

# BLACK FILM GENIUSES





## ABOUT MARTIN JONES

Martin C. Jones is a 2x Emmy® Award nominated creator of multi-platform filmed entertainment for theatrical, broadcast and digital distribution. Jones regularly produces movies, television series, specials, branded content, and national commercials for such major brands as Jeep, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Kmart, Tyler Perry, and Grolsch Beer. He is currently running Austin Studios.

His feature productions include the Miramax release “Asunder,” “Christmas...Who Needs It,” created by and starring Grammy® Award winning singer Fred Hammond, the upcoming feature “Why Men Cheat,” and two new television series; the sitcom “Little Miss CEO,” and “Our World” which is a cross platform lifestyle and information series for Generation Z. He is developing a youth entertainment franchise that includes a series of movies, video games, soundtracks, streaming content, and graphic novels. Jones was the Head of Television and Home Entertainment for Bishop T.D. Jakes, and former General Manager for New Millennium Studios.

Marty is a Denison University graduate. He is a studio head, content distributor, production executive, film innovator, leader of corporate teams, and excels in diverse communities from nonprofits to mainstream and celebrity environments. His value to any venture is his keen insights to achieve successful results.



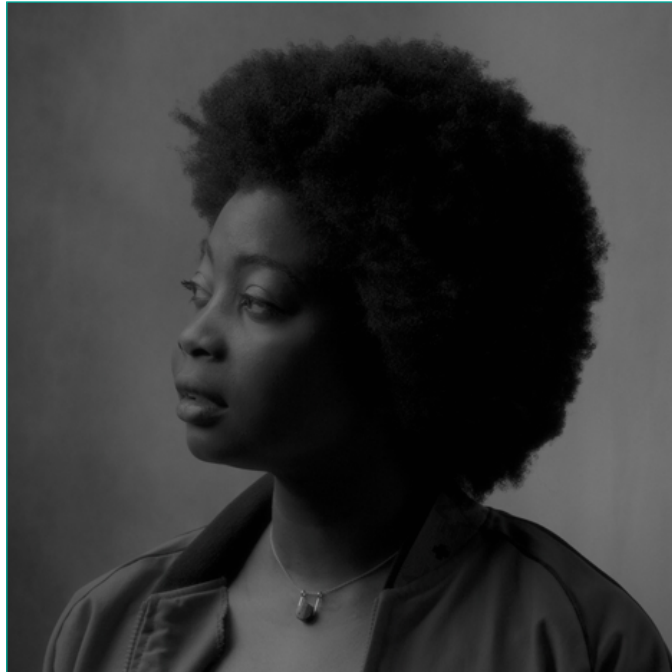
## TYRA CLARK

Tyra Clark is a businesswoman and independent producer who dedicates herself to serving others, and the craft of filmmaking. Tyra is a current Producer at Austin Public, the Producer and Program Director of The Austin Metro Drug-Free Coalition Youth Media Project, and Producer of the up and coming short film Catharsis: A Journey Through Anger. She's committed to using her accumulated knowledge and experiences in the film industry where it can make the highest impact.

**Fentanyl Short Film:** "Mother's Secret" <https://youtu.be/0OHmptlqpLk>

**48 Hour Film Project:** "The Dentist" [https://drive.google.com/file/d/IIQ--8ulFEXOm\\_x0NTnJU4e8xwxyjoT7\\_/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/IIQ--8ulFEXOm_x0NTnJU4e8xwxyjoT7_/view)

**Austin School of Film Blog:** <https://austinfilmsschool.org/blog/membermon-days/tyraclark>



## CHINWE OKORIE

Chinwe Okorie is a Nigerian-born writer, director, and editor in Austin, TX. At age six, she immigrated to the United States and watched her first film, Titanic. It was then that her love affair with cinema began. In college, she launched a student run TV station called Topper TV and received The Rising Star Award. Study Breaks magazine paid attention and featured Chinwe as their Next Big Thing in 2014. After college, Chinwe went on to write, direct, and edit short films including her most recent short film Lovebites. Visit [www.lovebitesthefilm.com](http://www.lovebitesthefilm.com) for more information.

**Recent Film:** [www.vimeo.com/chinweokorie/lovebites](http://www.vimeo.com/chinweokorie/lovebites) / password: bites

**Reel:** [www.vimeo.com/chinweokorie/myreel](http://www.vimeo.com/chinweokorie/myreel)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/chinwefilms](http://www.twitter.com/chinwefilms)

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/chinwefilms](http://www.instagram.com/chinwefilms)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/chinwefilms](http://www.facebook.com/chinwefilms)

**Look for Chinwe Okorie:** [YouTube](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Linkedin](#) | [Vimeo](#)





## TAMAR PRICE

Tamar is a creative producer based in Austin, Texas. Her narrative work includes the We Are: Short Film Series which premiered on Issa Rae Productions' YouTube in 2017, and Yirga which screened at SXSW 2019, Palm Springs Short Fest, Indy Shorts, and more. Aside from her 9 to 5 at notable alt-weekly The Austin Chronicle, she continues to collaborate with creators and community to bring diverse projects like Untapped and Open Chair to Austin and beyond.

**Web Series:** "We Are" <https://youtu.be/yAIPDtqMlwk>

**Short Film:** "Yirga" <https://vimeo.com/289605660> / Password: available upon request



## KEIRRA EWA

As a recent RTF Graduate, I find great honor in being a passionate content curator, a fast learner and someone who takes well to constructive criticism/direction. I would love to learn more about any open opportunities, that may continue coming your way.

**Reel:** <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bZEUhZ-YT-BgrCOFHnK6K-rt9EjoF3rZ/view>



## FUNMI OGUNRO

Funmi Ogunro is a Nigerian-American Lonestar Emmy nominated film producer and editor from Austin, Texas. Funmi most recently won a National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA) Award for her work on the national series American Graduate funded by the Corporation of Public Broadcasting and distributed on PBS. Funmi is currently working on a feature-length documentary about the history of Black Freedom communities that developed throughout Austin, Texas after the civil war in 1865.

Funmi Ogunro has over 10 years of experience producing and editing short and long format documentaries. She has a passion for crafting creative stories. Along with editing, she is also skilled in developing motion graphics. Her goal is to make media engaging and informative. Funmi's work spans across a multitude of media genres. She has produced and managed post-production projects from short and long format documentaries to web-series, promos, campaigns, reels and more.

Funmi's work has screened at SXSW, the Los Angeles Pan African Film Festival, and many more. Her online comedy web series, Nneka The Uber Driver, was an official selection of the Women of the Lens Film Festival in London, England. She is the creator of Art is Cool, a multi-service organization specializing in videography, and short and long format documentary films. In addition to producing, Funmi Ogunro served as the host of Juneteenth Jamboree, a PBS production dedicated to the discussion of Texas Black History.

**Portfolio:** <http://www.artiscool.co/video-production>

**Resume:** <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15mvoYi0MemFB5HXGZn3Akcosy3jMX2b0?usp=sharing>



## TOPE ELETU-ODIBO

Tope Eletu-Odibo is an Art Director based out of Austin Texas. She has worked on various short films and web series, such as Guess Who's Coming To Dinner (Naija Edition), "We Are" film series, Yirga, and Lovebites. With a focus on thematic detail and visual storytelling, her goal is to help directors bring their characters to life that goes beyond just what they say and do. She is always looking for opportunity to grow in her craft and seek out challenging stories.





## ASHA BYNUM

“After falling in love with film and film theory at Vanderbilt University, Asha moved to Austin, Texas. She shot her first experimental film, “Fever” which was selected for hypperrealfilmclub’s Too Hot To Hold zine and premiered at the 2018 Contrast Film Festival.

Asha premiered her second short “Wolf” at Babesfest 2019, a local festival supporting women and nonbinary artists. Currently, Asha is in post-production on a narrative short and works as a video editor at DigitalMarketer.”

**Video:** <https://vimeo.com/user27369567>



## ASHLEE HARRIS

Ashlee Harris has a voice and vision dedicated to spotlighting hard truths about American society. She uses comedic and Sci-fi undertones to create worlds out of metaphors that entertain and educate.

Harris began writing at 8 years old with a love for the horror genre. Over time, she transitioned her focus to stories about love and struggle. A 6-year Austin resident, she's toured the city as a spoken word artist performing at various venues and events. She also writes about Black businesses, entrepreneurs, events, and food for local publication, soulciti. She's independently produced a few of her short films, one of which was featured in SXSW for the 2018 Austin School of Film Student Showcase: The Cure for Monsters.

She's currently working on her first feature film and producing her Austin-based web series, "The Electrics."

See scripts to share upon request and you can learn about her produced work:

[The Cure for Monsters - full short film](https://youtu.be/I_NVnnF9mGk): [https://youtu.be/I\\_NVnnF9mGk](https://youtu.be/I_NVnnF9mGk)

[The Electrics - fundraising page](https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-electrics-web-series): <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-electrics-web-series>



## ALEX CHEW

As a black dork from Kentucky turned Texas filmmaker and teacher you could think of me, Alex Chew, as the unlikely child of Tobe Hooper and Ava Duvernay. Genre entertainment and social justice are my two passions. When I'm not teaching or serving as Executive Director of the Austin Youth Film Festival I write, direct, and produce short socially conscious genre films that screen at SXSW, Austin Film Festival, Austin Comedy Film Festival, Houston Black Film Festival, BossBabes ATX and more. My screenplays have been selected for the Austin Film Festival and finalists for the CBS Writers Mentorship, Sundance Features & Sundance Episodic Programs.

[Alex Chew Reel 2020](https://vimeo.com/404181224): <https://vimeo.com/404181224>



## BETH ARAYA

Bethiael Berhane Araya is an Eritrean&Ethiopian-American filmmaker and producer based in Texas. After interning for director Richard Linklater, she created and directed the short film series, *We Are*, which was picked up for distribution by Issa Rae Productions. Her latest short film, *Yirga*, had its world premiere at SXSW 2019 and she's currently penning her feature film debut.

**Website:** <https://www.bbaraya.com/>

**Web Series:** "We Are" <https://youtu.be/yAIPDtqMlwk>

**Short Film:** "Yirga" <https://vimeo.com/289605660> / Password: available upon request



## TIARA “TIA” WILLIAMS

The path to greatness for a woman of color in life, as well as entertainment, isn't always the easiest. Within the mind of Tiara “Tia” Williams her dreams aim to bring reality to both the silver screen and the male dominated entertainment industry. Born in Austin and raised in a small town right outside of the city of Houston, Tia followed in her mother's footsteps and moved back to the weird city as an adult. Soon after she began combining her true love for writing and passion for people of color and expanded her storytelling abilities with short stories and screenplays. In 2018 Tia made the decision to leave her position at a well-known tech company and make her dreams a reality. Since she has been featured in Austin Monthly Magazine, The Austin Chronicle, The Austin American-Statesman and many others. Her latest project “Gentrified” has garnished national attention and aims to capture the financial and emotional effects of gentrification through a thought-provoking dramatic narrative web series. As a new filmmaker Tia's goal is to use HER art to tell the stories that help not only entertain, but break down stereotypes and help shed lights on those that often go forgotten.

**Vimeo:** <https://vimeo.com/itstiawilliams>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Itstiawilliams>

**Website:** <https://www.Gentrifiedseries.com>





## AMIE DARBOE

Amie Darboe is a writer and independent producer who has been writing since she was seven years old. She is most passionate about telling stories that amplify the voices of marginalized groups, especially women of color. In addition to writing, she has produced and directed short films, plays, and sketches. A native of Providence, RI, she now lives in Austin, TX where she is an active member of the comedy and indie film communities. Her web series, 'Do Better' was produced and shot in Austin, Texas and aims to cultivate a bridge between Black and Asian communities.

**Website:** <https://dobetter.tv/>



M A R T I N J O N E S



Martin Jones is Studio Director with the Austin Film Society. Jones has produced feature films and is a 2x Emmy® Award nominated producer living in Austin.

(503) 475-5294 Mobile/Text

[martinjonesfilms@gmail.com](mailto:martinjonesfilms@gmail.com)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/martinjonesfilms/>

MARTIN JONES FILMS



<https://www.blackfilmgeniuses.com>

<https://www.stayblackmovie.com>