Valerie Redmond,
Visceral Media Group LLC,
Yolanda English

UMC

URBAN MOVIE CHANNEL

is a proud sponsor of the

20th Annual
ABFF
AMERICAN BLACK FILM FESTIVAL



FREE 30-DAY TRIAL!

PROMO CODE: JFKSL

For new users only. Expires 12/31/16

Available on-demand via tablets, phones, laptops, Roku, and now available on additional devices including Amazon Fire TV and Amazon Fire TV Stick.

Subscribe today and try it FREE!

www.UrbanMovieChannel.com

#WatchUMC

f /UrbanMovieChannel



& @WatchUMC

© 2016 RLJ Entertainment, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Amazon, Kindle, Echo, Fire and all related logos are trademarks of Amazon.com, Inc. or its affiliates.

NOTES

PRESENTING SPONSORS



PLATINUM



OFFICIAL



SUPPORTING



INDUSTRY PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS

