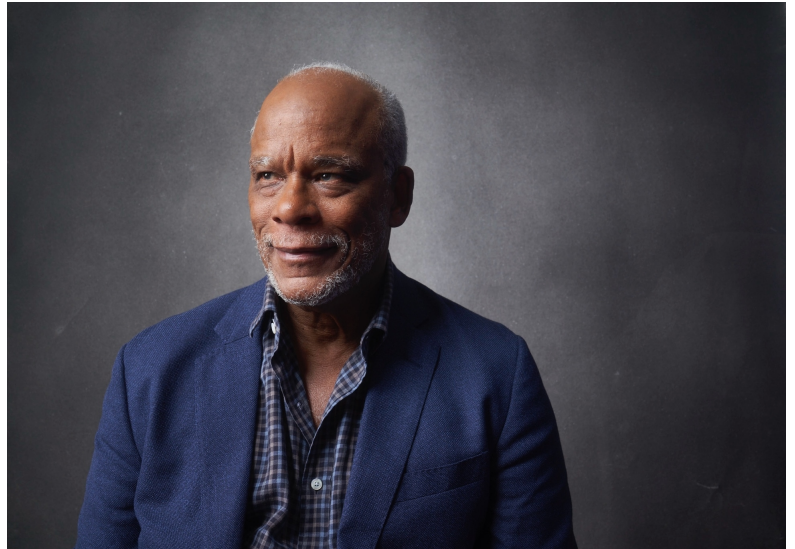


STANLEY NELSON

BECOMING
THURGOOD
—
AMERICA'S SOCIAL ARCHITECT



Stanley Nelson (Executive Producer) is today's leading documentarian of the African American experience. His films combine compelling narratives with rich historical detail to shine new light on the under-explored American past. Awards received over the course of his career include a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship, five Primetime Emmy® Awards, and lifetime achievement awards from the Emmys and IDA. In 2013, Nelson received the National Medal in the Humanities from President Obama. In 2019, *Miles Davis: Birth of the Cool* was nominated by the Grammys for Best Music Film and won two Emmy® Awards at the 42nd Annual News and Documentary Emmy Awards.



Nelson's 2021 documentary *Attica*, for SHOWTIME Documentary Films, was nominated for Best Documentary Feature at the 94th Academy Awards® and earned him the DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Documentary. Also in 2021, Nelson directed the feature film *Crack: Cocaine, Corruption & Conspiracy* for Netflix, a 2022 duPont-Columbia Awards Finalist, and *Tulsa Burning: The 1921 Race Massacre*, with co-director Marco Williams, for the HISTORY Channel, which was nominated for three Primetime Emmy® Awards. Nelson also executive produced *After Jackie* for the HISTORY Channel in 2022 about the generation of Black baseball players who came after Jackie Robinson. In 2022 Nelson co-directed *Sound of the Police* with Valerie Scoon, which was produced with ABC News Studios and is now streaming on Hulu. Nelson's latest film *We Want the Funk!* co-directed with Nicole London premiered on PBS's *Independent Lens* in April 2025 and is now available to stream on PBS platforms.

In 2000, Nelson and his wife, Marcia Smith, co-founded Firelight Media, a non-profit organization that provides mentorship, funding, and artist development opportunities to emerging documentary filmmakers of color. In 2008, Nelson and Smith co-founded Firelight Films, a production company focused on making documentary films and developing strategies, partnerships, and materials to reach and engage diverse audiences.