



2008 BMA RULES & ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Black Movie Awards (BMA) honors excellence in cinematic achievement by persons of African descent as well as outstanding films portraying the Black experience.

A. THE NOMINATION & VOTING PROCESS

1. Films and individuals are deemed eligible to receive a Black Movie Award based on the nominee eligibility criteria as stated in Section C of this document. Eligible films and individuals may be nominated for a BMA in more than one category.
2. The producers of the Black Movie Awards, together with the studios, compile a list of films and individuals for consideration in eight (8) award categories from eligible films with U.S. theatrical release dates between March 1, 2007, and February 29, 2008.
3. The BMA Nomination Board nominates five (5) films or persons in each category that will be deemed the nominees. In the case of a tie, a maximum of six (6) nominees may appear in any one category.
4. The Black Movie Awards winners are determined by the BMA Jury – a prestigious group of entertainment editors, film critics and artists – who vote to determine one winner in each category.
5. Voting takes place between March 1 and April 25, 2008.
6. Votes are tabulated by a certified public accounting firm.

B. AWARD CATEGORIES

- Outstanding Motion Picture
- Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Cast
- Outstanding Achievement in Directing
- Outstanding Achievement in Screenwriting

C. NOMINEE ELIGIBILITY

1. The following provides the eligibility requirements for each Black Movie Award:

- a) **Outstanding Motion Picture:** Films eligible to receive an award for Outstanding Motion Picture must qualify through a point system that measures the influence and participation of people of African descent in the filmmaking process. A film must accrue a cumulative total of eight points in order to qualify. Points are earned as follows, based on credited person(s) of African descent (per film's credit block).

Executive Producer	4 points
Producer	4 points
Writer	4 points
Director	4 points
Lead Actor	4 points
Lead Actress	4 points
Supporting Actor	2 points
Supporting Actress	2 points

- b) Nominees in the remaining seven (7) categories must all be individuals of African descent.

- c) **Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role:** Lead actors nominated within this category must be individuals of African descent.

- d) **Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role:** Lead actresses nominated within this category must be individuals of African descent.

- e) **Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role:** Actors nominated within this category must be individuals of African descent.

- f) **Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role:** Actors nominated within this category must be individuals of African descent.

- g) **Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Cast:** Cast eligibility is based on the pool of films that qualify for the category of Outstanding Motion Picture.

- h) **Outstanding Achievement in Directing:** Directors nominated within this category must be individuals of African descent.

- i) **Outstanding Achievement in Screenwriting:** Writers nominated within this category must be individuals of African descent.

2. Films must have been originally released in the United States in a public theatrical screening between March 1, 2007, and February 29, 2008.

3. A film's running time must be more than seventy-two (72) minutes in length.

4. 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 Black Movie Award consideration.
6. Eligibility for all awards shall be determined by the listed film credits as they appear in the film's billing block, with the exception of Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Cast, which will include all performers whose names are listed on separate cards in the final release print's main titles. (In the event of any dispute concerning credits, the BMA producers reserve the right to determine the eligibility of a film or individual.)
7. In the event that any person nominated for a BMA (per the above categories) shares a credit with a person(s) of non-African descent, those individuals will be recognized on the ballot and in the awards process.

D. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS

1. The winner in each category will be the nominee who receives the greatest number of votes from the BMA Jury.
2. Black Movie Awards winners will be announced during the BMA taping scheduled to take place May 16, 2008. The show will air on TNT May 17.

E. AWARDS/BMA TROPHY

1. All winners will receive a Black Movie Awards trophy.
2. In the case of a tie, all winners will receive a trophy.
3. In the event of multiple winners (as in the case of several writers/producers on a movie), the BMA will provide a maximum of two trophies. Additional trophies may be purchased.