

RULES OF PLAY



WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY **JOHN BRATT**

CINEMATIC ARTWORK BY **JESS FELDMAN**

A PRODUCTION OF



COMPONENTS



48 SCRIPT CARDS



66 ACTOR CARDS



17 OBJECTIVE CARDS



34 DIRECTOR CARDS



54 HOLLYWOOD NEWS! CARDS



STUDIO ABILITY TOKENS



17 AWARD CARDS



MONEY COUNTERS



REVIEW STAR COUNTERS



RULEBOOK
(YOU'RE HOLDING
IT RIGHT NOW)



12 DICE
(NUMBERED 0-2)

TALENT POOL AND
STUDIO BOARDS
(HUGE, YOU CAN'T
MISS THEM)

PLAYER SETUP



Use your preferred means to select a first player. (Suggestion: The last player to watch a movie in a theater) Then, each player takes:

1. The Studio Board of their choice
2. 10 Money tokens
3. 5 Studio Ability Tokens on each space on the studio board
4. 2 Hollywood News! Cards

5. Their studio's 2 Director Cards from the deck. (Named at the top of each Studio Board, and the cards have the studio's logo on the lower right corner.) Place them next to the Studio Board.
6. 3 Objective Cards (Note: The "Rich" and "Acclaimed" Objectives are placed on the Main Board; see pg. 4)

The first movie studios were established in New Jersey in the 1900s, near the labs where the first motion picture cameras were invented. A decade later, studios began opening in the Los Angeles area, in part to take advantage of the year-round mild weather.



TALENT POOL SETUP



Excluding the 2 Director Cards that each player receives at the start of the game, no Actor or Director Card may be kept in the hand.



1. Script, Director and Actor Cards: Shuffle these decks and place them face-down on their respective spaces on the Talent Pool board. Then deal cards face-up in the Talent Pool tracks to the left of the decks.
2. Money and Review Star Counters: Place these banks where the players can access them.
3. Hollywood News! Cards: Shuffle the Hollywood News! Deck, deal two cards to each player, and place the deck face-down where indicated on the board.
4. Objective Cards: Place the “Rich” and “Acclaimed” Objective Cards face-up on their designated spaces, then remove any remaining Objective Cards from the game.

5. Award Cards: Place the final three awards - “Best Picture,” “Best Actor” and “Best Director” - face-up in that order (with “Best Picture” on the bottom) on the designated space on the Talent Pool board. Then shuffle the rest of the Award Cards and place a number of them face-down on top of the first three. Choose the number based on the length of the game desired:

- Mini Game (2-3 players): 5 Awards.
- Regular Game: 8 Awards
- Long Game: 11 Awards
- Epic Game: 14 Awards

...then remove any remaining Award Cards from the game.



GAME OVERVIEW



The object of Executive Producer is to have the most **Victory Points** after the World Film Awards ceremony. Victory Points are earned by winning **Awards**, earning **Money** and meeting specific **Objectives**.

During each **Turn**, a player may take two **Actions** to buy **Scripts**, hire **Actors** and **Directors**, and **Release Movies** to achieve these goals.

In game terms, a **Movie** is the collection of all cards placed together on a player's **In Production** space: Script, Director, Actors, and any **Hollywood News! Cards**.

Read on to learn the details of each action and a description of the cards!

PLAYER TURN

Beginning with the first player and continuing clockwise, each player may take any **two** of the following actions during their turn (Players may take the same action twice):

1. Purchase a Script (Pg. 8)

Pay to take a Script card from the Talent Pool and place it in one of your two open In Production areas on your Studio Board.

2. Hire a Director (Pg. 8)

Pay to take a Director card from the Talent Pool and place it on one of the Scripts In Production on your Studio Board.

3. Hire an Actor (Pg. 8)

Pay to take an Actor card from the Talent Pool and place it on one of the Scripts In Production on your Studio Board.

4. Release a Movie (Pg. 9-10) If you have a Script Card In Production with a Director and the proper number of Actors attached, you may spend an action to release the movie to

the public. During their turn, players may also play Hollywood News! Cards on any movie In Production (does not cost an action) and may use Studio Abilities. At the end of their turn, a player draws a Hollywood News! card (and may discard two to draw a second). The player to the left then begins their turn.

WINNING THE GAME

The winner of the game is the player with the most Victory Points (VP). There are three ways to earn VPs:

- **Awards** are worth the Victory Points printed on their card (1-3 VP)
- Any met **Objectives** are worth 2 VP each
- **Money** is worth 1 VP for each \$5.

The Endgame and Final Scoring are covered more completely on Page 15.



CARD LAYOUT (SEE PG. 7)

1. The overall quality or skill of a Script, Actor or Director is indicated in a **Review Rating** on a scale of 0-3. This rating also reflects the potential for receiving critical approval and winning Awards.
2. The popularity of a Script, Actor or Director is indicated by its **Box Office Rating**, also on a scale of 0-3. This rating indicates the potential for earning revenue through ticket sales and streaming services.
3. The **Genre icon** represents Action, Drama, SciFi/Fantasy, Comedy, Horror, or Animated genres. A Genre icon on a Script indicates for which Hollywood News! Cards the movie may be eligible. A Genre icon on an Actor or Director card indicates that they will receive a bonus to either their Review or Box Office Rating when added to a Script which shares their icon; this bonus is applied when the movie is released (pg. 10).
4. The **Cast** is the number of Actor Cards that must be attached to a Script before it can be released. A Script cannot have more Actors placed on it than shown, and cannot be released with fewer Actors than indicated in the Cast.
5. On an Actor or Director card, the **Bio** is a brief description of the person themselves—it's good to know who you're adding to your film. On a Script card, the **Tagline/Quote** is a memorable phrase from the movie that **MUST be read in a dramatic voice** when the movie is released!
6. **Traits** are found in the colored stripes on Director and Actor Cards. Directors may be Perfectionists (**green stripe**) or Writers (black stripe), while Actors may be either Professional (**green stripe**) or Difficult (**red stripe**). The effects of these are explained on the next page.
7. Actors that refuse to appear in certain genres of movies will have that genre symbol crossed out on their card next to their portrait. This is the **ONLY** genre the actor may not appear in!

CARD ANATOMY (CONT. FROM PG 6)



The Traits of Actors and Directors also impact many Objective and Hollywood News! Cards.

TRAITS – BONUSES AND LIMITATIONS



Some Actors and Directors have **Traits** that make it easier or harder to work with them, found on a color ribbon under their names on their cards. For example, a Director with the **Writer Trait** lets a player purchase both that Director and a Script Card that matches that Director's Genre at the same time, without spending a second Action. The player then pays for both, and immediately places them in the same In Production space. A Writer-Director may still direct any other genre of movie without using their Writer Trait.

Some Directors are also **Perfectionists**, and will not work with **Difficult** Actors, so a Movie that has one may not add the other.

However, **Professional** actors do work well with **Perfectionist** Directors: a player who assigns them to the same movie immediately draws **two Hollywood News! cards**, keeping one and discarding the other.

NOTE: Unlike Directors, there is no restriction on **Professional** and **Difficult** Actors working together.



BUY SCRIPT, HIRE ACTOR, HIRE DIRECTOR

Most of a Player's actions will be adding a Script, Actor or Director to an In Production movie. By focusing on gaining each of the necessary components, a Player is preparing to Release a Movie.

Once a movie has a Script, a Director and 2 or 3 Actors (depending on the Cast number found at the top of the Script Card), they may spend an action to Release a Movie (See pgs. 9 and 10).

To complete one of these actions, follow these steps:

1. Choose the card and pay the cost below.



2. Move the card to the appropriate In Production space on your Studio Board.

3. All cards on the track shift to the left.

4. Draw the top card from the appropriate deck to fill the now-empty rightmost space of that track.

The first card to be played on an In Production space must be a Script card—you may not hire an Actor or a Director without a Script on which to place them. After a Script is placed, the Director and Actors may be added in any order.

Starting Directors: Each Studio begins the game with two Directors, listed on the Studio Boards and with the Studio's logo printed in the lower right hand corner. These are the only Director cards that may be held by the player, and may be added to any Movie In Production without spending an Action or paying any money.

In this example, Bayr Studios purchases the Script Five-Date Forecast with their first action, placing the card on one of their open In Production spaces (1), pays 2 money to the bank (2), moves the Nelson At Large Script to the left (3) and places a new script at the last space on the **Script Track** (4).

For their second action, Bayr hires Josie Son to be cast in Five-Date Forecast, and places the Actor Card with the Script in the same space (1), pays 2 money for Josie (2), shifts the cards on the **Actor Track** to the left (3) and then adds a new Actor Card to the rightmost space (4).

RELEASE MOVIE

If a Script has a Director and the correct number of Actors (matching the Cast Number of the Script Card) attached to it, a player may choose to spend an action to **Release the Movie**. When releasing a movie, follow these steps:

1. The Player announces the name of the movie that is being released and **must read** the **Tagline/Quote** at the bottom of the Script Card in their **best dramatic voice!**
2. Stack all of the cards attached to the movie—Script, Actors, Director and any Hollywood News! Cards. If a Hollywood News! Card with an “or” option is played on the Movie, the player of that card chooses which effect will take place now.
3. Add together the Review Ratings from the cards to determine the Movie’s **Initial Review Rating**. Then do the same for the Box Office Ratings; this is the Movie’s **Initial Box Office Rating**.
4. Count the number of **Genre Bonuses** from the Director and/or Actor Cards that match the Genre of the Script—this is the Bonus available. The player may choose how to distribute the Bonus between the Initial Review and Box Office Ratings, to increase one or both. The new values are the **Total Review Rating** and the **Total Box Office Rating**.

NOTE: Only Genre Bonuses from the Director and Actor Cards are counted for the Bonus: Genre Symbols on Script Cards are not counted (that is the genre of the movie itself that the Bonuses must match), nor are Genre Symbols on Hollywood News! Cards added (these are the genre(s) of the Script to which the card may be added).

5. After applying the bonuses, take and roll a number of dice **equal to the Total Review Rating**: the sum of the dice is the number of Review Stars that the movie earned. Stack that number of **Review Star Counters** on the movie.
6. After the reviews, roll a number of dice **equal to the Total Box Office Rating**. The sum of the dice is the amount of Money that the Movie earns. Take that amount in **Money** and add it to your Studio.
7. Discard any Hollywood News! Cards that were attached to that movie, then place the Script, Actor and Director cards for that movie on a stack to the side of your Studio Board with the Review Star Counters of that movie on top. The Script, Director and Actors remain in that stack for the rest of the game.
8. Finally, discard the leftmost card from the three **Talent Pool Tracks**, slide the remaining cards to the left one space, and refill the empty space in each track.

When releasing movies, studios will often screen them for critics before the public, allowing for reviews to come out at the same time that the movie begins wide release. Thus, Reviews are rolled before the Box Office.

If this is the first or second movie released in the game, continue the player’s turn. Otherwise, **Give an Award!**
(See pages 14-15).



RELEASE MOVIE – EXAMPLE PLAYTHROUGH

1. Player adds up the **Review Ratings** from all cards in their movie to come up with a total:

$$1 (\text{Script}) + 0 (\text{Doug Harbour}) + 1 (\text{Josie Son}) + 0 (\text{Paola Silva}) + 1 (\text{Fanboy Love}) = 3.$$

2. They then do the same with the **Box Office Ratings**: $3 + 2 + 1 + 2 + 1 = 9$.

3. Since Knife to Knife is an **Action** movie, each Actor and Director with the **Action Genre Bonus** provides another Rating point: The Director and

one Actor each have the bonus, for a total of 2 extra. The player adds both bonus points to their Reviews (step 1), increasing that rating's total **from 3 to 5**.

4. With a **Total Review Rating** of 5, the player then rolls 5 dice to see what the critics think of their movie. The result is 7, so **7 Review Star Counters** are placed on the stack of cards that make up the movie. **(NOTE: It is very important to keep a movie's Review Stars apart from other movies: Sharing is not allowed!)**

5. The player next completes their **Box Office Roll**, using 9 dice based on the sum of the numbers in step 2. The total of the roll is 12, resulting in **12 Money Counters** being given to the Player. The Fanboy Love card is discarded, and the Script, Director and Actor Cards are moved from In Production to the side of the Studio's Board with the 7 Review Stars placed on top of the cards.

The last card on each Talent Pool Track is discarded, the cards are shifted left and the player continues their turn!

1

$1+0+1+0+1=3$

REVIEW RATING: 3


+2 BONUS

TOTAL REVIEW: 5

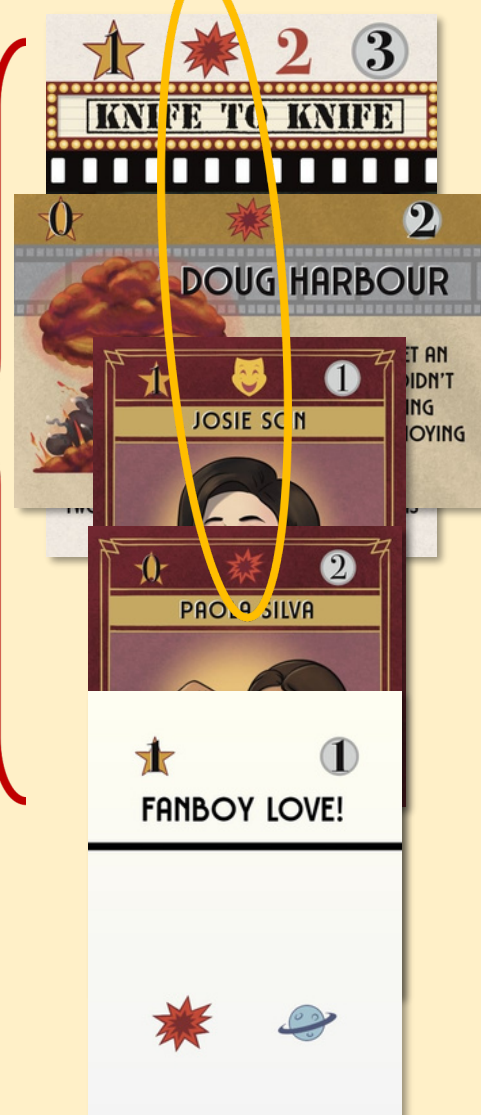
4

REVIEW ROLL (5 DICE)

TOTAL RESULT: 7



3 TOTAL BONUS: 2 ADDED TO REVIEW



2


$3+2+1+2+1=9$


BOX OFFICE RATING: 9

5

BOX OFFICE ROLL (9 DICE)

TOTAL RESULT: 12





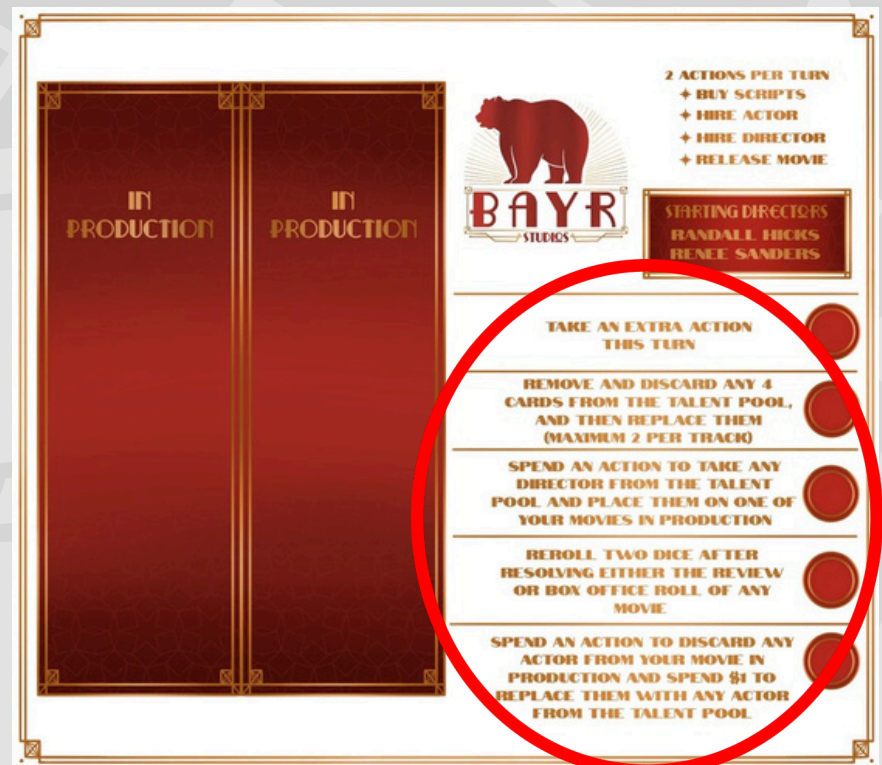
OBJECTIVE CARDS



At the beginning of the game, each player receives 3 **Objective Cards**. The goal on an Objective Card is only for that player, and is kept secret until completed. If the condition on the Objective Card is met, the player reveals the card at that time and is awarded 2 Victory Points. After a player fulfills two of their Objective Cards, the third card is discarded.

STUDIO ABILITIES

- Printed on the lower right side of each Studio Board are the **Abilities** of that Studio. Each board has four unique Abilities, plus the “Take an Extra Action” Ability. The Abilities often enhance certain genres of movies that a Studio may specialize in.
- Each Ability may be used only once per game. To track this, place one of the 5 **Studio Tokens** on the space to the right of each Ability. Remove the token when that Ability is used.
- Studio Abilities may only be used during a player’s turn. The lone exception is the second Ability of the Excelsior Film Company; it may be used only after that studio has successfully bid for an Award (See pg. 13).
- Typically, using an Ability does not cost an Action. The exceptions to this are noted with the Ability. When an ability allows a player to remove from the Talent Pool, remove **ALL** cards before refilling the Talent Pool.
- If an Ability allows a player to take cards from the **Talent Pool**, they do so without paying (unless otherwise indicated).



HOLLYWOOD NEWS! CARDS

With the sheer amount of money, attention and strength of personalities involved in the film industry, the unpredictable nature of Hollywood frequently spills over into the production of the movies themselves. This is reflected in the **Hollywood News! Cards**.

Hollywood News! Cards can be played on any movie In Production — either your movie to improve it, or an opponent's to sabotage it! A few guidelines for their use:

- Hollywood News! Cards do not cost an Action to play; therefore, there is no limit to the number that can be played or placed on a movie each turn.
- Symbols or text on the bottom of the card specify if the card may only be played on a movie that meets those conditions. If the bottom is blank, it may be played on any movie.
- Hollywood News! Cards may only be played on a Script In Production —they cannot be placed on movies that have already been released, nor can they be played on a blank In Production space.



CLASSIC
SOUNDTRACK!

“CLASSIC SOUNDTRACK” ADDS 1
TO THE REVIEW RATING OF
ANY MOVIE

“OWNAGE” ADDS 1 TO BOTH THE
REVIEW AND BOX OFFICE RATING
OF ANY HORROR OR
ACTION MOVIE



1

OWNAGE!



-OR-



TALK SHOW
MADNESS!

A MOVIE WITH A
“DIFFICULT” ACTOR

“TALK SHOW MADNESS” CAN
ONLY BE PLAYED ON A MOVIE
THAT ALREADY HAS A DIFFICULT
ACTOR ON IT. IT SUBTRACTS 1
FROM THE REVIEW OR BOX
OFFICE RATING OF THAT
MOVIE



-OR-



ANOTHER
REBOOT!

“ANOTHER REBOOT” EITHER
ADDS OR SUBTRACTS 1 TO OR
FROM THE REVIEW RATING OF
ANY MOVIE, CHOSEN BY THE
PLAYER OF THE CARD.

Hollywood News! Cards are drawn:

- At the end of a player's turn. A player may also discard two cards to draw an additional card at the end of their turn.
- Immediately when a **Perfectionist** Director and a **Professional** Actor are placed in the same movie.

In case you were wondering: Yes, the exclamation point is ALWAYS used with “Hollywood News!”

END OF GAME AND FINAL SCORING

After the final face-down Award Card has been revealed and presented, the **end of the game is triggered**. Follow these steps:

1. The current player's turn ends immediately, **UNLESS** they have an action remaining **AND** they are able to release a completed movie on their remaining action. This is their final turn.
2. Every other player may take one final turn. If a player is not able to release a movie during their turn, they may use their second action to release a movie from their In Production slot, even if that movie does not have all cards typically required to release it. The Movie is resolved as any other Movie, but players may not use an incomplete Movie to claim an **Objective Card** and no Award is presented.
3. When everyone has resolved their final turns, **present the final three Awards** (the face-up cards at the bottom of the Awards Deck) in this order: Best Director, Best Actor and Best Picture. **BE AWARE** that the final Award – Best Picture – can only be won by a Movie that has won another Award previously!
4. Determine which studio earned each **Common Objective**. The “**Rich**” Objective is earned

by the player that has the most Money at the end of the game, while the “**Acclaimed**” Objective goes to the Studio with the most Review Star Counters remaining. In case of a tie for a Common Objective, all players involved receive 1 Victory Point.

5. Players then count their Victory Points:

- **Objective Cards:** 2 VP Per Card
- **Awards:** 1-3 VP Per Card (Shown on the Card)
- **Money:** \$5 = 1 VP (Rounded down)

The player with the most **Victory Points** is the **winner**, and may **gloat** in accordance with your group's social mores!

TIEBREAKER: In case of **tie** in **Victory Points**, the player involved in the tie that won the Best Picture Award is declared the winner. If **none** of the players involved in the tie won Best Picture, then the tiebreaker is Best Actor, then Best Director. If none of the players involved won any of these three awards, they may either accept a **draw**, or attempt to make the better documentary about the game itself. We at **Minty Beans Game Labs** will watch both films and select a **winner**.

BANKRUPTCY

A Studio is **Bankrupt** if they meet these conditions:

- They have **no Money** remaining;
- They have **no Studio Abilities** that allow them to claim a needed card from the **Talent Pool, Decks, or Discard Piles**.

Bankrupt Studios are allowed only 1 Action per turn. This turn must be used to either take a card from the left-most space of one of the Talent Pool Tracks without paying, or to Release a Movie (Any restrictions on placing cards, such as Traits or “Crossed Out” Genres, are ignored).

The effects of Bankruptcy end immediately upon gaining money from Releasing a Movie.



ERRATA AND CLARIFICATIONS

Hollywood News! Cards drawn at the end of a turn are the final act that a player can take—any cards drawn at that time cannot be played until their next turn.

If a Studio Ability allows a player to take a card from the Talent Pool, the card is **free**.

All cards In Production are public knowledge and may be seen by any player.

If an Award is revealed that no Movie is eligible to be nominated for, it remains near the Talent Pool board face-up until an eligible Movie is released. The player that released the Movie may then immediately discard 1 Review Star from that Movie and take the Award. In the unlikely event that no Movie is eligible for any of the final 3 Awards (Best Director, Best Actor and Best Picture), they will **remain unclaimed**.

Remember: Genre Bonuses are NOT a restriction on which movies an Actor or Director may be assigned to, but rather a +1 Bonus to one of the Movie's ratings. Any Director may direct any genre of movie, and Actors may appear in any movie unless the Genre of the movie is "crossed out" on their card.

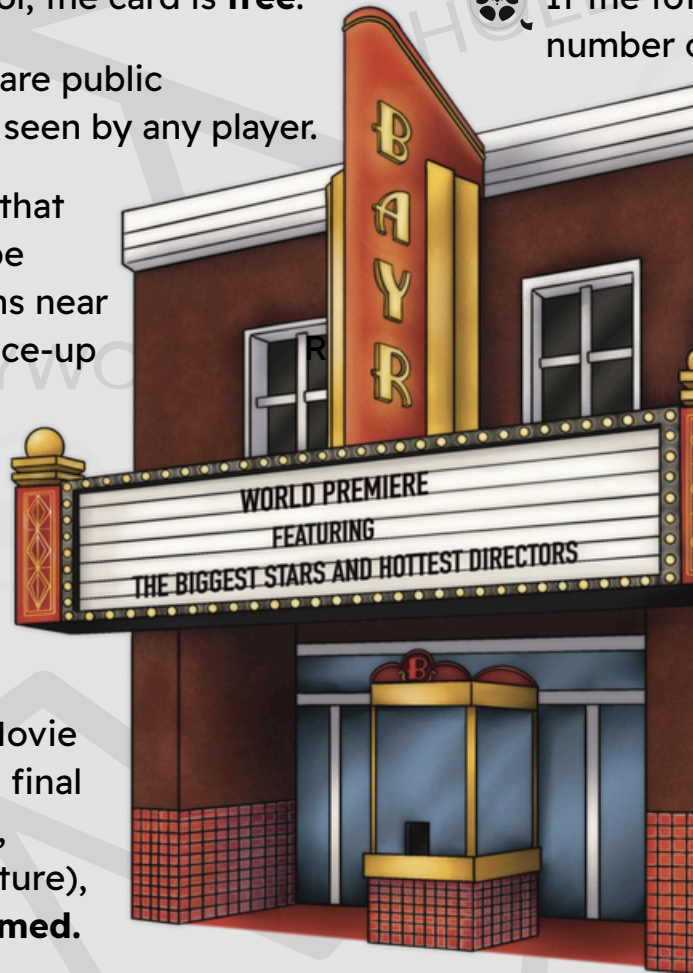
The Genre Icons shown at the bottom of Hollywood News! Cards are **NOT** counted when calculating the Genre Bonuses of a Movie — only Actors and Directors add their Bonuses.

If the total rating for a Movie exceeds the number of dice available, simply record the roll of dice available and then roll some of these dice a second time to make up the difference.

A player draws two Hollywood News! Cards and keeps one each time a **Professional** Actor and a **Perfectionist** Director are brought together on a movie— in other words, a player would **draw 6** cards and **keep 3** if a **Perfectionist** Director is added to a movie with 3 **Professional** Actors!

Once an Actor or Director are placed on a Script, they **can't be removed** – so be sure about your choices!

Want to avoid Bankruptcy? The only way to make money is to **Release Movies!**









ICON LEGEND

-  **Action**
-  **Animated**
-  **Comedy**
-  **Drama**
-  **Horror**
-  **SciFi/Fantasy**
-  **Box Office**
-  **Review**

RELEASE MOVIE SEQUENCE

- **Announce Movie and Tagline**
- **Total Review and Box Office Ratings**
- **Assign Bonuses**
- **Roll and Collect Reviews**
- **Roll and Collect Box Office**
- **Discard Hollywood News! and final Cards in Talent Pool**
- **Award Presentation (3rd Movie or later)**

SECRETS TO HOLLYWOOD SUCCESS

-  **Executive Producer** is a game that allows for long-term planning to meet your goals. However, the game may quickly change to provide opportunities that offer a better payout in the long term, so be prepared to take advantage!
-  Since **Money** is ONLY earned by **Releasing Movies**, be sure your first movie can be released before beginning a second one.
-  Similarly, a **shorter game** leads to **fewer movies** being released. Plan ahead to so you have enough time to release a Movie you've already started **before** beginning an additional Movie.
-  **Don't chase** Genre Bonuses if they aren't available. Remember, any Director and most Actors can appear in **any Movie**, and Genre Bonuses only add **1 Rating** to a Movie. It might be more profitable to hire highly-rated talent that is available than to wait for a Genre Bonus.
-  **Remember** that the **three final Awards** are together worth **7 Victory Points**—enough to perhaps win the game! You'll want your Studio's best movies to have enough **Review Stars remaining** to compete for them!
-  **A big part of the fun** is putting **different actors in unexpected roles**. Who wouldn't want to see the intense Action movie starring the sarcastic old lady and the Shakespearean master?

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

A Minty Beans Game Labs Production

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Script Editing by Jennifer Lovell and Lance Goodwin

Production Site Security by Nelson the Cat

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No animals were harmed in the making of this game, although a few might want you to believe they were subjected to brief verbal abuse.

