

We Grown Now

We Grown Now is a 2023 American <u>drama</u> film, written and directed by <u>Minhal Baig</u>, and produced by Joe Pirro and Baig. It stars Blake Cameron James, Gian Knight Ramirez, <u>S. Epatha Merkerson</u>, Avery Holliday, Ora Jones, <u>Lil Rel Howery</u> and Jurnee Smollett.

It had its world premiere at the 2023 Toronto International Film Festival on September 8, 2023 and will be released in a limited theatrical release in the United States on April 19, 2024, by Sony Pictures Classics and Stage 6 Films.

Premise

Best friends Malik and Eric come of age in the <u>Cabrini-Green</u> housing complex in the early 1990s.

Cast

- Blake Cameron James as Malik
- Gian Knight Ramirez as Eric
- S. Epatha Merkerson as Anita
- Avery Holliday as Amber
- Ora Jones
- Lil Rel Howery as Jason
- Jurnee Smollett as Dolores
- Giovani Chambers as Slug

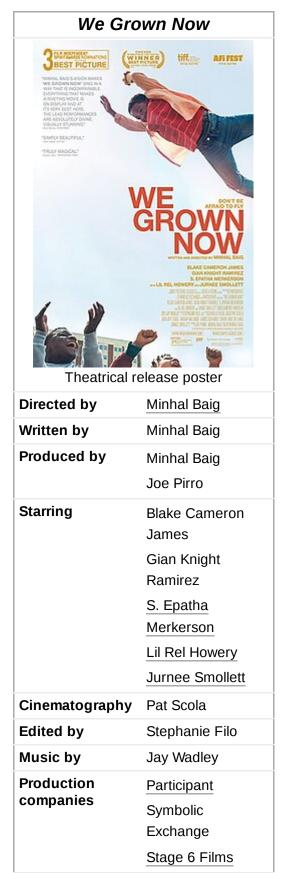
Production

In May 2022, it was announced <u>Minhal Baig</u> would write and direct the film, with <u>principal photography</u> commencing in and around Chicago. [3]

Release

The film had its world premiere at the <u>2023 Toronto International Film Festival</u> on September 8, <u>2023.^[4] On October 4</u>, <u>2023</u>, <u>Sony Pictures Classics</u> acquired distribution rights to the film, which is scheduled to be released in a limited theatrical release in the United States on April 19, 2024.^{[5][6]}

Critical reception



On Rotten Tomatoes, *We Grown Now* has a score of 93% based on reviews from 67 critics, with an average rating of 7.8/10. The website's critics consensus reads, "Casting grim environs in a nostalgic glow, *We Grown Now* is a coming-of-age story whose tinges of fantasy only make it feel more honest." On Metacritic, the film holds a weighted average score of 76 out of 100 based on 21 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews". [8]

Distributed by	Sony Pictures Classics Stage 6 Films
Release dates	September 8, 2023 (TIFF) April 19, 2024 (United States)
Running time	93 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English
Box office	\$282,615 ^{[1][2]}

Awards

At TIFF, the film was the winner of the <u>Changemaker Award</u>. The film also won the Audience Choice Award for Best U.S. Feature at the Chicago International Film Festival. [10]

References

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- 2. "We Grown Now" (https://www.boxofficemojo.com/release/rl207781889/weekend/). Box Office Mojo. Retrieved May 17, 2024.
- 3. "Sundance Vet and Netflix Writer Minhal Baig to Direct 'We Grown Now' in Chicago" (https://screenmag.com/sundance-vet-and-netflix-writer-minhal-baig-to-direct-we-grow-now-in-chicago/). Screen. May 3, 2022. Retrieved August 22, 2023.
- 4. D'Alessandro, Anthony (August 10, 2023). <u>"TIFF Unveils World Premieres For Jenna Ortega Pic 'Finestkind'</u>, Awkwafina & Sandra Oh Comedy 'Quiz Lady'; Announces Centerpiece Program" (https://deadline.com/2023/08/tiff-jenna-ortega-awkwafina-centerpiece-finestkind-quiz-lady-1235459641/). *Deadline Hollywood*. Retrieved August 22, 2023.
- 5. D'Alessandro, Anthony (October 4, 2023). <u>"Sony Pictures Classics Picks Up Minhal Baig's TIFF Premiere 'We Grown Now' " (https://deadline.com/2023/10/sony-pictures-classics-we-grown-now-1235563804/)</u>. *Deadline Hollywood*. Retrieved October 4, 2023.
- 6. Bergeson, Samantha (January 31, 2024). "'We Grown Now' Trailer: Jurnee Smollett and Lil Rel Howery Star in the Acclaimed Spirit-Nominated Indie" (https://www.indiewire.com/news/breaking-news/we-grown-now-trailer-minhal-baig-captures-chicago-projects-1234949830/). IndieWire. Retrieved January 31, 2024.
- 7. "We Grown Now" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/we_grown_now). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved May 19, 2024.
- 8. "We Grown Now" (https://www.metacritic.com/movie/we-grown-now/). *Metacritic*. Fandom, Inc. Retrieved May 19, 2024.
- 9. Christian Zilko, "American Fiction' Wins People's Choice Award at 2023 TIFF (Complete Winners List)" (https://www.indiewire.com/news/festivals/2023-toronto-international-film-festi val-full-winners-list-1234906438/). *IndieWire*, September 17, 2023.

10. Chicago International Film Festival, <u>"59th Festival Award Winners (https://www.chicagofilmfestival.com/festival/award-winners/)</u>. *Chicago International Film Festival*, October 25, 2023.

External links

■ We Grown Now (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt28639049/) at IMDb

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