

# CHICAGO 1919

## A Seanne N. Murray film directed by Julie Dash

WGA #190322

### Project Overview

CHICAGO 1919 is a powerful historical drama that illuminates one of America's most violent and overlooked racial conflicts. Over eight harrowing days, two teenage brothers fight to survive the chaos of the 1919 Chicago race riots, grappling with systemic racism, misinformation, and the struggle for justice. The film combines the raw intensity of Gangs of New York with the emotional depth of West Side Story, creating an urgent and relevant narrative that resonates deeply with today's audience. This isn't just a movie—it's a cultural movement for justice, truth, and understanding.

### Why This Story Matters

#### Timely Relevance

The story of Chicago 1919 mirrors contemporary struggles for racial equality and social justice, offering powerful parallels to current events and ongoing societal challenges.

#### Educational Impact

Creates a vital platform for understanding the deep roots of systemic racism while fostering meaningful conversations about change and reconciliation.

#### Emotional Resonance

A deeply human story of family, survival, and resilience during a pivotal moment in American history that continues to shape our present.

### Vision and Impact Goals

CHICAGO 1919 aims to:

- Bridge historical injustices with today's challenges
- Inspire audiences to reflect, engage, and act
- Create a lasting educational resource for schools and institutions
- Generate meaningful dialogue about racial justice and reconciliation
- Establish a new benchmark for historical storytelling in cinema

### Key Themes

#### Systemic Inequality

Exposing the deep roots of racial injustice and its enduring impact on American society

## **Immigration and Identity**

Exploring how racial and immigration tensions shape marginalized communities' struggles for belonging

## **Misinformation**

Examining the role of distorted narratives in fueling division and violence

## **Resilience**

Celebrating a family's fight to survive amid violence and upheaval while maintaining their dignity and hope

## **World-Class Creative Team**

### **Director**

Julie Dash | Groundbreaking filmmaker (Daughters of the Dust)

### **Creator/Writer**

Seanne N. Murray, Esq. | Visionary storyteller and social impact leader

### **Co-Writers**

Greg Lawson & Robb Edward Morris

### **Key Cast**

- Rosanna Arquette
- Keith David
- Hawthorne James

## **Market Analysis & Opportunity**

**Production Budget:** \$15 million (to be filmed in Chicago)

### **Comparable Films Performance:**

- Gangs of New York: \$100M budget | \$77.8M domestic box office
- West Side Story: \$100M budget | \$76.2M domestic box office
- Rosewood: \$31M budget | \$13.1M domestic box office
- Stand By Me: \$8M budget | \$52.3M domestic box office

## **Distribution Strategy**

### **Theatrical Release**

- Initial limited release in key markets
- Strategic expansion based on critical response and word-of-mouth
- Festival circuit promotion

- Awards season positioning

### **Educational & Impact**

- Partnerships with educational institutions
- Community screening programs
- Social justice organization collaborations
- Historical society partnerships (i.e. DuSable Museum confirmed)

### **Investment Opportunity**

CHICAGO 1919 offers a unique opportunity to join a mission-driven project that balances social impact with commercial viability. Your investment supports:

### **Production Excellence**

- High-quality historical production design
- Top-tier creative talent
- Premium cinematography

### **Contact Us**

To learn more or discuss funding opportunities, contact:

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