

Black Hollywood Film Directors

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10 Highest Grossing Films by African American Directors



The number one film at the box office this weekend was no real surprise: *Thor: The Dark World* held on to the spot in its second week, adding another \$38 million, bringing its total to \$138 million, so far. Look for it to have a precipitous drop next weekend facing *Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. The real surprise of the weekend, however, was the showing of ***Best Man's Holiday***, which racked up a tidy \$31 million, despite the 15 year gap between sequels (in fact, it nearly surpassed the entire box-office haul of the original *The Best Man* (\$34 million) in its opening weekend alone).

That's a big win for **Malcolm D. Lee**, sadly one of the few successful **African American directors in Hollywood**. In fact, with the success of *The Best Man Holiday*, Lee leaps to number seven all time among African American directors in terms of total lifetime box office. Here's the top 10.

10. **Carl Franklin** — \$145 million
9. **Lee Daniels** — \$164 million
8. **Allan and Albert Hughes** — \$178 million
7. **Malcom D. Lee** — \$208 million (and growing)
5. **F. Gary Gray** — \$370 million

6. **Antoine Fuqua** — \$380 million
5. **Spike Lee** - \$374 million
4. **Keenan Ivory Wayans** — \$400 million
3. **John Singleton** — \$465 million
2. **Tim Story** — \$490 million
1. **Tyler Perry** — \$674 million

That's it. A black director today could make one (1) \$145 million grossing film and break the top 10 all time. In the top 307 directors of all time, based on lifetime box office gross, these are the *only* 10 black directors represented.

How about black female directors? Can you name the highest grossing female black director of all time? Think about it. Think about it *really* hard. Can you even think of *one* black female director?

The highest grossing black female director of all time is Angela Robinson, who has amassed a whopping \$66 million over her career. Ninety-nine percent of that gross came from one movie, *Herbie: Fully Loaded*. The only other black female director to even have \$60 million lifetime gross over her entire career is Gina Prince-Blythwood, who directed (the awesome) *Love and Basketball*. What does that say about Hollywood? It sucks to be a black director. But it sucks even worse to be a female black director.

[Source](#)

African-American Film Critics Association Reveals Its Top 10 Films of 2013



Steve McQueen's "12 Years a Slave" tops the annual list.

The full list of African-American Film Critics Association's top 10 films of 2013 is below:

1. *12 Years a Slave*
2. *Lee Daniels: The Butler*
3. *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*
4. *American Hustle*
5. *Gravity*
6. *Fruitvale Station*
7. *Dallas Buyers Club*
8. *Saving Mr. Banks*

9. *Out of the Furnace*

10. 42

Awards:

Best Actor: Forest Whitaker, *Lee Daniels: The Butler* (TWC)

Best Actress: Sandra Bullock, *Gravity* (Warner Bros.)

Best Supporting Actress: Oprah Winfrey, *Lee Daniels: The Butler* (TWC)

Best Supporting Actor: Jared Leto, *Dallas Buyers Club* (Focus Features)

Best World Cinema: *Mother of George* (Oscilloscope Laboratories)

Breakout Performance: Lupita Nyong'o, *12 Years a Slave* (Fox Searchlight)

Best Director: Steve McQueen, *12 Years a Slave* (Fox Searchlight)

Best Screenplay: John Ridley, *12 Years a Slave* (Fox Searchlight)

Best Music: Raphael Sadiq, *Black Nativity* (RCA Inspirational)

Best Independent Film: *Fruitvale Station* (TWC)

Best Animation: *Frozen* (Walt Disney Pictures)

Best Documentary: *American Promise* (Rada Film Group)

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/african-american-film-critics-association-665690>