

The Movies and Music of the 1930s

The depression was a tough time for families and kids since money was scarce. Even though this was the case and there were no television sets to watch, people managed by swimming in the canals, dancing at the Women's Club for 25 cents, or going to the movies in Glendale. Here are the top movies that came out during the '30s as well as the music that came out during this period.

1930

- Top Movies -

Tom Sawyer, Top Hat, Animal Crackers, and Hell's Angels

Top Music

"Happy Days Are Here Again" (Ben Selvin), "These Little Words" (Duke Ellington),
"On the Sunny Side of the Street" (Ted Lewis and his Orchestra)

1931

- Top Movies -

Frankenstein, City Lights, Mata Hari, Cimarron

- Top Music -

"Minnie the Moocher" (Cab Calloway), "Dream a Little Dream of Me" (Wayne King),
"Goodnight Sweetheart" (Bing Crosby)

1932

- Top Movies -

Tarzan the Ape Man, Trouble in Paradise, The Old Dark House.

- Top Music -

"All of Me" (Louis Armstrong), "It Don't Mean a Thing" (Duke Ellington),
"Night and Day" (Fred Astaire and Leo Raisman)

1933

- Top Movies -

King Kong, 42nd Street, Dinner at Eight, Sons of the Desert

- Top Music -

"Stormy Weather" (Ethel Waters), "Sophisticated Lady" (Duke Ellington)
"We're in the Money" (Dick Powell)

1934

- Top Movies -

The Thin Man, Cleopatra, It Happened One Night

- Top Music -

“Moon Glow” (Benny Goodman), “Tumbling Tumbleweeds” (Paul Whitman),
“Smoke Gets In Your Eyes” (Paul Whitman), “Cocktails for Two” (Duke Ellington)

1935

- Top Movies –

Mutiny on the Bounty, Top Hat, Captain Blood, A Night At the Opera

- Top Music –

“On the Good Ship Lollipop” (Shirley Temple) “Cheek to Cheek” (Fred Astaire),
“The Isle of Capri” (Ray Noble), “Lullaby of Broadway” (Blue Moon)

1936

- Top Movies –

The Great Ziegfeld, Mr. Deeds Goes to Town, San Francisco

- Top Music –

“Pennies from Heaven” (Bing Crosby), “Summertime” (Billie Holiday),
“Sweet Home Chicago” (Benny Goodman)

1937

- Top Movies –

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Pernell, Damaged Lives, Maytime

- Top Music –

“One O’Clock Jump” (Count Basie), “Caravan” (Duke Ellington),
“Good Night my Love” (Duke Ellington), “Sweet Leilani” (Bing Crosby)

1938

- Top Movies –

Alexander’s Ragtime Band, You Can’t Take it With You,
Sweethearts

- Top Music –

“Begin the Beguine” (Artie Shaw), “A Ticket, A Tasket” (Ella Fitzgerald),
“You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby” (Bob Hope and Shirley Ross)

1939

- Top Movies –

The Wizard of Oz, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, Gone with the Wind, Grapes of Wrath

- Top Music –

“Over the Rainbow” (Judy Garland), “Moonlight Serenade” (Glenn Miller)