

APOLLO

Apollo Theater & Screen/Play Presents: *30 YEARS OF HOUSE PARTY*

**Virtual celebration of the cult classics
House Party & House Party 2 with
special guests from the film including
Kid ‘N Play, A.J. Johnson,
Darryl “Chill” Mitchell, Reginald Hudlin,
performances by Kid ‘N Play, Full Force,
Lisa Lisa, Today, DJ Wiz & surprise special guests
Saturday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. EST**

Harlem, NY – (Updated February 19, 2021; February 11, 2021) – The **Apollo Theater** announced details today for **Apollo Film & Screen/Play Presents: *30 Years of House Party*** on **Saturday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. EST**, launching the nonprofit Theater’s 87th season of expanded digital offerings that celebrates and centers Black artists and voices from the African Diaspora. Featuring performances by acclaimed hip-hop duo **Kid ‘N Play**, legendary R&B/hip-hop and R&B group **Full Force**, **Lisa Lisa**, **DJ Wiz**, **Today**, and more, the event also includes conversations with the film’s stars and creators. The virtual program will explore *House Party* (1990) and *House Party 2* (1991) and the cult classic comedy’s roles in centering the Black teenage experience for mainstream audiences. Tickets for *30 Years of House Party* are available now for \$15 and \$10 for Apollo A-List Members at <https://www.apollotheater.org/spring2021/#HouseParty>.

In addition to special performances, **Apollo Film & Screen/Play Presents: *30 Years of House Party*** will include a conversation with **Christopher “Kid” Reid** and **Christopher “Play” Martin**; **A.J. Johnson**; **Darryl “Chill” Mitchell**; writer and director **Reginald Hudlin**; producer **Warrington Hudlin**; **DJ Cassidy**; and other special guests. Forefathers to TikTok viral dance-offs, Kid ‘N Play’s now iconic moves, along with their performances and Hudlin’s vision, the *House Party* franchise continues to resonate across generations of audiences today. Created and produced by Cali Green, the Screen/Play series celebrates “throwback” films and their soundtracks.

“From the unbelievable cast to the performances, dance-offs and legendary soundtrack, *House Party* is an iconic film that continues to speak to so many, even more than 30 years after it was initially released,” said **Executive Producer Kamilah Forbes**. “I’m thrilled that we’ll be joined by Kid ‘N Play, Reginald Hudlin, and so many others who drove the *House Party* franchise into the cultural zeitgeist as we take a look back at two films that amplified Black voices and offered Black teenagers an opportunity to see themselves center stage.”

Apollo Film will continue throughout the spring season with its innovative series **Apollo Film Presents: *ImageNation’s Cocktails & Sol Cinema*** on **Sunday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. EST**. Featuring independent films primarily directed by people of color, the program seeks to explore the history, examine social issues, and highlight the humanity of Pan-African people in the genres of drama, science fiction, animation,

comedy, documentary, experimental, and emerging media. Please check www.ApolloTheater.org for film updates.

In addition to its film programs, the Apollo Theater's season features a dynamic range of programs that center Black artists and voices from the African Diaspora, while tackling important social issues for Harlem, New York, and the nation. To learn more about the Spring 2021 season, please click [here](#).

TICKET INFO

Tickets for the Apollo Theater's 2021 season are available now at www.ApolloTheater.org. Tickets for *House Party* are available for \$15 and \$10 for Apollo A-List Members. To become an Apollo A-List Member, please click [here](#).

Please check www.ApolloTheater.org for updates on ticket availability for additional 2021 spring season programming.

SUPPORT

The Apollo's spring season is made possible by leadership support from Coca-Cola, Citi, Sherman Fairchild Foundation, Ford Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, the Jerome L. Greene Arts Access Fund in the New York Community Trust, HBO, and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

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ABOUT THE APOLLO THEATER

The legendary Apollo Theater—the soul of American culture—plays a vital role in cultivating emerging artists and launching legends. Since its founding, the Apollo has served as a center of innovation and a creative catalyst for Harlem, the city of New York, and the world.

With music at its core, the Apollo's programming extends to dance, theater, spoken word, and more. This includes the world premiere of the theatrical adaptation of Master Artist-in-Residence Ta-Nehisi Coates's *Between the World and Me* and the New York premiere of the opera *We Shall Not Be Moved*; special programs such as the blockbuster concert *Bruno Mars Live at the Apollo; 100: The Apollo Celebrates Ella*; and the annual *Africa Now!* Festival. The non-profit Apollo Theater is a performing arts presenter, commissioner, and collaborator that also produces festivals; large-scale dance and musical works organized around a set of core initiatives that celebrate and extend the Apollo's legacy through a contemporary lens, including the Women of the World (WOW) Festival; as well as other multidisciplinary collaborations with partner organizations.

Since introducing the first *Amateur Night* contests in 1934, the Apollo Theater has served as a testing ground for new artists working across a variety of art forms and has ushered in the emergence of many new musical genres—including jazz, swing, bebop, R&B, gospel, blues, soul, and hip-hop. Among the countless

legendary performers who launched their careers at the Apollo are Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Billie Holiday, James Brown, Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight, Luther Vandross, H.E.R., D'Angelo, Lauryn Hill, Machine Gun Kelly, and Miri Ben Ari; and the Apollo's forward-looking artistic vision continues to build on this legacy. For more information about the Apollo, visit www.ApolloTheater.org.

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