



RULES & ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

THE 2014 ABFF MOVIE AWARDS is an online platform created by the American Black Film Festival to recognize the work of persons of African descent in the motion picture industry and outstanding films portraying the Black experience.

A. THE NOMINATION PROCESS

1. Films and individuals will be deemed eligible to receive an ABFF MOVIE AWARD based on the nominee criteria as stated in section D of this document. Eligible films and individuals may be nominated in more than one category.
2. The producers of THE ABFF MOVIE AWARDS, with the participation of a blue-ribbon panel of film critics and entertainment editors, compile a "Considerations List" of eligible films and individuals in ten categories. To qualify for consideration, films must have U.S. theatrical release dates between January 1 and December 31, 2013, with a minimum two-week run in NY and LA.
3. From the "Considerations List," THE ABFF MOVIE AWARDS jury, a blue-ribbon panel of film critics and entertainment editors, will vote to nominate films/individuals in each category to create a list of 2014 ABFF MOVIE AWARD nominees.

B. ABFF MOVIE AWARDS VOTING

1. The nominees will be announced January 8, 2014 and nominee ballot published to THE ABFF MOVIE AWARDS website, www.abffmovieawards.com, January 13, 2014, at which time the opportunity to cast votes for one winner in each category will be open to the general public.
2. Voting for the 2014 ABFF MOVIE AWARDS shall take place between January 13 and February 20, 2014.

C. AWARD CATEGORIES

1. Movie of the Year
2. Best Actor - Leading
3. Best Actress - Leading
4. Best Director
5. Best Screenplay
6. Best Actor - Supporting
7. Best Actress - Supporting
8. Best Ensemble Cast
9. Breakout Performance of the Year
10. Studio of the Year
11. Artist of the Year

D. NOMINEE ELIGIBILITY

1. **Following are the eligibility requirements for each ABFF MOVIE AWARD:**

Movie of the Year: Films nominated within this category must either:

- i. feature in a leading role(s), a person(s) of African descent.
 - ii. be written by a person(s) of African descent with sole credit.
 - iii. be directed by a person(s) of African descent with sole credit.
 - iv. be produced by a person(s) of African descent with sole credit.
- a. **Best Actor - Leading:** Actors nominated within this category must be of African descent.
 - b. **Best Actress - Leading:** Actresses nominated within this category must be of African descent.

- c. **Best Director:** Directors nominated within this category must be of African descent with sole credit.
 - d. **Best Screenplay:** Writers nominated within this category must be of African descent with sole credit.
 - e. **Best Actor - Supporting:** Actors nominated within this category must be of African descent.
 - f. **Best Actress - Supporting:** Actresses nominated within this category must be of African descent.
 - g. **Best Ensemble Cast:** Films nominated within this category must i) be either written, directed or produced by, or feature in a leading role, a person(s) of African descent and ii) have principal actors in roles of roughly equal amounts of importance and screen time.
 - h. **Breakout Performance of the Year:** Actors (male or female) nominated within this category must be of African descent, whose performance is predicted to catapult to new heights.
 - i. **Studio of the Year:** Studios nominated within this category must have distributed a minimum of two (2) qualifying films which are either written, directed, produced by or feature in a leading role a person(s) of African descent.
 - j. **Artist of the Year:** Artists nominated within this category must be of African descent.
2. All films must have been originally released in the United States in a public theatrical exhibition between January 1 and December 31, 2013, and have a minimum run of two weeks in NY and LA.
 3. A film's running time must be more than 75 (seventy-five) minutes in length.
 4. Studio films must have a rating of G, PG, PG-13 or R.

5. Films with animated segments or animated characters that interact with live-action characters are eligible. However, films that are entirely animated are not eligible for ABFF MOVIE AWARDS consideration.
6. Eligibility for all awards shall be determined by the listed film credits as they appear in the film's credit block. (In the event of any dispute concerning credits, the ABFF MOVIE AWARDS producers reserve the right to determine the eligibility of a film or individual.)

E. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

1. The winner in each category will be the nominee who receives the greatest number of votes in the online polling.
2. ABFF MOVIE AWARD winners will be announced during Black History Month, February 2014.