



LENA WAITHE

Lena Waithe is an American screenwriter, producer, and actress. She is known for co-writing and acting in the Netflix comedy-drama series *Master of None*. Waithe made history becoming the first African-American woman to win the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series in 2017.



JANELLE MONAE

Janelle Monáe Robinson is an American singer, songwriter, actress, and producer. She is signed to Atlantic Records, as well as her own imprint, the Wondaland Arts Society. From Monae: "What I want is for people who feel oppressed or feel like the 'other' to connect with the music and to feel like, 'She represents who I am.'"



ROXANE GAY

Roxane Gay is an American writer, professor, editor, and commentator. She is the author of The New York Times best-selling essay collection *Bad Feminist*, as well as the short story collection *Ayiti*, the novel *An Untamed State*, the short story collection *Difficult Women*, and the memoir, *Hunger*. In *Hunger*, Gay discusses her experience with weight, body image, and building a positive relationship with food, particularly following her experience as a childhood victim of sexual violence.



KIMBERLY BRYANT

Kimberly Bryant is an African American electrical engineer who worked in the biotechnology field at Genentech, Novartis Vaccines, Diagnostics, and Merck. In 2011, Bryant founded Black Girls Code, a training course that teaches basic programming concepts to black girls who are underrepresented in technology careers. Bryant has been listed as one of the "25 Most Influential African-Americans In Technology" by Business Insider.



CHILDISH GAMBINO

Donald McKinley Glover Jr. is an American actor, comedian, writer, producer, director, rapper, singer, songwriter, and DJ. In 2017, Glover was included on the annual Time 100 list of the most influential people in the world. He performs music under the stage name Childish Gambino. He recently made history becoming the first artist to win Record of the Year and Song of the Year for a hip-hop song, "This Is America."



MICHAEL B. JORDAN

Michael Bakari Jordan is an American actor. He is known for his film roles as shooting victim Oscar Grant in the drama Fruitvale Station, boxer Adonis Creed in the Rocky sequel film Creed and main antagonist Erik Killmonger in Black Panther, all three of which were directed by Ryan Coogler. Jordan's new company, Outlier Society Productions, is putting out into the world. "Hollywood, Jordan says, is getting better for creators of color, "because we're starting to realize our worth more and what we bring to the table."



DANIELLE BROOKS

Danielle Brooks is an American actress and singer. She is best known for her role as Tasha "Taystee" Jefferson on the Netflix original series *Orange Is the New Black*. She received a Tony Award nomination for her portrayal of Sofia in the 2015 Broadway production of *The Color Purple*. Everything about Danielle Brooks is unapologetic. From her powerful political points on screen and online to her size-inclusive fashion collaborations, she's letting the world know she's here to stay.



LEBRON JAMES

LeBron Raymone James Sr. is an American professional basketball player for the Los Angeles Lakers of the National Basketball Association. He is often considered the best basketball player in the world and regarded by some as the greatest player of all time. As of June 2018, he has been named to 14 All-NBA teams, which is tied for the fourth-most in league history, and 12 All-NBA first teams, which is an NBA record.



KENDRICK LAMAR

Kendrick Lamar Duckworth is an American rapper, songwriter, and record producer. He is regarded as one of the most skillful and successful hip hop artists of his generation. In 2018, *Damn* became the first non-classical and non-jazz album to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Music. He seamlessly raises social issues and paints a picture while entertaining and keeping the listener's ear.



TA-NEHISI COATES

Ta-Nehisi Paul Coates is an American author, journalist and comic book writer. Coates gained a wide readership during his time as national correspondent at The Atlantic, where he wrote about cultural, social and political issues, particularly regarding African Americans and white supremacy. Coates addresses complex and challenging issues such as racial identity, systemic racial bias, and urban policing.