

# Ayana Saunders

## Filmmaker

5254 Pooks Hill RD  
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### Skills

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Avid Media Composer, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premiere, Filemaker Pro, Final Draft, and Microsoft Office. Proficient with both Windows and Mac.

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### Experience

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**Director** Royal Arts Academy, Nigeria

August 2015- September 2015

Directed Nollywood feature film ***Love is in the Hair*** starring Bishop Ime-Umoh, Okey Bakassi, Uti Nwachukwu, and Vani Vayas broadcasted on satellite television throughout the African continent.

**Director** Caeszero Pictures Influx, Nigeria

July 2015 - Present

Directed Nollywood feature film ***Marrying a Campbell*** starring Hakeem Kae-Kazim, Yvonne Jegede, and Emmanuel Ikubese set to release early 2017.

**Post Production Coordinator** TATIRA 2, LLC, Los Angeles

November 2014 - July 2015

Assisted and worked with producer, director and actor Warren Beatty on his most recent release ***Rules Don't Apply***.

**Producer, Director, Editor** SOPPAAC, Los Angeles

June 2014 - November 2014

Produced, directed and edited a documentary starring Dr. Maulana Karenga funded by the California Endowment's Sons and Brothers Initiative.

**Editorial Assistant** Sony Pictures, Screen Gems,

September 2013 - August 2014

Los Angeles

Assisted and coordinated the editorial, sound, music and visual effects departments for feature film ***The Wedding Ringer*** starring Kevin Hart, Josh Gad and directed by Jeremy Garelick.

**Art Department Assistant**

Yellow Sun Ltd, London

March 2012 - July 2012

Created and coordinated set designs for the feature film ***Half of a Yellow Sun*** starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, Thandie Newton, Anika Noni Rose and directed by Biyi Bandele.

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**Education**

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**M.F.A.** Tisch School of the Arts, Asia, New York University,  
2013 Singapore  
Concentration Directing, Writing and Editing

**B.A.** Boston College, Boston, MA  
2007  
Major: History, Minor: Film Studies

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**Films**

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***My American Fund*** (Short film) M.F.A. Thesis

**Writer, Producer, Director, Editor**

New Voices in Black Cinema

Luxor African Film Festival

Toronto Black Film Festival

African Diaspora International Film Festival

Montreal International Black Film Festival

DC Shorts

San Francisco Black Film Festival - Foreign Film Honorable Mention

Langston Hughes African American Film Festival

Pan African Film Festival

***Chicken Soup*** (Short Film)

**Writer, Producer, Director, Editor**

African American Short Films

Cross River Movie Awards- Best Short Film

I Hella ♥ Shorts Film Festival

Langston Hughes African American Film Festival

Pan African Film Festival