

# best movies to watch for black history month

Best Movies to Watch for Black History Month: A Cinematic Journey Through Black Excellence

**best movies to watch for black history month** offer a powerful way to celebrate, educate, and reflect on the rich history, culture, and achievements of Black communities. Whether you're looking to deepen your understanding of pivotal moments in history, appreciate stories of resilience and triumph, or simply enjoy compelling storytelling, films provide a unique window into experiences that have shaped Black identity across the globe. As Black History Month approaches, curating a thoughtful movie list can be both inspiring and enlightening.

In this article, we'll explore some of the best movies to watch for Black History Month, highlighting films that span genres, decades, and themes. From historical dramas to biopics and documentaries, these movies not only entertain but also educate, spotlighting narratives that have often been overlooked or underrepresented. Along the way, we'll discuss why these films matter and how they contribute to a broader understanding of Black history and culture.

## Why Movies Matter During Black History Month

Movies are more than just entertainment—they're cultural artifacts that capture the complexities of human experience. For Black History Month, films serve as bridges connecting the past and present, offering viewers insight into struggles against oppression, celebrations of cultural identity, and stories of extraordinary individuals who have changed the course of history.

Visual storytelling has the power to humanize historical figures and events, making them more accessible and emotionally impactful. Watching movies that focus on Black experiences encourages empathy, sparks conversations about race and equality, and challenges stereotypes. Furthermore, it provides a platform for Black voices in the film industry, showcasing talents both in front of and behind the camera.

## Essential Films to Include in Your Black History Month Viewing

There is an abundance of movies that deserve recognition during Black History Month, but here are some standout titles that combine historical significance with artistic excellence.

## **1. “12 Years a Slave” (2013)**

Directed by Steve McQueen, this gripping historical drama is based on the true story of Solomon Northup, a free Black man who was kidnapped and sold into slavery in the 1840s. The film’s unflinching portrayal of slavery’s brutality, paired with powerful performances, offers an essential perspective on one of America’s darkest chapters. Its raw honesty makes it an impactful choice for those seeking to understand the legacy of slavery and its long-lasting effects.

## **2. “Selma” (2014)**

“Selma” chronicles the 1965 voting rights marches from Selma to Montgomery, led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights activists. The film captures the courage and strategy behind the civil rights movement, highlighting the challenges faced in the fight for racial equality. With a compelling script and strong performances, especially by David Oyelowo as King, it’s a must-watch for anyone interested in the political and social struggles that shaped modern America.

## **3. “Hidden Figures” (2016)**

This inspiring film shines a light on three African-American women mathematicians—Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson—who played crucial roles at NASA during the space race. “Hidden Figures” celebrates intelligence, perseverance, and the breaking of both racial and gender barriers. It’s a feel-good, uplifting story that educates about the often-overlooked contributions of Black women in STEM fields.

## **4. “Malcolm X” (1992)**

Spike Lee’s biopic about Malcolm X offers a nuanced exploration of the life of one of the most influential and controversial figures in Black American history. The film delves into his transformation from a street hustler to a passionate civil rights leader, emphasizing themes of identity, empowerment, and social justice. Denzel Washington’s iconic performance makes this film a deeply engaging watch.

## **5. “Black Panther” (2018)**

While not a historical film, “Black Panther” carries immense cultural significance and is an important inclusion for Black History Month. As a groundbreaking superhero movie with a predominantly Black cast and crew, it celebrates African culture, heritage, and futuristic imagination. The film’s themes of leadership, community, and identity resonate deeply and have inspired a new generation of viewers worldwide.

# Documentaries That Deepen Understanding

Documentaries provide factual insights and real-life perspectives that can complement narrative films. They are invaluable for those wanting to learn more about specific events or figures.

## **“I Am Not Your Negro” (2016)**

Based on James Baldwin’s unfinished manuscript, this documentary examines the history of racism in the United States through Baldwin’s eloquent words. It connects the past to the present, making it a powerful meditation on race relations.

## **“13th” (2016)**

A deep dive into the U.S. prison system and its disproportionate impact on African Americans, Ava DuVernay’s “13th” exposes systemic racism and mass incarceration. It’s an eye-opening film that encourages viewers to think critically about justice and equality.

# Exploring Different Genres and Perspectives

Black history is vast and multifaceted, so the best movies to watch for Black History Month should reflect that diversity. Here are some additional genres and perspectives worth exploring.

## **Biographical Films**

Biopics like “The Rosa Parks Story” (2002) or “Get on Up” (2014), which chronicles the life of James Brown, provide personal views into the lives of influential figures who impacted civil rights, music, and culture.

## **Coming-of-Age Stories**

Films such as “Moonlight” (2016) and “The Hate U Give” (2018) explore Black identity and social issues through the lens of youth. These movies offer intimate portrayals of growing up Black in America, dealing with themes like family, community, and systemic challenges.

## **Historical Epics**

“Glory” (1989), which tells the story of the first all-Black volunteer company fighting in the Civil War, and “Amistad” (1997), about a slave ship rebellion, are sweeping narratives that bring important historical moments to life with emotional depth and cinematic grandeur.

## Tips for a Meaningful Black History Month Movie Experience

Watching movies during Black History Month can be more impactful when approached thoughtfully. Here are some tips to enhance your viewing experience:

- **Contextualize the Films:** Before watching, take a moment to research the historical background or real-life figures the movie portrays. This adds layers of understanding.
- **Discuss and Reflect:** Share your thoughts with friends, family, or online communities. Conversations can deepen appreciation and awareness.
- **Support Black Filmmakers:** Explore works by Black directors, writers, and actors beyond mainstream titles to discover diverse voices and stories.
- **Mix Genres:** Balance heavy historical dramas with uplifting stories or documentaries for a well-rounded perspective.
- **Use Streaming Services and Libraries:** Many platforms curate Black History Month collections, making it easier to find relevant films.

## Celebrating Black History Month Through Film

Choosing the best movies to watch for Black History Month isn’t just about ticking off a list; it’s an opportunity to engage with stories that educate, inspire, and celebrate Black excellence. From the harrowing realities of slavery and the civil rights movement to the joyous affirmations of culture and identity, films help keep history alive and relevant.

By immersing yourself in these cinematic experiences, you not only honor the past but also contribute to ongoing conversations about race, justice, and equality. So, grab some popcorn, gather your loved ones, and dive into a selection of movies that honor the resilience, creativity, and strength of Black communities worldwide.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## **What are some of the best movies to watch for Black History Month?**

Some of the best movies to watch for Black History Month include '12 Years a Slave,' 'Selma,' 'Malcolm X,' 'Hidden Figures,' 'Black Panther,' 'The Hate U Give,' and 'Get Out.' These films highlight important aspects of Black history, culture, and social issues.

## **Which movies showcase important historical events during Black History Month?**

Movies like 'Selma,' which depicts the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights marches, '12 Years a Slave,' which tells the story of a free Black man sold into slavery, and 'Malcolm X,' which portrays the life of the influential civil rights leader, are excellent choices.

## **Are there any inspirational movies about Black inventors or scientists to watch for Black History Month?**

Yes, 'Hidden Figures' is a highly recommended movie that tells the true story of three African American women mathematicians at NASA who played crucial roles in the space race.

## **What are some movies that explore the Black experience and culture for Black History Month?**

Films such as 'Moonlight,' 'The Hate U Give,' 'If Beale Street Could Talk,' and 'Black Panther' explore various aspects of Black life, culture, and identity, making them great choices for Black History Month.

## **Can animated movies be included in Black History Month movie lists?**

Absolutely. 'Soul' is an animated film by Pixar that touches on themes of Black identity and purpose. While not directly historical, it provides meaningful representation and is suitable for all ages.

## **What are some recent movies that have been praised for their portrayal of Black history or culture?**

Recent acclaimed movies include 'Judas and the Black Messiah,' which tells the story of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton, 'One Night in Miami,' a fictionalized meeting of Black icons, and 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom,' which explores the life of the legendary blues singer.

# Where can I find curated lists of movies for Black History Month?

Many platforms and organizations curate lists for Black History Month. Websites like the American Film Institute, Netflix, and the NAACP offer recommendations. Additionally, streaming services often feature special collections during February.

## Additional Resources

Best Movies to Watch for Black History Month: A Cinematic Exploration of Black Experiences and Culture

**best movies to watch for black history month** serve as powerful tools for education, reflection, and celebration of the rich and complex narratives within Black history. As February marks a dedicated time to honor the achievements, struggles, and cultural contributions of Black individuals, cinema offers an accessible medium through which these stories can be told with nuance and impact. Selecting the right films not only provides historical context but also fosters empathy, understanding, and dialogue around ongoing social issues affecting Black communities.

This article undertakes an analytical review of some of the best movies to watch for Black History Month, evaluating their historical accuracy, cultural significance, storytelling techniques, and overall impact. These films span various genres—biographical dramas, documentaries, and fictional narratives—all contributing uniquely to the tapestry of Black history in film.

## Criteria for Selecting the Best Movies to Watch for Black History Month

When curating a list of essential films for Black History Month, several factors come into play to ensure the selections are both meaningful and educational:

- **Historical Authenticity:** Films that accurately depict events, figures, and societal conditions of the time.
- **Cultural Representation:** Movies that portray Black culture with depth, avoiding stereotypes or one-dimensional characters.
- **Critical Acclaim and Audience Impact:** Recognition by critics and engagement from audiences indicate a film's resonance and quality.
- **Diversity of Perspectives:** Inclusion of stories from varied backgrounds, including different eras, regions, and experiences within the Black community.

These criteria help distinguish films that are not only entertaining but also intellectually and emotionally enriching.

## Historical Biopics and Dramas: Illuminating Pivotal Figures and Movements

### The Power of Biographical Stories

Biographical films remain integral to Black History Month viewing because they bring to life the stories of individuals whose courage and influence shaped history. Movies like *\*Selma\** (2014) and *\*Malcolm X\** (1992) exemplify how cinema can chronicle civil rights struggles with both intensity and nuance.

*\*Selma\**, directed by Ava DuVernay, meticulously reconstructs the 1965 voting rights marches from Selma to Montgomery, highlighting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership and the broader movement's strategic challenges. Notably, its critical acclaim stems from its commitment to historical detail and compelling performances, making it a staple for viewers seeking to understand the civil rights era.

Similarly, Spike Lee's *\*Malcolm X\** offers a comprehensive portrayal of one of the most controversial and influential figures in American history. The film's exploration of Malcolm X's transformation and activism provides insight into the complexities of Black identity and resistance.

### Other Noteworthy Biographical Films

- **12 Years a Slave** (2013): An unflinching account of Solomon Northup's kidnapping and enslavement, this film won the Academy Award for Best Picture and is praised for its raw depiction of slavery's brutal realities.
- **Hidden Figures** (2016): Celebrating the contributions of Black female mathematicians at NASA during the Space Race, this film combines inspiration with an often-overlooked narrative in history.
- **Harriet** (2019): Chronicling Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and her role in the Underground Railroad, this film highlights resilience and leadership.

These biopics are essential for those aiming to grasp the scope of Black historical experiences through personalized storytelling.

# **Documentaries: Capturing Real Lives and Social Movements**

Documentaries often provide an immediacy and authenticity that dramatized films sometimes lack, making them vital for a comprehensive Black History Month watchlist.

## **Impactful Documentary Films**

*\*13th\** (2016), directed by Ava DuVernay, is a seminal documentary examining the intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the United States. Its compelling use of archival footage and expert interviews has made it a critical resource for understanding systemic racism and its historical roots.

Another significant documentary, *\*I Am Not Your Negro\** (2016), based on James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript, offers a profound meditation on race relations in America through Baldwin's incisive commentary. The film's poetic approach engages viewers intellectually and emotionally, making it highly recommended for Black History Month.

## **The Role of Documentary in Education**

Such documentaries excel not only in recounting historical facts but also in connecting past injustices to contemporary issues, fostering a deeper awareness and dialogue. They often serve as educational tools in classrooms and community discussions, reinforcing their importance beyond mere entertainment.

## **Fictional Narratives and Cultural Celebrations**

Not all films about Black experiences are historical or documentary-style; fictional narratives also play a crucial role in representing cultural identities and social dynamics.

## **Contemporary Stories with Historical Resonance**

*\*Moonlight\** (2016), winner of the Academy Award for Best Picture, is a poignant exploration of Black masculinity, identity, and sexuality. Its intimate storytelling and lyrical cinematography broaden the scope of Black narratives beyond traditional historical frameworks.

*\*Get Out\** (2017), a blend of horror and social commentary directed by Jordan Peele, uses genre conventions to critique systemic racism and cultural appropriation, making it a unique and thought-provoking choice for Black History Month viewing.



## Cultural Pride and Artistic Expression

Films like *\*Black Panther\** (2018) have redefined representation in blockbuster cinema. Beyond its entertainment value, *\*Black Panther\** celebrates African heritage and Afrofuturism, providing a narrative of empowerment and cultural pride that resonates globally.

## Comparative Insights: Traditional vs. Modern Black History Films

Analyzing the evolution of Black history films reveals shifting approaches to storytelling and representation. Earlier films often focused heavily on civil rights struggles and historical figures, whereas contemporary cinema increasingly explores diverse themes such as intersectionality, personal identity, and speculative futures.

For example, while *\*Malcolm X\** and *\*Selma\** center on collective activism and historical milestones, films like *\*Moonlight\** and *\*Get Out\** interrogate the nuances of individual experience and systemic oppression in modern contexts. This diversification enriches the cinematic landscape and broadens audience engagement with Black history and culture.

## Where to Access These Films

Availability can vary, but many of these essential films are accessible through popular streaming platforms such as Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime Video, and Disney+. Public libraries and educational institutions also often provide access to documentaries and biopics relevant to Black History Month programming.

## Final Reflections on Curating a Black History Month Film List

Selecting the best movies to watch for Black History Month involves balancing educational value, emotional resonance, and cultural representation. The films highlighted here not only reflect key moments and figures in Black history but also illuminate ongoing conversations about race, identity, and justice. Viewing these films during Black History Month is an opportunity to deepen understanding, challenge preconceptions, and celebrate the diverse stories that compose the Black experience.

Whether through the powerful narratives of biopics, the revealing lens of documentaries, or the imaginative scope of fictional stories, cinema remains an indispensable medium for honoring Black history and inspiring future generations.

# **Best Movies To Watch For Black History Month**

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**best movies to watch for black history month:** U.S. History, Grades 6 - 8 Lee, 2008-09-02 Biographies of people who have helped shape African-American history in the United States, from Harriet Tubman to Martin Luther King, Jr., to Condoleezza Rice. Includes time lines plus activities and essays that will challenge students. Excellent for essay writing, as a full unit or supplement. Supports NCSS standards and national standards for History.

**best movies to watch for black history month:** *The Independent Filmmaker's Guide to the New Hollywood* Gabriel Campisi, 2020-09-04 Netflix and its competitors like Disney+, Amazon Prime and Hulu have brought unprecedented levels of entertainment to consumers everywhere, providing the richest, most abundant aggregate of motion pictures and cinematic television the world has ever seen. Behind the facade, however, things are not as pleasant. A very costly paradigm shift is underway, altering not only conventional business and finance models, but also threatening long-established avenues of entertainment such as movie theaters, traditional television, and home video, and wreaking havoc on independent filmmakers and veteran producers alike. This book attempts to make sense of ongoing economic and creative shifts of infrastructure and intellectual property, to understand where the industry is headed, and to distinguish which business models should be maintained and which ones should be left behind. Featuring exclusive interviews with some of the industry's most prolific filmmakers and executives, it dives into the trenches of Hollywood to provide readers with the knowledge necessary to rethink the business, see past the turmoil, recognize the new opportunities, and take advantage of exciting new possibilities. Change sparks innovation, and innovation brings about great opportunity--but only for the well-informed and prepared.

**best movies to watch for black history month:** Kill Your Masters Jaap van der Doelen, 2024-12 All the unwritten rules of rap say it doesn't happen like this. Yet Killer Mike, a Black man from Atlanta, Georgia, and El-P, a white man from Brooklyn, New York, have transformed what should have been the twilight of their careers as rappers into their biggest spotlight yet. Known as the hip-hop duo Run The Jewels, they have headlined festivals worldwide, become action figures and Marvel comic book characters, spearheaded a worldwide countercultural movement, and played a significant role in the last two presidential elections. This is the buddy-movie-like story of how they got there. It is a tale that parallels the incredible changes the music industry has gone through over the past twenty-five years—charting a course from the highs around the turn of the century to the collapse of the CD format and the eventual rise of streaming media—while also mapping the evolution of both pop culture and its sociopolitical climate. From the surging popularity of afrofuturism and the fall of the Twin Towers to the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement and the kneeling of Colin Kaepernick, such events all tie into how their budding bromance transformed Killer Mike and El-P from solo artists in underground hip-hop to pop cultural icons recognized all over the globe.

**best movies to watch for black history month:** 1000 Facts about Superhero Movies James Egan, 2015-11-25 Muhammad Ali was considered for the role of Superman. Michael Keaton and Tim Burton never read Batman until they made the film. The director of X-Men thought Hugh Jackman would be an awful Wolverine. It cost \$100,000 to make one Spider-Man costume. It took 360 days for one animator to make one shot in Avengers: Age of Ultron. Batman Begins was supposed to be called Batman: The Frightening. In the court room scene of The Dark Knight Rises, Bane can be seen

knitting in the background. Ironically, Nicholas Cage had to have his Ghost Rider tattoos covered to play Ghost Rider. Iron Man's AI unit, Jarvis stands for Just A Rather Very Intelligent System. In the Dark Knight, Heath Ledger kept licking his lips as the Joker because the makeup kept dripping into his mouth. Bruce Wayne cameos in the beginning of Watchmen. Chris Evans turned down Captain America three times and got the part without auditioning. In Guardians of the Galaxy, Benicio Del Toro based his character, The Collector, off Liberace.

**best movies to watch for black history month:** *The Binge Watcher's Guide to the Marvel Cinematic Universe* Jessica Mason, 2023-02-22 What makes a hero mighty? What makes a movie amazing? What makes a universe marvelous? The Marvel Cinematic Universe as showcased in the 23 movies of the epic Infinity Saga are the defining film franchise of the 21st century, showcasing the most expansive and interconnected movie world to ever grace screens. But this huge collection of films can be a little intimidating. What order do you watch the MCU in? Who's who? Why does Hulk look different? How did a scrappy film like Iron Man even spawn such a massive universe? That's where we come in. The Binge Watcher's Guide to The Marvel Cinematic Universe Infinity Saga is your complete source for everything about these beloved films, from behind the scenes glimpses, comics history, to the endless and easter eggs. Do you want to track a character's emotional arc through all the films? We've got that too. And along the way we dig deep into the themes and morals of these movies. Turns out Superheroes stories have a lot more to say about the world. And yes, we'll also talk about some of the rare places where this universe didn't live up to our hopes and expectation. Author Jessica Mason is here as your own personal Jarvis, talking you through how to watch, what to look for, and where to go when you're done. As a mega Marvel fan and lifelong nerd, she'll use her own geeky gamma rays to transform your viewing experience into something truly super. Binge Watchers...Assemble!

**best movies to watch for black history month: The Black History Bowl: Mini Biographies of African Americans** Cadmus S. Hull, 2018-12-07 When I spoke at book signings for my first book, I found that people, in general, knew very little about many of the African Americans that I had on the display board. Thus, this second book in The Black History Bowl series was written to make people aware of the contributions that African Americans have made to American and World history. The African American history quiz that is included in the book is divided into eight (8) sections. Each section begins with a worksheet. The worksheet is followed by short biographies of the African American history contributors. There is an answer sheet at the end of each section. In addition, note sheets have been included with each biography for you to use to take notes when researching and gathering information. Additional information on each African American can be found on the web site that is listed at the bottom of the page after the biography. Also, included in this book is information on some points of interest that I think are important to the knowledge base of the average American. The information includes the African American holiday of Kwanzaa, the NAACP's Spingarn Medal, and information on Juneteenth (the actual day when all slaves were freed). In addition, this book includes a section for Women's History Month which highlights African American women from my first book. A timeline of African American history is also included. It is hoped that you will enjoy reading the book as you continue to enrich your knowledge of the contributions that African Americans have made to history. Dr. C. Sam Hull earned an Associate Degree in Education from Cumberland County College and further pursued his academic corridor to Glassboro State College (GSC), now Rowan University. Glassboro State College would continue Sam's educational tour leading to both a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree. Armed with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education and Master's in Student Personnel Services and School Administration, Sam's educational path led him to Nova University where he achieved his ultimate goal of a Doctorate in School Leadership. Dr. Hull's achievements as an educational leader have been well documented through numerous contributions to the education field. Currently, Dr. Hull is a member of the New Jersey Association of School Administrators and Cumberland County Principals and Supervisors Association. Fairfield Board of Education enjoyed the fruits of this dedicated and committed educator for twenty-nine years. Dr. Hull retired June 30, 2004, after 33

years in education. A little known black history fact is that Dr. Hull was Cumberland County's first black Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Hull enjoys writing books, reading, and traveling. In addition, Dr. Hull keeps busy by serving as a Clinical Teaching Supervisor for Fairleigh Dickinson University and Grand Canyon University, serving on the Cumberland County College Foundation Board and as the Managing Member of his family-owned tutoring program for children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

**best movies to watch for black history month: 3000 Facts about Superhero Movies** James Egan, 2017-11-28 Superman was nearly played by Muhammad Ali. Jack Nicholson was paid \$60 million to play the Joker. When he was a teenager, Robert Downey Jr. bullied a kid for reading Iron Man comics. In China, Guardians of the Galaxy is called Interplanetary Unusual Attacking Team. Oprah Winfrey nearly played Amanda Waller in Suicide Squad. Deadpool was in development for 16 years. Wonder Woman was nearly played by Angelina Jolie, Sandra Bullock, Megan Fox, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Beyoncé. Chris Evans turned down Captain America three times. The tagline for Justice League was Unite the Seven even though there are six superheroes in the film. Jerry Seinfeld convinced Hugh Jackman to retire from the X-Men series. Shawarma sales skyrocketed after The Avengers was released. An alternative ending for Amazing Spider-Man 2 shows that Peter Parker's father is alive. Tom Hiddleston auditioned for the role of Thor. Build-A-Bear sales skyrocketed after Avengers: Endgame.

**best movies to watch for black history month: Race and Media Literacy, Explained (or Why Does the Black Guy Die First?)** Frederick W. Gooding Jr., 2024 Talking about race does not have to be incredibly awkward. In this book, Gooding offers twelve clear, cogent, and concise racial rubrics to help users of mainstream media more readily discern patterns hidden in plain sight. The text primarily leverages popular movies as the medium of analysis—since they are unparalleled in their cultural significance—but the rubrics apply to other forms of media, such as television, print, and social media. “Why does the Black guy die first?” is a well-known rhetorical question that challenges disparate treatment of nonwhite characters onscreen. This subtle statement about the representation of persons of color within mainstream movies has remained largely unexplored until now. Race and Media Literacy, Explained provides concrete concepts and a uniform vocabulary with which to recognize and further analyze these formulaic images. After participating in this dynamically interactive experience, readers will never see media the same way again! Book Features: Employs an interdisciplinary approach to teaching race, drawing on cinema and forms of popular media that most students know. Guidance for honing media literacy skills with middle, high school, and undergraduate college students. A HARM Theory Rubric that identifies 6 consistent patterns for depictions of non-White characters and 6 consistent patterns for White characters within mainstream movies. Questions for Questing sections provide critical questions for further exploration. Concrete vocabulary/glossary terms to engage with the subject matter more precisely. Innovative analysis of depictions of race and ethnicity in the top ten grossing films of all time.

**best movies to watch for black history month: U.S. Public Diplomacy**, 2009

**best movies to watch for black history month: Julie Dash** Kameelah L. Martin, 2025-09-23 This collection of interviews with Julie Dash (b. 1952) offers an in-depth exploration of the life, career, and creative processes of one of the most groundbreaking filmmakers in American cinema. Dash, whose landmark film *Daughters of the Dust* (1991) became the first feature by an African American woman to receive a wide theatrical release in the United States, has continuously pushed the boundaries of cinematic representation, exploring African American history, culture, and identity through a distinctly poetic and visionary lens. Dash's use of Black feminist narrative and her ability to supplant the status quo of Black women's representation in cinema aligned with the evolution of Black women's writing and visual arts that exploded in the eighties and early nineties. Starting with her debut film *Illusions* (1982) and touching upon other works such as *Praise House* (1991), the eighteen interviews collected in this volume weave together the stylistic integrity and unconventional model of storytelling that Dash thoughtfully midwives into existence. Julie Dash: Interviews will put students, scholars, and admirers of Dash's oeuvre in close proximity to her

creative thought process and influences as well as make accessible an archive of conversations in which she discusses the longevity of her career, intergenerational shifts, and the reception of her work across the globe.

**best movies to watch for black history month:** The New York Times Film Reviews , 1969

**best movies to watch for black history month:** Authorship and Film David A. Gerstner, Janet Staiger, 2013-09-13 Authorship in film has been a persistent theme in the field of cinema studies. This volume of new work revitalizes the question of authorship by connecting it to larger issues of identity--in film, in the marketplace, in society, in culture. Essays range from the auteur theory and Casablanca to Oscar Micheaux, from the American avant-garde to community video, all illuminating how authorship is a complex idea with far-reaching implications. This ambitious and wide-ranging book will be essential reading for anyone concerned with film studies and the concept of the author.

**best movies to watch for black history month:** Global Nollywood Matthias Krings, Onookome Okome, 2021-12-22 Reveals in fascinating detail the wild popularity, controversies, and complaints provoked by this film form . . . shap[ing] the media landscape of Africa. —Brian Larkin, Barnard College Global Nollywood considers this first truly African cinema beyond its Nigerian origins. In fifteen lively essays, this volume traces the engagement of the Nigerian video film industry with the African continent and the rest of the world. Topics such as Nollywood as a theoretical construct, the development of a new, critical film language, and Nollywood's transformation outside of Nigeria reveal the broader implications of this film form as it travels and develops. Highlighting controversies surrounding commodification, globalization, and the development of the film industry on a wider scale, Global Nollywood gives sustained attention to Nollywood as a uniquely African cultural production. Offers original material with respect to the transnational presence of Nollywood. ?Moradewun Adejunmobi, University of California, Davis Unveils a fascinating variety of the ways in which Nollywood cinema is viewed and interpreted. ? Research in African Literatures Delightfully entertaining yet appropriately erudite. . . . A welcome addition to the fields of film, media, African, and cultural studies. — Cinema Journal Highly recommended. ? Choice [T]he cumulative effect of [these] studies is to provide invaluable information for those wishing to keep up with where African cinema is today. ? Journal of African History Global Nollywood represents the most up-to-date research on Nollywood as a transnational cultural practice and is a must-read for scholars and students of African screen media. — African Studies Review Ground-breaking. . . . It proves that, in spite of appearing to be a niche market, Nollywood . . . can no longer be excluded from the canon of African cinema in the field of film studies. ? African Affairs

**best movies to watch for black history month:** Afrofuturism Nat'l Mus Afr Am Hist Culture, 2023-03-21 This timely and gorgeously illustrated companion book to an exciting Smithsonian exhibition explores the power of Afrofuturism to reclaim the past and reimagine Black futures Afrofuturism: A History of Black Futures explores the evolving and exhilarating concept of Afrofuturism, a lens used to imagine a more empowering future for the Black community through music, art, and speculative fiction. Sumptuous, beautifully designed spreads feature 100 gorgeous illustrations of objects and images that reflect Black identity, agency, creativity, and hope, including: T'Challa's suit from Black Panther, Octavia Butler's typewriter, Uhura's outfit from Star Trek, Sun Ra's space harp, costumes from Broadway's The Wiz, handwritten lyrics by Jimi Hendrix, and Janelle Monae's ArchAndroid dress. Chapters include essays from a diverse group of scholars who reflect on themes such as legacy, alienation, and activism, with profiles on influential people and objects: Foreword & Introduction: Provides background on Afrofuturism Chapter 1 - Space is the Place: Reflects on space and its defining connection to Afrofuturism and its African cultural legacy Chapter 2 - Speculative Worlds: Explores short stories, Black speculative fiction and sci-fi, comics, and Black superheroes as bastions of Afrofuturist expression Chapter 3 - Visualizing Afrofuturism: Analyzes the vast visual culture of Afrofuturism Chapter 4 - Musical Futures: Explores Afrofuturism and music Afterword Afrofuturism offers a framework of radical potential to envision Black liberation and alternatives to oppressive structures like white supremacy. Afrofuturism comes at a time of

increasing visibility for the concept, both in scholarship and in pop culture, and is a compelling ode to the revolutionary power of Black imagination. CONTRIBUTORS: Reynaldo Anderson, Tiffany E. Barber, Herb Boyd, Ariana Curtis, Eve L. Ewing, Tuliza Fleming, Nona Hendryx, N. K. Jemisin, John Jennings, Steven Lewis, Mark Anthony Neal, Alondra Nelson, De Nichols, Elaine Nichols, William S. Pretzer, Vernon Reid, Matthew Shindell, Kevin M. Strait, Angela Tate, Michelle Wilkinson, Ytasha L. Womack, Alisha B. Wormsley, and Kevin Young

**best movies to watch for black history month: The Cambridge Companion to Contemporary African American Literature** Yogita Goyal, 2023-12-21 This book provides a systematic and vibrant account of the range and achievements of contemporary Black writers.

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