

SHOES IN THE BED PRODUCTIONS  
PRESENTS

# Mr. SOUL!

BEFORE OPRAH...  
BEFORE ARSENIO...  
THERE WAS...



SHOES IN THE BED PRODUCTIONS in association with BLACK PEARL MEDIA and TVS presents a film by MELISSA HAZLIP "MR. SOUL!" executive producers CHAZ ZEBERT BLAIR UNDERWOOD narrated by MELISSA HAZLIP  
directed, written and produced by MELISSA HAZLIP music composed by ROBERT GLASPER edited by JESSICA LEE GIBBY  
production design by ROBERT GLASPER production office by ROBERT GLASPER  
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**TRT: 99 MINUTES in English**  
**Directed, Written and Produced by Melissa Haizlip**  
**Music Composed by Robert Glasper**  
**Narration by Blair Underwood**  
**Opening in Cinemas August 28**

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# Mr. SOUL!

A FILM BY MELISSA HAIZLIP

## THE FILM

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### LOGLINE

Before Oprah – before Arsenio – there was Mr. SOUL! Ellis Haizlip ensured the Revolution would be televised with SOUL!, America's first “Black Tonight Show.”

### FILM SYNOPSIS

From 1968 to 1973, the public-television variety show SOUL!, guided by the enigmatic producer and host Ellis Haizlip, offered an unfiltered, uncompromising celebration of black literature, poetry, music, and politics—voices that had few other options for national exposure, and, as a result, found the program an improbable place to call home. The series was among the first to provide expanded images of African Americans on television, shifting the gaze from inner-city poverty and violence to the vibrancy of the Black Arts Movement. With participants' recollections and a bevy of great archival clips, Mr. SOUL! captures a critical moment in culture whose impact continues to resonate.

**MR. SOUL!**, the documentary feature film directed and produced by Melissa Haizlip, celebrates the groundbreaking PBS series from its genesis to its eventual loss of funding against the backdrop of a swiftly changing political and social landscape, while profiling Ellis Haizlip, the charismatic man behind one of the most culturally significant and successful television shows in U.S. history.

Haizlip was the host and executive producer of SOUL!, the first “black Tonight Show.” In 1968, SOUL! was launched as a local, New York broadcast. In 1969 the series rolled out nationwide on PBS, on WNET Channel 13. By 1973, Haizlip had produced over 130 hour-long shows featuring a dazzling array of A-list guests featuring rare live performances and interviews from the legendary **Al Green, heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali, Sidney Poitier, Harry Belafonte, Cicely Tyson, James Baldwin, Gladys Knight, Stevie Wonder, Earth Wind & Fire, Ashford and Simpson, Harold Melvin and the Bluenotes, Billy Preston, Black Ivory, The Delfonics, Bill Withers, Nikki Giovanni, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Sonia Sanchez, The Last Poets, Wilson Pickett, Odetta, Merry Clayton, Mandrill, Kool & the Gang, Toni Morrison, Kathleen Cleaver, Betty Shabazz, Stokely Carmichael, Rev. Louis Farrakhan, Mrs. George Jackson, George Faison, Patti LaBelle, Roberta Flack,** and many more.

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### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

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I have wanted to make this film for my entire life, having a deep personal connection to the story I've actually lived. Ellis Haizlip was my uncle; a huge inspiration to many others and me. I was a little girl when Uncle Ellis moved into our Upper West Side home in New York City, around the time SOUL! was born. I remember eating oatmeal at midnight with my uncle and the guest stars he would bring home after taping the show. I would bask in the glow of all these intelligent, glamorous Black people, mesmerized by my uncle's coterie of magical friends. It would be years before I would learn that it was James Earl Jones who had pinched my cheek, or the children of the late Malcolm X playing with me, whom Uncle Ellis was babysitting and brought over for a play date.

Ellis Haizlip was the visionary creator, producer, and host of SOUL!, a groundbreaking Black Arts television series broadcast weekly on WNET Channel 13, New York City's flagship PBS station. To millennials, SOUL! might just be the greatest show you've never heard of. A refresher for those who were there: SOUL! premiered in 1968, airing 130 dynamic episodes before its controversial cancellation in 1973. It was the first nationally broadcast all-Black variety show on television, merging artists from the margins with post-civil rights Black radical thought. Originally conceived as a "Black Tonight Show," at a time of great turmoil and social unrest in America, SOUL! was a quintessentially New York institution, which also became a platform for political expression and the fight for social justice.

A quiet revolutionary, Haizlip was determined to elevate the perception of African American culture by showcasing a dazzling array of people of color: performers, artists, activists, community leaders, and politicians at a time when television would neither accurately reflect nor positively portray a full spectrum of society. He ensured that the revolution would be televised.

Our film illuminates how SOUL! became one of the most successful and culturally significant Black-produced television shows in U.S. television history, providing expanded images of African Americans, shifting the gaze from inner-city poverty and violence to the vibrancy of the Black Arts Movement, and paving the way for today's Black television hosts.

Stylistically, this feature length documentary honors the vibrant, edgy style of the original SOUL! series. We've shot with two to five cameras, featuring the trademark bold and innovative cinematography of Hans Charles. We were inspired to make Mr. SOUL! as visually dynamic and culturally radical as each original episode of SOUL! The soundtrack will feature original performances from the SOUL! series and new artists. Robert Glasper has composed and performed original music for the score. The story unfolds with Blair Underwood as the voice of Ellis Haizlip, in a series of vignettes that are both poignant and intimate, revealing the interiority of Haizlip's thoughts and the impetus behind SOUL!

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The time for Ellis Haizlip's voice is now. We are in a time of reckoning, and looking deeply at issues of systemic racism. We're having conversations on where we want our country to go moving forward, and how we might get there together. It is tremendously important to have Black people in key decision maker roles throughout the media industry. Ellis Haizlip is an excellent reminder of this, and why our stories, told by our people, matter now more than ever.

Mr. SOUL! is an exploration of the birth of diversity in cultural expression and its very existence on national television; a love letter to Black culture, Black history, Black excellence, Black art and Black lives.

- Melissa Haizlip Director/Writer/Producer

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## ABOUT ELLIS HAZLIP - CURATING THE CULTURE

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Widely recognized as the premiere impresario of African American arts and culture, Ellis B. Haizlip devoted a lifetime of artistic excellence to the communication of Black perspectives through stage, television and other productions.

He was curating the culture.

Born in the Deanwood section of Washington, D.C. on September 21, 1929 to the late Ellis M. and Sarah Corbett Haizlip, he was the second of four children. He attended the G. W. Carver Elementary School of the District of Columbia, and was a 1947 graduate of Dunbar High School. Ellis majored in Theatre Arts at Howard University in 1954 under Owen Dodson, where he produced the Howard Players in their 1950 summer season. He pursued post-graduate studies at Brandeis University.

His early, intense interest in the performing and visual arts brought him to New York City in the early 1950s, where he began his theatrical career as co-producer, with Vinnette Carroll, at the Harlem YMCA and in the world tour of Langston Hughes' gospel song-play *Black Nativity*. With his own production company, he organized international tours of the Donald McKayle Dance Company's *Black New World*, Eugene O'Neill's *The Emperor Jones*, and James Baldwin's *The Amen Corner*, directed by Lloyd Richards.

He was an Executive Producer with the Educational Broadcasting Corporation, Inc. (WNET/Thirteen) from 1967 to 1981. As the pioneering Executive Producer and Host of *SOUL!*, the Emmy Award-winning Public Broadcasting System (PBS) television series, he became a focal point for the dissemination of information during the Black Powerment movement.

Tall and slender, bespectacled with a polite, laid-back demeanor and effortless style, Haizlip had a unique ability to spot talent, and champion emerging acts by offering them their first appearances on television. Appearing for the first time were Earth, Wind & Fire, Al Green, Nickolas Ashford and Valerie Simpson, Roberta Flack, Novella Nelson, Black Ivory, Toni Morrison, The Last Poets, and a 15-year-old Arsenio Hall doing magic tricks. Over the years, prominent guests included Harry Belafonte, Sidney Poitier, Maya Angelou, Sonia Sanchez, and Amiri Baraka. Centered around live performances by funk, soul, jazz, and world musicians, the series juxtaposed performance with in-depth interviews, featuring Black Panthers and Black Power activists Kathleen Cleaver and Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael) flexing their radical politics, beloved sports icon Muhammad Ali freely expressing his anti-Vietnam War stance, or literary icons Nikki Giovanni and James Baldwin openly challenging each others' ideas in a heated discussion on gender and power.

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In 1972 and 1973 Ellis produced SOUL At The Center, a two-week Black Arts festival. For the first time in its history, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts collaborated with the Black community on a groundbreaking celebration of rhythm and blues, gospel, and jazz.

Ellis became affectionately known as “Mr. SOUL!” His television production work on PBS continued with *Watch Your Mouth*, a language skills development series geared toward adolescents, and *Alvin Ailey: Memories and Visions*, a precedent-setting dance production. He organized and conducted a series of *Minority Writers Conferences* on Television Production, documented in five volumes, which he also published.

While his energies remained focused upon the arts, Ellis maintained a quiet, dynamic presence within the political arena as consultant, panelist, special events producer and fundraiser. He chaired the Arts Committee of the New York City Black Convention '82, and was appointed by Governor Hugh Carey to the New York Task Force on the Arts. He was the producer of the annual Manhattan Borough President's Awards for Excellence in the Arts. Ellis was also involved with the political campaigns of Jesse Jackson and David Dinkins.

Throughout the 1980s, Ellis continued his commitment to developing and supporting new and emerging artists. He maintained relationships with many arts and community-based organizations. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre Foundation, the Gospel Music Workshop of America, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, and the National Council for Negro Women. He was a consultant to the CBS Records Group, the Communications for Excellence to Black Audience (CEBA) Awards, the national Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Beginning in 1986, he served as Director of Special Programs at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library. He conceived and initiated a series of unprecedented events and programs there: the annual Founders Day Celebration, the annual Heritage Weekend, *Viewpoint* on film and video, the contemporary composers' *Works in Progress*, and the *Voices of Griots* play reading with the Roger Furman Theatre. In conjunction with the Cathedral Church of St. John the Devine, where he was a communicant, Ellis produced *A Harlem Welcome for the Most Reverend Desmond Tutu*, sponsored by the Schomburg Center. He also produced the homegoing celebrations for James Baldwin and Alvin Ailey at the Cathedral, and the memorial for Diana Sands at Lincoln Center.

His awards and honors include an honorary Doctorate of Humanities from Malcolm X College in Chicago; the Israel Festival Silver Medal for The Amen Corner, the Antwerpen Theatre Festival Bronze Medal for *Black New World*; the New York City Diamond Jubilee Medal for Soul At The Center; Producer of the Year from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; the National Council of Negro



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Women's Outstanding Citizen Award; the Bedford-Stuyvesant Corporation Artist of Merit Award, and Encore magazine's Black Rose Award for Excellence in Communications. December 6, 1988 was proclaimed *Ellis Haizlip Day* by the President of the Borough of Manhattan, an honor he highly cherished.

Ellis Haizlip continued to push the culture forward, until he passed away in 1991 in Washington, D.C. He was 61 years old.

Last summer, as Lincoln Center celebrated its 60th anniversary, Lincoln Center Out of Doors revived SOUL At The Center by paying homage to Haizlip's many contributions to the arts. Opening night of the festival was dedicated to him, with a celebration featuring Grammy Award-winning vocalist Lalah Hathaway in a tribute to her father Donny Hathaway, who performed at the original 1972 event. In a nod to Haizlip's innate Afrofuturism, queer pop duo The Illustrious Blacks kicked off the evening with their disco-infused funk.

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### **FILMMAKER BIOS**

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#### **MELISSA HAZLIP** - Producer | Director | Producer

Melissa Haizlip is an award-winning filmmaker based in New York. Her work responds to pressing social issues at the intersection of racial justice, social justice, activism, and representation. Female transformation and empowerment are at the core of all of her ideas, with the goal being to advocate and amplify the voices of women and people of color. Melissa's feature documentary, Mr. SOUL!, has been awarded a finalist for the 2019 inaugural Library of Congress Lavine / Ken Burns Prize for Film, a new, annual prize that recognizes a filmmaker whose documentary uses original research and compelling narrative to tell stories that touch on some aspect of American history. The film won Best Music Documentary at the 2018 International Documentary Association Awards. Mr. SOUL! premiered at Tribeca and screened at 50 festivals, receiving 16 Jury and Audience Awards for Best Documentary, and the 2019 FOCAL Award for Best Use of Archival Footage in an Entertainment Production. Melissa directed and produced CONTACT HIGH: A VISUAL HISTORY OF HIP-HOP and produced YOU'RE DEAD TO ME (2013) directed by Wu Tsang, about a grieving Chicana mother coming to terms with the loss of her transgender child on Día de los Muertos. The film won Best Short at the 2014 Imagen Awards, and screened at over 50 festivals and museums. Melissa's two-channel art films have been exhibited by the Hammer Museum Los Angeles Biennial, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, and Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam. Melissa has been awarded grants from the Ford Foundation JustFilms, National Endowment for the Humanities, International Documentary Association, National Endowment for the Arts, Black Public Media, Firelight Media, ITVS, Awesome Without Borders, and Puffin Foundation. Melissa went to Yale University. She's currently producing a docuseries on women in hip-hop.

#### **CHAZ EBERT -- EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

Chaz Ebert is the CEO of several Ebert enterprises, including the President of The Ebert Company Ltd, and of Ebert Digital LLC, which publishes RogerEbert.com, a film-reviews website that serves as an archive of Ebert's film reviews in addition to new reviews from contributors. She is President of Ebert Productions, Chairman of the Board of The Roger and Chaz Ebert Foundation, and Co-Founder and Producer of Ebertfest, the annual film festival now in its 18th year, held in Champaign, Illinois, in collaboration with the UIUC College of Media. Chaz served as an executive producer and guest on Ebert Presents: At the Movies. She was featured in the 2014 documentary Life Itself about Ebert, and served as an executive producer of the 2019 film Selah and the Spades.



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## **BLAIR UNDERWOOD** -- Executive Producer, Voice of Ellis Haizlip

Blair Underwood is an American television, film, and stage actor, director and producer. He recently starred on Broadway in *A Soldier's Play*, directed by Kenny Leon. Mr. Underwood starred as Charles Joseph Walker in the Netflix Original TV mini-series, *Self Made: Inspired By the Life of Madame C. J. Walker*. He's known for playing headstrong attorney Jonathan Rollins on the NBC legal drama *L.A. Law* for seven years. He has received two Golden Globe Award nominations, three NAACP Image Awards and one Grammy Award. Since 2016, Underwood has starred in the ABC thriller series *Quantico* in the series regular role of CIA Deputy Director, Owen Hall. In recent years, he has appeared as Andrew Garner on *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, *The New Adventures of Old Christine*, *Dirty Sexy Money*, *Sex and the City*, NBC's *the Event*, *City of Angels*, the *Cosby Show* and *21 Jump Street*. He received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Supporting Actor for the HBO series, *In Treatment*. He made his film debut in *KRUSH GROOVE*, and played memorable roles in *SET IT OFF*, *MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION*, *Rules of Engagement*, *Gattaca*, and *I Will Follow*. Mr. Underwood has narrated the documentaries *President Barack Obama: The Man and His Journey*, *For Love of Liberty: The Story of America's Black Patriots*, and *Olympic Pride*, *American Prejudice*, on the trials and triumphs of Black athletes at the 1936 Olympics. His voice can also be heard as the role of the head crocodile "Makuu" in Disney's *The Lion Guard*, the animated legacy series of *The Lion King*. In 2009, the audiobook version of Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth: The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming and What We Can Do About It*, narrated by Blair, Cynthia Nixon and Beau Bridges, won the Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word Album.

## **DOUG BLUSH** (Co-Producer)

Doug Blush is a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) as well as the American Cinema Editors (ACE). His work has been honored with multiple Oscars, Emmys, and Sundance and other major festival awards. His recent credits include, as consulting editor and producer, the 2018 Academy Award winning *ICARUS* from director Bryan Fogel, as well as the 2013 Oscar-winning *20 FEET FROM STARDOM*, for which he also received the ACE Eddie Award for Best Documentary Editing, and the recent HBO documentary *THE MUSIC OF STRANGERS: YO YO MA AND THE SILK ROAD ENSEMBLE*, both from director Morgan Neville. He was Co-Editor and Associate Producer of Kirby Dick's *THE HUNTING GROUND* in 2014 and the Oscar nominated and Emmy winning *THE INVISIBLE WAR* in 2012. Recent work as consulting or supervising editor include the Sundance documentaries *JIM: THE JAMES FOLEY STORY*, *THE MARS GENERATION*, *CHASING CORAL*, *ON HER SHOULDERS*, *DARK MONEY* and *KING IN THE WILDERNESS*, and earlier editorial and producing work includes the popular documentaries *WORDPLAY*, *FREAKONOMICS*, *OUTRAGE*, *THESE AMAZING SHADOWS*, and *SUPERHEROES* and over 100 feature and television documentary projects.

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## **STANLEY NELSON** - Adviser

Stanley Nelson is the recipient of the 2013 National Humanities Medal from President Obama. An Emmy-winning MacArthur “genius” Fellow, Nelson is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Firelight Media, which provides technical education and professional support to emerging documentarians; and co-founder of the for-profit documentary production company, Firelight Films. With many films in competition at Sundance and multiple industry awards to his credit, Nelson is acknowledged as one of the premier documentary filmmakers working today. His latest films include MILES DAVIS: BIRTH OF THE COOL, THE BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF THE REVOLUTION (2015), FREEDOM SUMMER (2014), the 2011 Emmy Award-winning FREEDOM RIDERS (*American Experience*, PBS 2011) and WOUNDED KNEE, which is part of the landmark series on Native Americans *We Shall Remain* (PBS 2009). Both films premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2010 and 2009 respectively. Nelson’s oeuvre spans the range of documentary forms. JONESTOWN: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF PEOPLES TEMPLE previewed in April 2006 at the Tribeca and San Francisco Film Festivals and won awards at both festivals. JONESTOWN was subsequently shortlisted for the Academy Awards and won the International Documentary Association Award for its use of archival footage.

Nelson holds a B.F.A. in film from the City College of New York. He was a fellow at the American Film Institute and a Revson Fellow at Columbia University, served on the Fulbright media fellowship committee, and was a Regents’ Lecturer at the University of California. He has taught film at Howard University and the Graduate School of Journalism’s Documentary Program at University of California Berkeley. He served as the Belle Zeller Visiting Professor in Public Policy at Brooklyn College and has trained broadcast journalists in Rwanda. Nelson is a frequent speaker on new media and the “digital future” for diverse filmmakers. He is a regular lecturer at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting’s National Producers Academy. Nelson served as a juror for the documentary competitions of the 2004 Tribeca Film Festival, the 2002 Sundance Film Festival, the 2002 Independent Feature Project, and the National Endowment for the Humanities media panel.

## **LAURENS GRANT** -- Consulting Producer

Laurens Grant is a voting member of both the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences - Documentary Branch (Oscars) and the Television Academy (Emmys). She is also a 3-time Emmy and Peabody award-winning filmmaker and a Sundance Institute filmmaker fellow. Her filmmaking career has taken her all over the world. Her films include BLACK IN SPACE: BREAKING THE COLOR BARRIER; STAY WOKE: THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT, and JESSE OWENS. She produced the films THE BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF A REVOLUTION, and FREEDOM RIDERS, and was a consulting producer on UNITED SKATES.

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## **MABLE HADDOCK** - Consulting Producer

Mable Haddock has spent the past three decades advocating for and supporting social issue films and media makers of color. She is the former Executive Director and Founder of the National Black Programming Consortium. Ms. Haddock recently completed her term as Director of the Firelight Media Producers' Lab. Currently she is developing new projects to facilitate the emergence of the next generation of multicultural media professionals. Ms. Haddock holds a Certificate of Public Broadcast Management from the Wharton School of Business..

## **CHRISTOPHER LUKAS** - Consulting Producer

Christopher Lukas(Consulting Producer) has produced, written, and directed for public and commercial television for the past fifty years. He was director of programming for WNET in the late 1960's, was the originator of the entire SOUL! project, and has been an executive at several public television outlets. He was chairman of the department of Communications at City College of New York for six years, and has served on the media advisory panel of both the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. As a writer, his most recent book is *BLUE GENES: A Memoir of Loss and Survival*.

## **LEONARD JOSEPH** -- Associate Producer

Leonard Joseph is an award-winning filmmaker based in New York. His recent work includes the film CONTACT HIGH: A VISUAL HISTORY OF HIP-HOP. Joseph produced, directed and wrote the short film DREAMS AT THE END OF THE ROPE (2010) with Reverse Angle Productions, an independent film and television production company he founded in 2008. The film received the Gold Remi award at the 43rd Annual WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival, honorable mention at the 9th Urban Mediamakers Film Festival Atlanta, and was an official selection at the International Black Film Festival of Nashville. He is currently developing, writing and editing new projects.

## **ED GERRARD** - Music Supervisor

Ed Gerrard is the 2017 Grammy Award Winner for Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media for the film MILES AHEAD, starring and directed by Don Cheadle. Gerrard is the first in Grammy history to win the award as a "music supervisor," changing the landscape for category eligibility for the industry. Ed was also the music supervisor for MILES AHEAD, a Sony Pictures Classic release. Additional music supervision credits include the SCREAM trilogy, BLAIR WITCH II, CURSED, THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT, and NEW YORK, I LOVE YOU. Gerrard is a co-founder of Impact Artist Management. He began his entertainment career working as an apprentice to the legendary music manager and film producer, Shep Gordon. Gerrard became the first in-house music supervisor at Gordon's Alive Pictures, finding key music for Gordon's films and forming the beginnings of long-standing relationships with top film directors including a career-long affiliation with Wes Craven. Gerrard has managed the careers of artists including Dr. John, Luther Vandross, Teddy Pendergrass, Alice

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Cooper, Cassandra Wilson, Michelle Shocked, Gipsy Kings, Jon Cleary, and Amy Helm.

## **ROBERT GLASPER** -- Composer

Robert Glasper is a pianist, record producer, and award-winning composer. He has been nominated for seven Grammy Awards and has won three Grammys and one Emmy Award. His 2014 album *Black Radio 2* was nominated for the Grammy Award for Best R&B Album at the 56th Grammy Awards. The song "These Walls," on which Glasper plays keys, from Kendrick Lamar's album *To Pimp A Butterfly* won Best Rap/Sung Collaboration at the 57th Grammy Awards. The 2017 soundtrack for the film *MILES AHEAD*, for which Glasper was a producer, won Best Compilation Soundtrack at the 58th Grammy Awards. The song "Letter to the Free," written with Common for the Ava DuVernay documentary *13th*, won the 2017 Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Original Music and Lyrics. His 2012 album *Black Radio* won the Grammy Award for Best R&B Album at the 55th Grammy Awards. Glasper composed the original song, "Don't Turn Back Now" with vocals by Ledisi for *THE APOLLO* documentary, and appeared in *BLUE NOTE RECORDS: BEYOND THE NOTES*. He recently created the soundtrack for Issa Rae's feature film *THE PHOTOGRAPH*. Glasper composed and performed the entire score for *Mr. SOUL!*, for which he composed the original song "Where Is Your Soul?," featuring vocals by Lalah Hathaway.

## **HANS CHARLES** - Director of Cinematography

Hans Charles has been nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Cinematography for a Nonfiction Program: the Ava DuVernay documentary, *13th* (2016). Hans Charles is a professor and filmmaker with over ten years of experience in the film industry. Charles has shot for a range of directors including Spike Lee, Ava DuVernay, Nefertite Nguvu, Salim Akil, Gloria LeMort and countless others. Charles' films have won a BAFTA (British Academy Film Award), a Peabody Award and several Emmy Awards, and have been nominated for an Oscar, and an Independent Spirit award. His projects have screened at festivals all over the world including the New York Film Festival, Urbanworld Film Festival, the New York City Latino Film Festival, OutFest, the Los Angeles Film Festival, the Zanzibar Film Festival, the BlackStar Film Festival, and on Netflix, HBO, ESPN, and Hulu. Charles was recently nominated for cinematography for the award-winning Netflix documentary, *13th*. His recent 4-part docu-series *WU-TANG CLAN: OF MICS AND MEN* premiered at Sundance 2019 and on Showtime, while his docu-series *GRASS IS GREENER* directed by and starring Fab Five Freddy recently aired on HBO. Hans also lensed *CONTACT HIGH: A VISUAL HISTORY OF HIP-HOP*, directed and produced by Melissa Haizlip.

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**GIOVANNI P. AUTRAN** (Editor) edited THE LEGEND OF SWEE' PEA.

**ANNUKKA LILJA** (Editor) edited BILL NYE, THE SCIENCE GUY and an upcoming documentary on Alvin Ailey.

**BLAIR McCLENDON** (Editor) edited WHOSE STREETS, THE ASSISTANT, and the Sundance Award-winning short LAPS.

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**INTERVIEW SUBJECTS AND PERFORMANCES**

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**INTERVIEWS AND PERFORMANCES APPEARING IN MR. SOUL!**

**Beth Ausbrooks & Mary Wilburn** – Haizlip’s childhood friends from Washington, D.C.

**Amiri Baraka** – Activist and poet, first appeared on SOUL! on November 8, 1972

**Ashford & Simpson** – First appeared on SOUL! on May 13, 1971, two years before the release of their first album recorded as a duo; Interviewed just 4 months prior to the Nick Ashford’s death

**Obba Babatunde** – Renowned Broadway performer and actor, appeared on May 21, 1970

**Harry Belafonte** – Activist and entertainer, appeared on SOUL! with Sidney Poitier in 1972

**Khephra Burns** – Writer and close friend of Ellis Haizlip

**Kathleen Cleaver** – Wife of exiled Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver, appeared on December 8, 1971

**Carmen de Lavallade** – Dancer, Kennedy Center Awardee

**Leslie Demus** -- Production Secretary, SOUL!

**George Faison** – Choreographer of “The Wiz,” first appeared with his dance company in 1971

**Nikki Giovanni** – Renowned poet, SOUL! guest host of two-part interview with James Baldwin

**Dr. Harold C. Haizlip** – Cousin and closest relative of Ellis Haizlip, who hosted several SOUL! episodes in the first season, after the departure of original host Dr. Alvin Poussaint

**Thomas Allen Harris** -- Filmmaker

**Chester Higgins** -- Original staff photographer, SOUL!

**Anna Maria Horsford** – Actress and former Associate Producer of SOUL!

**Judith Jamison** – Dancer Artistic Director Emerita of the Alvin Ailey American



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Dance Theatre

**Alice LaBrie** – Original Associate Producer of SOUL!

**The Last Poets** – Abiodun Oyewole and Umar Bin Hassan, radical black nationalist poet-musicians widely credited as the progenitors of rap and spoken word, appeared on SOUL! in 1968 and 1969

**Stan Lathan** – Original director of SOUL!, noted producer of Def Poetry Jam

**David Leeming** -- Author, *James Baldwin: A Biography*

**Sarah Lewis** -- Professor, Harvard University

**Dr. Loretta Long** – Co-host of SOUL!'s premiere episodes; thanks to SOUL!, she went on to play “Susan” on Sesame Street beginning in 1969

**Felipe Luciano** – Original Last Poet and host of SOUL!, community activist and journalist

**Christopher Lukas** – Co-creator of SOUL!, producer, director, writer for public and commercial TV

**Sade Lythcott** – Director, National Black Theatre

**Louis Massiah** -- Filmmaker & Historian, Director, Scribe Video Center

**Melba Moore** – Appeared on SOUL! with the original Broadway cast of “Hair” in 1968, and 1970

**Novella Nelson** – Late Broadway and film actress and Ellis Haizlip's muse

**David Peck** – Noted music archivist and documentary filmmaker

**Dr. Alvin Poussaint** – Harvard professor, hosted the 4 premiere episodes of SOUL! in 1968

**Hugh Price** – former Senior Vice President of WNET, President of the National Urban League

**Sonia Sanchez** – Award-winning poet, activist, scholar on the Black Arts Movement

**Rev. Cheryl Sanders** – Haizlip's niece and Pastor, Third Street Church of God

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**Greg Tate** – Author, Village Voice writer and cultural critic, original fan of SOUL!

**Dr. Billy Taylor** – The late Artistic Director of Jazz, Kennedy Center; noted jazz musician, composer, broadcaster and educator. First appeared on the premiere of SOUL! in 1968

**Robert Thompson** – Professor of Television History, Syracuse University

**Questlove** – Producer, Drummer, The Roots, house band for the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon

**Gayle Wald** – Chair, Dept. of English, George Washington University; author of upcoming “It’s Been Beautiful: SOUL! and Black Power TV” (Duke University Press 2015)

**Sylvia Waters** -- Dancer and Director Emerita, Ailey II

**Stevie Wonder** - Stevie Wonder introduced his band Wonderlove on SOUL! and they were the whole episode in 1972

**Mr. SOUL!**  
A FILM BY MELISSA HAZLIP

**END CREDITS - Single Title Cards**

Producer, Writer, Director  
MELISSA HAZLIP

Co-Director  
SAM POLLARD

Co-Producer  
DOUG BLUSH

Executive Producers  
CHAZ EBERT  
BLAIR UNDERWOOD

Music Supervisor  
ED GERRARD

Composer  
ROBERT GLASPER

Director of Photography  
HANS CHARLES

Editors  
GIOVANNI P. AUTRAN  
ANNUKKA LILJA  
BLAIR MCCLENDON

Featuring the Photography of  
CHESTER HIGGINS

**Mr. SOUL!**  
**A FILM BY MELISSA HAIZLIP**

**FULL FILM CREDIT ROLL**

Voice of Ellis Haizlip  
BLAIR UNDERWOOD

Interviews  
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BETH AUSBROOKS & MARY WILBURN  
OBBA BABATUNDE  
AMIRI BARAKA  
HARRY BELAFONTE  
RONALD BELL  
BLACK IVORY: LEROY BURGESS, STUART  
BASCOMBE, RUSSELL PATTERSON  
ALVA CHINN  
KATHLEEN CLEAVER  
IVAN CURY  
CARLOS DE JESUS  
CARMEN DE LAVALLADE  
LESLIE DEMUS  
DAVID LEEMING  
NIKKI GIOVANNI  
HAROLD HAIZLIP  
THOMAS ALLEN HARRIS  
CHESTER HIGGINS  
JUDITH JAMISON  
ALICE LABRIE  
THE LAST POETS: ABIODUN OYEWOLE,  
UMAR BIN HASSAN  
STAN LATHAN  
SARAH LEWIS  
DR. LORETTA LONG  
FELIPE LUCIANO  
CHRISTOPHER LUKAS  
SADE LYTHCOTT  
MELBA MOORE  
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DR. BILLY TAYLOR  
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GAYLE WALD  
SYLVIA WATERS

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**A FILM BY MELISSA HAZLIP**

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DI Engineers ERIC HORWITZ  
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**Mr. SOUL!**  
**A FILM BY MELISSA HAZLIP**

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Giovanni

“Answer To Yo / Question” By Permission of  
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Author, Amiri Baraka

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### “TIRED OF BEING ALONE”

WRITTEN BY AL L. GREEN

PERFORMED BY AL GREEN

COURTESY OF IRVING MUSIC, INC. (BMI) ON  
BEHALF OF ITSELF AND AL GREEN MUSIC

### “THE GHETTO”

WRITTEN BY DONNY EDWARD HATHAWAY  
& LEROY HUDSON

PERFORMED BY DONNY HATHAWAY

COURTESY UNIVERSAL MUSIC – MGB

SONGS ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND

KUUMBA MUSIC

### “EXPRESS YOURSELF”

WRITTEN BY CHARLES WRIGHT AND THE  
WATTS 103<sup>RD</sup> STREET RHYTHM BAND

PERFORMED BY CHARLES WRIGHT

COURTESY OF WARNER-TAMERLANE

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WRITTEN BY PHIL MOORE

PERFORMED BY NOVELLA NELSON

COURTESY OF ALESA BLANCHARD NELSON

### “I WISH I KNEW (HOW IT WOULD FEEL TO BE FREE)”

WRITTEN BY BILLY TAYLOR & DICK DALLAS

PERFORMED BY BILLY TAYLOR

COURTESY OF CAPITOL RECORDS

UNDER LICENSE FROM UNIVERSAL MUSIC  
ENTERPRISES

# Mr. SOUL!

A FILM BY MELISSA HAIZLIP

**“EVERYDAY I HAVE THE BLUES”**

WRITTEN BY PETER CHATMAN  
PERFORMED BY B.B. KING  
COURTESY BMG PLATINUM SONGS (BMI)  
ON BEHALF OF TRIO MUSIC COMPANY AND  
FORT KNOX MUSIC INC. (BMI)

**“OH, HAPPY DAY”**

WRITTEN BY EDWIN R. HAWKINS  
PERFORMED BY WILSON PICKETT &  
MARION WILLIAMS

**“REACH OUT AND TOUCH (SOMEBODY’S  
HAND)”**

WRITTEN BY NICKOLAS ASHFORD &  
VALERIE SIMPSON  
PERFORMED BY ASHFORD & SIMPSON  
COURTESY JOBETE MUSIC CORP.

**“IF I WERE YOUR WOMAN”**

WRITTEN BY GLORIA JONES, CLAY  
MCMURRAY, PAMELA JOAN SAWYER  
PERFORMED BY GLADYS KNIGHT & THE  
PIPS  
COURTESY OF JOBETE MUSIC CORP. INC.

**“GLORY GLORY”**

PERFORMED BY ODETTA  
COURTESY OF RYKODISC  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH WARNER MUSIC  
GROUP FILM & TV LICENSING

**“JOSHUA”**

PERFORMED BY ODETTA  
COURTESY OF RYKODISC  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH WARNER MUSIC  
GROUP FILM & TV LICENSING

**“PEACE BE STILL”**

WRITTEN BY JAMES CLEVELAND  
PERFORMED BY NIKKI GIOVANNI & THE  
NEW YORK COMMUNITY CHOIR  
COURTESY OF SCREEN GEMS - EMI MUSIC

**“YOU AND I”**

WRITTEN BY STEVIE WONDER  
PERFORMED BY STEVIE WONDER  
COURTESY OF JOBETE MUSIC  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY ATV

**“LET’S STAY TOGETHER”**

WRITTEN BY AL L. GREEN, WILLIE  
MITCHELL, & AL JR. JACKSON  
PERFORMED BY AL GREEN

COURTESY OF IRVING MUSIC, INC. ON  
BEHALF OF ITSELF AND AL GREEN MUSIC  
INC. (BMI)

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH UNIVERSAL  
MUSIC CORP.

**“LOVE AND HAPPINESS”**

WRITTEN BY AL L. GREEN & MABON LEWIS  
HODGES  
PERFORMED BY AL GREEN  
COURTESY OF IRVING MUSIC, INC. OBO AL  
GREEN MUSIC INC. (BMI)  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH UNIVERSAL  
MUSIC CORP.

**“THE INFLATED TEAR”**

WRITTEN BY RAHSAAN ROLAND KIRK  
PERFORMED BY RAHSAAN ROLAND KIRK  
COURTESY OF ROKIR MUSIC CORP.

**“GRAZIN’ IN THE GRASS”**

WRITTEN BY PHILEMON HOU, ELSTON  
PERFORMED BY HUGH MASEKELA & THE  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA  
USED BY PERMISSION FROM CHERIO  
CORP.

**“TRYING TO MAKE A FOOL OF ME”**

WRITTEN BY THOMAS RANDOLPH BELL &  
WILLIAM A. HART  
PERFORMED BY THE DELFONICS  
COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“DIDN’T I (BLOW YOUR MIND THIS TIME)”**

WRITTEN BY THOMAS RANDOLPH BELL &  
WILLIAM A. HART  
PERFORMED BY THE DELFONICS  
COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“I KEEP ASKING YOU QUESTIONS”**

WRITTEN BY PATRICK ADAMS, LEROY  
BURGESS, RUSSELL PATTERSON, STUART  
BASCOMBE  
PERFORMED BY BLACK IVORY  
COURTESY LARRY SPIER MUSIC

**“DON’T TURN AROUND”**

WRITTEN BY PATRICK ADAMS  
PERFORMED BY BLACK IVORY  
COURTESY LARRY SPIER MUSIC

**“CHOCOLATE BUTTERMILK”**

# Mr. SOUL!

A FILM BY MELISSA HAZLIP

WRITTEN BY GENE REDD, ROBERT BELL,  
RONALD BELL, GEORGE BROWN, ROBERT  
MICKENS, CLAYDES SMITH, DENNIS  
THOMAS, RICHARD WESTFIELD,  
WOODROW SPARROW  
PERFORMED BY KOOL & THE GANG  
COURTESY OF WARNER-TAMERLANE  
PUBLISHING CORP (BMI)

**“LET THE MUSIC TAKE YOUR MIND”**  
WRITTEN BY GENE REDD, ROBERT BELL,  
RONALD BELL, GEORGE BROWN, ROBERT  
MICKENS, CLAYDES SMITH, DENNIS  
THOMAS, RICHARD WESTFIELD,  
WOODROW SPARROW  
PERFORMED BY KOOL & THE GANG  
COURTESY OF WARNER-TAMERLANE  
PUBLISHING CORP (BMI)

**“GIT IT ALL”**  
WRITTEN BY CLAUD B. CAVE II, FRED J.  
SOLOMON, OMAR MESA, CHARLES D.  
PADRO, LOUIS W. WILSON, RICARDO A.  
WILSON, AND CARLOS DELANO WILSON  
PERFORMED BY MANDRILL  
COURTESY INTERSONG-USA, INC.  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MANDRILL MUSIC  
PUBLISHING

**“MANTECA”**  
WRITTEN BY DIZZIE GILLESPIE, GIL FULLER,  
& CHANO POZO GONZALEZ  
PERFORMED BY DIZZIE GILLESPIE & HIS  
ORCHESTRA  
COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS  
PUBLISHED BY MUSIC SALES  
CORPORATION  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“PARA LOS RUMBEROS”**  
WRITTEN BY TITO PUENTE  
PERFORMED BY TITO PUENTE Y SU  
ORQUESTA  
COURTESY OF EMI LONGITUDE MUSIC

**“WAY BACK HOME”**  
WRITTEN BY WILTON LEWIS FELDER  
PERFORMED BY THE JAZZ CRUSADERS  
COURTESY OF MOTOWN RECORDS  
UNDER LICENSE FROM UNIVERSAL MUSIC  
ENTERPRISES

**“GROOVE ME”**  
WRITTEN BY KING FLOYD  
PERFORMED BY KING FLOYD

COURTESY OF MALACO RECORDS

**“TAKE THE “A” TRAIN”**  
WRITTEN BY BILLY STRAYHORN  
PERFORMED BY DUKE ELLINGTON & HIS  
FAMOUS ORCHESTRA  
COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“TSOP - THE SOUND OF PHILADELPHIA”**  
WRITTEN BY MFSB  
PERFORMED BY MFSB FEATURING THE  
THREE DEGREES  
COURTESY PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL  
RECORDS

**“POWER”**  
WRITTEN BY EARTH, WIND & FIRE  
PERFORMED BY EARTH, WIND & FIRE  
COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“IT’S ABOUT THAT TIME (LIVE VERSION)”**  
WRITTEN BY MILES DAVIS  
PERFORMED BY MILES DAVIS  
COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“BITCHES BREW (LIVE VERSION)”**  
WRITTEN BY MILES DAVIS  
PERFORMED BY MILES DAVIS  
COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“MOTHERLESS CHILD”**  
PERFORMED BY: MAX ROACH WITH THE  
J.C. WHITE SINGERS  
COURTESY OF ATLANTIC RECORDING  
CORP.  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH WARNER MUSIC  
GROUP FILM & TV LICENSING

**“BACKLASH BLUES (2005 REMIX)”**  
WRITTEN BY LANGSTON HUGHES &  
NINA SIMONE  
PERFORMED BY NINA SIMONE  
COURTESY OF RCA RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY MUSIC  
ENTERTAINMENT

**“SUPERSTITION”**  
WRITTEN BY STEVIE WONDER

# Mr. SOUL!

A FILM BY MELISSA HAZLIP

PERFORMED BY STEVIE WONDER &  
WONDERLOVE  
COURTESY OF JOBETE MUSIC  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SONY ATV

## “BRAND NEW DAY”

WRITTEN BY VAN MORRISON  
PERFORMED BY MIRIAM MAKEBA  
COURTESY OF WB MUSIC CORP.  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CALDONIA SOUL  
MUSIC

## “WILL IT GO ROUND IN CIRCLES”

WRITTEN BY BRUCE CARLETON FISHER &  
BILLY PRESTON  
PERFORMED BY BILLY PRESTON & THE  
GOD SQUAD  
COURTESY OF IRVING MUSIC, INC. (BMI) /  
ALMO MUSIC CORP.

## “A SONG FOR YOU”

WRITTEN BY LEON RUSSELL  
PERFORMED BY DONNY HATHAWAY  
COURTESY OF ATLANTIC RECORDING  
CORP.  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH WARNER MUSIC  
GROUP FILM & TV LICENSING

## “THE LONGEST SUMMER”

WRITTEN BY PATRICK METHENY  
PERFORMED BY PAT METHENY GROUP  
COURTESY OF NONESUCH RECORDS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH WARNER MUSIC  
GROUP FILM & TV LICENSING

## “I MISS YOU (PART 1 & II)”

WRITTEN BY KENNETH GAMBLE & LEON  
HUFF  
PERFORMED BY HAROLD MELVIN & THE  
BLUE NOTES, FEATURING TEDDY  
PENDERGRASS  
COURTESY OF WARNER-TAMERLANE  
PUBLISHING CORP (BMI)

## “SHOW ME YOUR SOUL”

MUSIC WRITTEN BY ROBERT GLASPER,  
LYRICS WRITTEN BY MUHAMMAD AYERS  
PERFORMED BY LALAH HATHAWAY  
RAP PERFORMED BY OSWIN BENJAMIN  
Background Vocals by LALAH HATHAWAY,  
MUHAMMAD AYERS  
Recorded and Mixed by CHRIS TABRON

## MUSICIANS

Score Written and Arranged by

ROBERT GLASPER  
Piano & Keyboards Performed by  
ROBERT GLASPER  
Trumpet Performed by  
MAURICE BROWN  
Guitar & Bass Performed by  
MARCUS MACHADO  
Saxophone Performed by  
MARCUS STRICKLAND  
Drums & Percussion Performed by  
ANU SUN  
Drums Performed by  
JUSTIN TYSON  
Bass Performed by  
BEN WILLIAMS

## Vocals

LALAH HATHAWAY  
MUHAMMAD AYERS

## Recording Studio

Recorded at RED BULL STUDIOS NEW YORK  
Recording Engineer: CHRIS TABRON  
Additional Engineering: EVAN SUTTON  
Assistant Recording Engineers: BRANDON  
PERALTA, SEAN FRAWLEY, NATE ODDEN  
Additional score recorded by ANU SUN,  
HARLEM, NEW YORK

Artist Management for Robert Glasper  
NICOLE HEGEMAN and VINCENT BENNETT

Music Clearances  
GLOBAL IMAGEWORKS  
CATHY CARAPELLA

Still Photographer  
UNDER THE DUVET PRODUCTIONS  
LISA PACINO

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Chico Colvard  
Mrs. P. Craig Combs

# Mr. SOUL!

A FILM BY MELISSA HAZLIP

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Roosevelt André Credit and the Lappelle Choir  
Caroline De Fontaine-Stratton  
Jeff & Bunny Dell  
Dawoud Bey  
Dave Dja  
Diana Edmonds  
Lewis Erskine  
Beth Federici  
Terry Franklin  
James Lowell & Jewelle Taylor Gibbs  
Lowell Gibbs  
Jason Gilmore  
Michael Gollum  
A.P. Gonzalez  
Beverley Gordon  
Robert Gluck  
Haizlip Family  
Jackie Haizlip  
Portia Haizlip  
Jean Hall  
Trent Harville  
Tonya Hopkins  
Harold Huttas  
Mr. & Mrs. David Jackson  
Mae Jackson  
Delois Jacobs  
Tori Jackson  
Delois Jacobs  
Debra James  
Charles F. Johnson  
Dexter Jones  
Joyce Jones  
John & Helen Ketch  
Katherine Kincaid  
Michael Ladd  
Bonnie Berry LaMon  
Damon Lee  
Lauren Lexton  
Katherine Marks  
Christian McBride  
Claretta McDaniel  
Karen McMullen  
Julia Meltzer  
Cosetta & Michele Moore  
Glynis A Morrow  
Elizabeth Murray  
Denise Nicholas  
Laura Nix  
Eileen Harris Norton Foundation  
Joanne O'Brien  
Opiyo Okeyo  
Jacqueline Olive  
Katrina Parks  
Carrie Perry  
Marilyn Sue Perry

Derrick Pete  
Greg & Rochelle Poland  
Marquita J. Pool  
James Power  
Roxanna Prieto  
Aubrey & Melba Provost  
Marian Randall  
Stuart Reider  
Kenneth Roberson  
Royal Rodgers  
Paul Savage & Family  
Jeff Scott  
Thomas Schillaci  
Elizabeth Schwartz  
John & Ramona Selby  
Amanuel Sima  
Andrew & Mary Lou Stern  
Allison Stewart  
Rahdi Taylor  
Phyllis Toben  
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