

***Nickel Boys*** is an upcoming American historical drama film based on the 2019 novel *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead. It was directed by RaMell Ross, who co-wrote the screenplay with Joslyn Barnes, and stars Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor, Ethan Herisse, Fred Hechinger, Hamish Linklater, Brandon Wilson, and Daveed Diggs.

It is scheduled for a limited theatrical release on October 25, 2024, by Amazon MGM Studios.

## Premise

*Nickel Boys* is based on the historic reform school in 1960s Florida called the Dozier School for Boys, which was notorious for abusive treatment of students. It explores the story of Elwood Curtis, a young African-American boy who is sent to the Nickel Academy, a fictional version of the Dozier School, after he is falsely accused of a crime. While there, he meets a boy named Turner, and the two form a close friendship as they try to survive the horrors of the school and its corrupt administrators.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Cast

- Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor
- Ethan Herisse
- Fred Hechinger
- Hamish Linklater
- Brandon Wilson
- Daveed Diggs

## Production

The adaptation of Colson Whitehead's 2019 novel, *The Nickel Boys*, into a feature film was reported in October 2020. RaMell Ross signed on to direct, making it his narrative feature directorial debut. Joslyn Barnes co-wrote and produced and Whitehead served as executive producer. Aunjanue Ellis, Ethan Herisse, Fred Hechinger, Hamish Linklater, and Brandon Wilson were cast in the film.<sup>[3]</sup>

<i><b>Nickel Boys</b></i>	
<b>Directed by</b>	<u>RaMell Ross</u>
<b>Screenplay by</b>	<u>RaMell Ross</u> <div><u>Joslyn Barnes</u><sup>[1]</sup></div>
<b>Based on</b>	<i>The Nickel Boys</i> by <u>Colson Whitehead</u>
<b>Produced by</b>	<u>Joslyn Barnes</u> <div><u>Dede Gardner</u><u>Jeremy Kleiner</u><u>David Levine</u></div>
<b>Starring</b>	<u>Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor</u> <div><u>Ethan Herisse</u><u>Fred Hechinger</u><u>Hamish Linklater</u><u>Brandon Wilson</u><u>Daveed Diggs</u></div>
<b>Cinematography</b>	<u>Jomo Fray</u>
<b>Edited by</b>	<u>Nicholas Monsour</u>
<b>Production companies</b>	<u>Orion Pictures</u> <div><u>Plan B</u><u>Entertainment</u><u>Louverture Films</u><u>Anonymous Content</u></div>
<b>Distributed by</b>	<u>Amazon MGM Studios</u>
<b>Release date</b>	October 25, 2024
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Budget</b>	\$23.2 million <sup>[2]</sup>

With an estimated production budget (before tax incentives) of \$23 million, principal photography took place from October to December 2022.<sup>[2][4]</sup> Filming took place in Louisiana in LaPlace, New Orleans, Hammond and Ponchatoula. The office building of the Lafourche Parish District Attorney was used as a filming location in Thibodaux in early December.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Release

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The film is scheduled for a limited theatrical release on October 25, 2024. On the day of its release date announcement, it was confirmed that the title was changed to simply *Nickel Boys*.<sup>[6]</sup>

## References

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1. "*Nickel Boys*" (<https://directories.wga.org/project/1237328/nickel-boys>). *Writers Guild of America West*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230426021909/https://directories.wga.org/project/1237328/nickel-boys>) from the original on April 26, 2023. Retrieved April 26, 2023.
2. "Fastlane NextGen: Initial Certification Search" (<https://fastlaneng.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com/public/search/ent>) (Type "Nickel Boys" in the search box). *Louisiana Economic Development*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20200615095911/https://fastlaneng.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com/public/search/ent>) from the original on June 15, 2020. Retrieved June 3, 2023.
3. Grobar, Matt (October 27, 2022). "Aunjanue Ellis & Four Others Set For RaMell Ross' Colson Whitehead Adaptation *The Nickel Boys* For MGM's Orion; Plan B, Anonymous Producing" (<https://deadline.com/2022/10/aunjanue-ellis-four-others-set-for-ramell-ross-colson-whitehead-adaptation-the-nickel-boys-for-mgms-orion-plan-b-anonymous-producing-1235156604/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230101014319/https://deadline.com/2022/10/aunjanue-ellis-four-others-set-for-ramell-ross-colson-whitehead-adaptation-the-nickel-boys-for-mgms-orion-plan-b-anonymous-producing-1235156604/>) from the original on January 1, 2023. Retrieved January 1, 2023.
4. "Casting call announced for *Nickel Boys*; filming planned for LaPlace" (<https://www.lobservateur.com/2022/09/16/casting-call-announced-for-nickel-boys-filming-planned-for-laplace/>). *L'Observateur*. September 16, 2022. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230101015337/https://www.lobservateur.com/2022/09/16/casting-call-announced-for-nickel-boys-filming-planned-for-laplace/>) from the original on January 1, 2023. Retrieved January 1, 2023.
5. Campo, Colin (December 5, 2022). "Hollywood comes to Thibodaux: Filming underway for *The Nickel Boys*" (<https://www.dailycomet.com/story/entertainment/movies/2022/12/06/filming-underway-in-thibodaux-for-hollywood-movie-the-nickel-boys/69703688007/>). *The Daily Comet*. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230101021438/https://www.dailycomet.com/story/entertainment/movies/2022/12/06/filming-underway-in-thibodaux-for-hollywood-movie-the-nickel-boys/69703688007/>) from the original on January 1, 2023. Retrieved January 1, 2023.
6. D'Alessandro, Anthony (April 29, 2024). "Amazon MGM Studios & Orion Set Fall Release For Feature Take Of Pulitzer Prize Winning Novel 'Nickel Boys'" (<https://deadline.com/2024/04/amazon-mgm-studios-nickel-boys-release-date-1235899202/>). *Deadline Hollywood*. Retrieved April 29, 2024.

## External links

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- *Nickel Boys* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt23055660/>) at IMDb

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