

HANDS UP

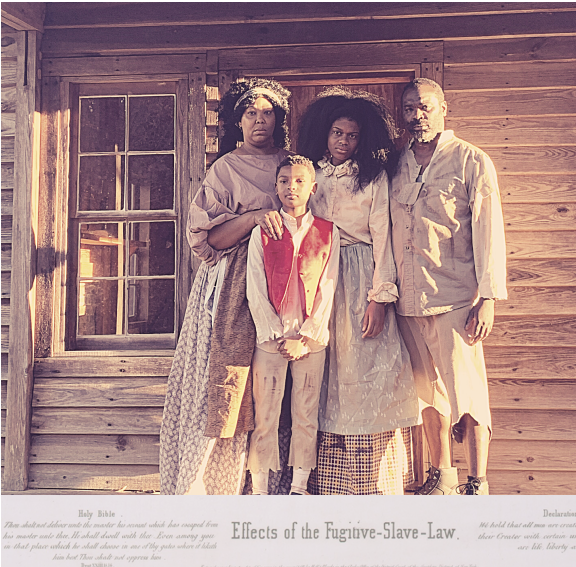


A Film By
Angela White

**PRESENTED
BY
SILVER LINING ENTERTAINMENT**

GENRE, LOGLINE, & SYNOPSIS

GENRE: Drama



LOGLINE:

In the pre-civil war era, a family attempts to escape from the horrors of oppression, that are still embedded in the DNA of America today.

SYNOPSIS:

In the heart of the 1855 Antebellum South, slavery is the business that fuels the engine of America. After Jessie Calhoun, a young boy, witnesses the brutal punishment of a family member who decided to escape the plantation, the Calhoun family must make a critical decision, decide if they want to stay and continue to face the everyday tyranny, or risk their lives in hopes of finding a better tomorrow. However, in this warped reality, the Calhoun family legacy is unable to escape the oppression, as, through centuries, the horrors experienced still haunt them.

“**Hands Up**” is a story of how the effects and trauma of slavery have impacted and infected America today.

TRAILER: <https://vimeo.com/443189503>

CAST & CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS



ALFRED LEWIS AS "JESSIE CALHOUN"

(African American, Male, 9) - Youngest Child of Josiah and Tilda Calhoun, bold, and courageous. Jessie realizes at a young age, that living as a slave, is not a life he cares to endure forever.

Alfred R. Lewis III is a fun and energetic ten-year-old 6th grader, who has always had a love for entertaining and performing in front of large groups, without hesitation. Alfred has performed in various film and theatrical productions such as: "The Urbans" (Episode 2), directed by Rasheed and Raheem Green, of Green Company Pictures; "Mr. and Mrs. Ellis," with director Alan Brooks, of AMB Productions; "Hands Up," directed by Angela White, of Silver Lining Entertainment; "SAFE," with Gray Studios, LA; "The ReRooting," written by Betty Norwood Chaney and directed by Brenda Porter of Impact Theater; "The Juneteenth Celebration," "Lured (Human Trafficking)," and "Urban Holiday Soup," with The Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, directed by Debi Barber; and "The Wiz Jr.," where he received best actor as "Tin Man" in a school theatrical ensemble. Alfred is represented by East Coast Talent Agency. Be sure to follow his journey on Instagram via @bookalfredlewis.



NAKIA DILLARD AS "JOSIAH CALHOUN"

(African American, Male, Late 30s) - Father of Josiah and Adele, strong, brave, and fearless. Josiah has reached a tipping point on the Calhoun Plantation and will no longer allow his family to be subjected to vile treatment.

Nakia Dillard is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has appeared as "Officer Lambert" in the critically acclaimed TV series "The Wire," which commenced his TV and film career. He has graced the big screen in "Law Abiding Citizen" alongside Jamie Foxx. He is also seen in "Night Catches Us" with Anthony Mackie, Kerry Washington, and other notable performers. You can catch him in his costar role on the CW's "Black Lightning" as "Terrence Long." Nakia is currently filming and starring in the film about the life of motivational speaker Les Brown.



TAMIKA JAMES AS "TILDA CALHOUN"

(African American, Female, Late 30s) - Mother of Josiah, and Adele, at times pessimistic, fearful, and timid. Tilda puts her worrisome ways aside for the pursuit of freedom with her family.

Tamika James has worked on several film, television, and theater productions. You may have seen her on "Rickey Smiley For Real," "Murder Chose Me," or any number of comedy stages in the Atlanta area. Tamika currently trains at Premier Actors Network in Atlanta. Tamika previously trained in ballet and modern jazz with dance master Donna Hammond Phelps in Ewing, NJ, and hip hop at Dance 411 in Atlanta. Tamika also speaks Spanish. A native of New York, Tamika currently resides in Stone Mountain, Ga.



DHAKIRAH DARRELL AS "ADELE CALHOUN"

(African American, Female, 16) - Daughter of Josiah and Tilda, older sister of Jessie, rebellious, outspoken, and impulsive. Adele becomes the catalyst of the Calhoun families pursuit for freedom.

Dhakirah Darrell is a multitalented performer with a strong passion for life and performing arts. She competed in the August Wilson Monologue Competition, eventually ranking as a semi-finalist. Within her last year of high school, Dhakirah auditioned and became a member of the Alliance Theatre's Teen Ensemble (2015/16). After graduating, she enrolled in courses at Georgia State University, majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies with a Theatre concentration. Her most recent theatrical credits include "Topia: U or Dys," an Alliance Theatre Production, "Runaways: The Musical," "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," "For Colored Girls," and "A Raisin in the Sun." She has garnered more than 11 Film and Television credits. She has also secured three producer credits (two in film, one in theatre).

CAST & CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS



TODD WILSON AS "JOHN-WAYNE CALHOUN"

(Caucasian, Male, 50s) - Owner and Masa of the Calhoun plantation is cocky, arrogant, and very unforgiving. John-Wayne rules his plantation with an iron fist and will enforce punishment to the unfortunate souls that violate his rules.

Todd Wilson is a veteran actor, director, writer, and musician. Most recently, he appeared as Cardinal Silj in the EWTN Production of "Real People, the story of Padre Pio." He is best known for his role in "42" as Reporter 4, where he worked with Chadwick Boseman, Harrison Ford, and Alan Tudyk. He has appeared in award-winning short films and 34 stage productions and has directed 5 plays. In his spare time, he enjoys backpacking, gardening, and photography.



JEFF HOOVER AS "OBIDAH HAYNES"

(Caucasian, Male, 40s) - Overseer of the Calhoun Plantation, brutal, unforgiving, and extreme. Obidah strikes fear into the heart of the slaves on the plantation and his hyper violent ways of handling runaways causes those to think twice about committing such an act.

Jeff Hoover is an independent film actor represented by PureFlare Talent Agency in Atlanta. He spent 10 years doing independent film in Nebraska before moving to Atlanta to pursue acting full-time in 2018. He has starred in several short and feature films, as well as the web series "Stuck," where he played the lead character of Finnegan Gannon for two seasons. "Hands Up" is Jeff's first major film credit in Atlanta, playing the role of the sinister Obidiah. Outside of film, Jeff competes as a professional, lifetime-natural bodybuilder.



YARC LEWINSON AS "LEROY CALHOUN"

(African American, Male, 40s) House slave of the Calhoun Plantation, subservient, docile, and the boot-licking of John-Wayne, who does everything in his power to keep the field slaves in line, all to please his master.

Yarc Lewinson is a New York trained actor with over 50 film, tv, and theater credits. Yarc Lewinson has worked with director Spike Lee and actors Omari Hardwick, Derek Luke, and Laz Alonzo. Yarc is the oldest of four children. He enjoys playing basketball and riding his bicycle in his free time. Yarc's latest TV project was "Wu-Tang the Saga," which aired on HULU.



VICTORIA SPENCER SMITH AS "MARY SANDERS"

(Caucasian, Female, 50s) Quaker, Humble, meek, and resourceful. Mary is very much aware of the tyranny slavery has to offer, and she has made it her personal duty to aid and abet runaway slaves and help them get to freedom.

Victoria Spencer Smith is an American actress and performance artist best known for her role in "Sistas: TV Series" (2020) and "Truth Or Dare" (2018). She attended The University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, holds an undergraduate degree in Education, and a Masters certificate in Theatre & Performance from UNE Australia. She pursued her love of acting at The Joanne Baron / DW Brown Meisner Studio in Santa Monica, California, where she discovered her affinity for character work. Her love of the craft has included working with the late Burt Reynolds on the hit family classic "Hamlet & Hutch," and studying with Lisina & John Stoneburner in their masters group at The Company Acting Studio.

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

ANGELA WHITE



Whereas many influencers and icons in Hollywood seek to gain a greater following nationwide, her purpose is so much bigger. For film producer, author and motivational speaker, Angela White, it's not about the lights and cameras. It's about the legacy she will leave to her heirs and those who will come behind her in the entertainment industry. Featured on Fox News, Sirius XM Radio, TBN, and ABC News, to name a few, Angela has served as a trailblazer and mentor for thousands in the media and entertainment world—positioning them to better understand show business and, ultimately, earn more income.

Although Angela holds both a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Delaware, and a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from Rutgers University, she chose the road less traveled. Even after obtaining a Juris Doctorate degree from the New York Law School, instead of becoming the go-to lawyer, she became the go-to manager for comedians and comedic actors, such as JB Smoove, in Hollywood. However, it's her professional and educational background that positions her to translate the entertainment industry in a practical, sensible way—benefitting her clientele firsthand.

Her jumpstart to producing and managing comedy shows led her to become the series creator and executive producer of The Comedy Underground Series, which was one of the first original comedy stand-up shows from RLJ Entertainment (the company owned by BET founder Bob Johnson and AMC Networks), now known as the Urban Movie Channel.

In addition to founding Silver Lining Entertainment, a family-owned multimedia entertainment company based in Los Angeles, California, Angela also founded Backstage Pass to the Movie Industry, an educational platform for those who wish to gain more knowledge in arts, entertainment, and media. Most recently, she launched Dreamers with Purpose, a non-profit organization that assists people of color, women, and those who are financially disadvantaged with dream and purpose fulfillment. Having been poured into professionally and personally by industry professionals and leaders, Angela is intentional about paying it forward in her day-to-day work.

As the first African American woman to produce and own a production company that released a theatrically faith-based film, entitled A Question of Faith, featuring Kim Fields and Richard T. Jones, Angela continues to open doors of opportunity for people of all backgrounds and walks of life through her work. Transitioning from talent management to production, Angela serves as a member of the Producer's Guild of America and her films have showcased some of today's top Hollywood talent, including 4Play, featuring Tiffany Haddish; The Last Letter, starring Omari Hardwick; The Sin Seer, starring Isaiah Washington and Salli Richardson; and My Favorite Five, starring Brian White and Jay Ellis, among others. Her work can also be seen on the TV series, Pump, which features Ray J and Michael Jai White and the TV series, Laugh Tonight with Damon Williams that premiered on UrbanFlix TV in 2020—further positioning Angela as a force to be reckoned with onscreen and offscreen. On the heels of making other's dreams come true, Angela has now taken a leap of faith by entering the world of screenplay writing and directing with her directorial debut Transgress, and Hands Up. As she further explores the world of writing and directing, Angela is ecstatic about crafting new multi-cultural stories and leaving an impact on this nation that cannot be erased.

HANDS UP

IMDb

www.imdb.me/angelawhite

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CREATIVE TEAM

STORY BY

SAMMIE MAYTI



Sammie Mayti, a future honors / AP high school graduate from Calabasas High School, has been in a myriad of productions at his school, including CHICAGO (as Ensemble), PUFFS (as Oliver), SHREK (as Donkey), and SHE KILLS MONSTERS (as Orcus). Sammie is also incredibly involved in social justice, being asked to participate in a panel for race relations in Calabasas with the mayor and several district officials. He has multiple short films under his belt and is an aspiring actor.

IMDb

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm10927837/?ref=tt_ov_wr

WRITTEN BY

VINCENT LAMOTTE



Vinnie LaMotte has over 17 years of experience in the film industry. After spending much of his career working with the likes of Oprah Winfrey, The Kardashians, Tyler Perry, among others, Vinnie is now branching off to do independent projects through his entertainment company Sankofa One.

IMDb

https://www.imdb.com/name/nm10471208/?ref=ttfc_fc_wr1

HANDS UP

MEET OUR PRODUCERS



BRITTANY MAYTI, PRODUCER

Brittany Mayti got her first taste of the theater at age 11 in the stage play "Ultimus Veneficus" at the legendary Cleveland Playhouse. While she attended Kent State University, she participated in student productions in the African Community Theatre under the direction of Dr. Fran Dorsey.

She has been featured in several television and film productions. Mayti was nominated for Best Actress for the 2015 MPAH Haiti Movie Awards for her starring role in the film "The Heartbreaker's Revenge", which premiered in Haiti. She was also nominated as Best Actress in leading role Diaspora film for the Nollywood & African Film Critics' Awards (NAFCA), which is also widely referred to as the "African Oscars."

Mayti obtained her MBA with a concentration in Marketing. She has also had the opportunity to learn the business from behind the camera. Mayti started out as a Production Assistant and has worked as a Production Coordinator, Production Manager, and is now a Producer.

Mayti has taken her on-camera, and behind the camera, experience to become a content creator and has worked with several brands. She's also had the opportunity to utilize her educational experience in Marketing to market herself as a social media influencer. Although she's not keen on the term, she believes branding yourself as a performer is almost necessary now in the entertainment industry. You can currently follow Brittany on all social media platforms @brittanymayti. Mayti is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



www.imdb.me/brittanymayti



ERROL SADLER, PRODUCER

Producer **Errol Sadler** is the founder of Supremacy Films, an Atlanta-based production company. He is becoming one of the most sought-after producers in the Atlanta's Film Industry with more than 15 successfully completed films under his belt.

He made his Producer debut with "Eros," a short dramatic thriller that deals with the repercussions of Love, Lies, and deception. He partnered with Last Looks Inc to produce four other short films, "Up In Smoke," "No Crime," "Letters to a Father," and "Prognosis," which have all gone on to win several awards such as Best Short at Bronze Lens Film Festival.

After scaling up to feature-length films, he worked with Symmetry Entertainment and C. Clear Cinema to Produce "Echo At 11 Oak Drive", a feature-length film that tells three stories that transpire under the same roof over three eras of time. He followed up with his sophomore project, "Curveball," which starred Rockmond Dunbar and Lynn Whitfield and was acquired by UMC. Errol also worked with Reel One Entertainment to Produce, "BlackHats" a cyber-thriller starring Doris Morgado.

His latest project, "Love By Chance," was quickly acquired and distributed internationally, followed by "His, Hers, and The Truth," starring Brad James, Dorien Wilson, and Cocoa Brown, a romantic comedy that was acquired at the American Black Film Festival. Sadler is also a member of the Producers Guild of America.



www.imdb.me/errolsadler

MEET OUR CO-PRODUCERS



ALAN BROOKS, CO-PRODUCER

Alan M. Brooks is a 2011 graduate of Claflin University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Mass Communications degree. It was after the completion of his senior project entitled "Struggles", that he knew that film was what he wanted to pursue for the rest of his life. Before graduating, Alan entered his film into the Claflin University Great Work by Blacks student competition, where he was awarded for his work.

After graduation, Alan wanted to further his knowledge in film and television, so he applied to the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), where he would obtain a Master of Fine Arts in Film and Television degree in the spring of 2015. During his matriculation at SCAD, Alan entered the 100 Words Film Festival where his film "Peer Pressure" won the award for Best Student Film. Additionally, in 2016 his film "Wounded" starring the late Tommy Ford from the hit show "Martin" won the Audience Choice Award at the South Carolina Underground Film Festival and received rave reviews.

Alan has gone on to direct over 20 short films, 2 feature-length films, over 10 music videos for artist such as (JD McCrary from Disney's "The Lion King", Silento', Joshua Rogers from BET's "Sunday's Best," and Tray Chaney from HBO's "The Wire"/Bounce TV's "Saints and Sinners") to name a few. Alan has also directed 5 commercials; one in which is a Chick-fil-A commercial where he was awarded a Telly Award in Directing, and received an Honorable Mention in the Southeast EMMY'S "Excellence in My Market Awards." In 2019 Alan's short film "The Portrait" was selected to premiere on Magic Johnson's National Television Network ASPIRE TV during their Urban Indie Block, and his short film "Wrong House" was selected to premiere on Sean "P. Diddy" Combs' National Television Network REVOLT TV during a special 2-hour Hip Hop Halloween episode of "Short & Fresh."



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WENDEE MILLER, CO-PRODUCER

Wendee Miller is an Actress from the Cayman Islands, which is located in the Caribbean. She has been known for her 20+ years of local contribution and artistic work. Performing arts has always been her greatest love and passion, from performing in local productions and overseas competitions representing her country in singing, acting, and dance. She believes that the arts are where her gifts are, and she wants to showcase her talent to the world. Her foundation is in theatre, but she has now transitioned into Movie and Television.

She is currently active in working on local and overseas productions when opportunities arise. She recently was in a film called "Room 9" with horror stars Kane Hodder, known for Jason Voorhees on "Friday the 13th," and Steven Nappe, known for Bijhead on "Death House." She is Co-Producer also of the film "Hands Up" Directed by Ms. Angela White. She recently wrote, produced, directed, and edited her first short film called "Secrets" in the Cayman Islands, which has been submitted and selected in Film Festivals around the world.



www.imdb.me/wendeemiller

HANDS UP

Confidential Silver Lining Entertainment, LLC

STILLS

YESTERDAY



TODAY



HANDS UP

BEHIND THE SCENES



HANDS UP

Confidential Silver Lining Entertainment, LLC

ANECDOTES

"**Hands Up**" was shot in Atlanta, Georgia, on an actual plantation to replicate 1855. All of the cotton field footage was shot in Houston, Texas, during the height of that industry season.

The short film took three months to develop and prepare for production. The script process took a month as a young sixteen-year-old, Sammie Mayti, had the brilliant idea of mixing two time periods, and then the short film was flushed out by Angela White and written by Vincent Lamotte.

The casting process took two months to find the right actors, and securing the key location was a challenge, as many plantations were not keen on us shooting this project. With a lot of perseverance and hard work, we found the perfect location, and the short film was born. We had over thirty background actors, eight principal cast members, and thirty-five crew members.

The project was definitely challenging to shoot, especially a period piece, but we all worked hard to make it happen!

FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS



HANDS UP

Confidential Silver Lining Entertainment, LLC

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COMPANY:

Silver Lining Entertainment (“SLE”) is an independent production company based in Los Angeles, California. Established in 1997 in New Jersey by founder Angela White, the Company’s mission is to develop independent television and film projects with a multi-cultural perspective, from inception to completion, worldwide. SLE’s current focus is on forging strategic relationships with other production companies, writers, directors, talent, and producers to create, develop, produce and distribute compelling stories with core family values to targeted audiences throughout the global marketplace.

