

## Citizenship in the Community--Some Movie Candidates

12 Angry Men (1957) (UR)	A guilty verdict means death -- but the jury's not about to let that spoil their day. Twelve men must decide the fate of an 18-year-old boy accused of fatally stabbing his father. Only one (Henry Fonda) wants to take the time to coolly deliberate the case. Sidney Lumet (Network) made his directorial debut in this fiery drama that illuminates all the petty impediments on the path to justice.
Akeela and the Bee (2006)	With an aptitude for words, 11-year-old Akeelah Anderson ( <a href="#">Keke Palmer</a> ) is determined to spell her way out of South Los Angeles, entering scores of local contests and eventually landing a chance to win the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. Despite discouragement from her mother ( <a href="#">Angela Bassett</a> ), Akeelah gets support from her bookish tutor ( <a href="#">Laurence Fishburne</a> ), her principal ( <a href="#">Curtis Armstrong</a> ) and proud members of her community.
All the King's Men: (1949)	Willie Stark ( <a href="#">Broderick Crawford</a> ) is a model politician -- until he's corrupted by the very system he tries to reform. Based on the cautionary Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, All the King's Men was nominated for seven Academy Awards; it won Best Picture, as well as Best Actor and Actress for stars Crawford and <a href="#">Mercedes McCambridge</a> (later the voice of the possessed Regan in The Exorcist). [Other versions include 2006 version with Sean Penn].
Beau Geste (1939)	The disappearance of a fabulous sapphire dubbed the Blue Water sends the British Geste brothers -- "Beau" ( <a href="#">Gary Cooper</a> ), John ( <a href="#">Ray Milland</a> ) and Digby ( <a href="#">Robert Preston</a> ) -- off to join the French Foreign Legion, leaving England in disgrace. Assigned to a North African command, the siblings find themselves in more danger from their unhinged, sadistic sergeant ( <a href="#">Brian Donlevy</a> ) than from marauding Arab rebels. Based on P.C. Wren's epic adventure novel.
Follow Me Boys (1966)	A mild-mannered man, Lemuel ( <a href="#">Fred MacMurray</a> ), finds love in a small town in this charming family film. The object of his affection? The community's sweet maiden, Vida ( <a href="#">Vera Miles</a> ), who helps him start life anew and help the children as a scoutmaster. Co-stars <a href="#">Lillian Gish</a> , <a href="#">Charles Ruggles</a> and <a href="#">Kurt Russell</a> .
Forrest Gump (1994) (PG-13)	You'll never view the world the same way after seeing it through the eyes of Forrest Gump (Tom Hanks), a simpleminded man who finds himself in the middle of nearly every major event of the 1960s and '70s. Along the way, he makes friends, changes lives and searches for a soul mate. Winner of six Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Actor (Hanks).
High Noon (1952) (UR)	Retiring Marshall Will Kane (Gary Cooper) insists on defending his town from a gang of hooligans who are due on the noon train -- but he faces the task alone as the cowardly townspeople flee like rats from a sinking ship. Director Fred Zinnemann creates an incredibly tense Western (rightly considered one of the true genre classics) that unfurls in real time -- as the clocks on the wall constantly remind us.
Hoosiers (1986) (PG)	High school basketball is king in small-town Indiana, and the 1954 Hickory Huskers are all hope and no talent in this Oscar-nominated drama. Things go from bad to worse when coach Norman Dale (Gene Hackman) joins the team. In short order, Dale expresses ambivalence about the star player, ostracizes himself from the townsfolk and hires a drunk (Dennis Hopper). Feelings for the coach change, however, when the sad-sack team turns itself around.
It's a Wonderful Life (1946) (UR)	It's a wonderful film. Frank Capra's inverted take on A Christmas Carol stars Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey, a good man who's spent a lifetime giving up on his dreams in order to keep life in his small town humming. When a guardian angel named Clarence finds a despondent George poised to jump off a bridge, he shows George what life would've been like had he never been born.
Miracle (2004)	Relive the miracle on ice all over again as coach Herb Brooks ( <a href="#">Kurt Russell</a> ) takes a ragtag band of college hockey players and molds them into an unstoppable juggernaut (Team USA) that did the impossible -- beat the Soviet Union and won Olympic gold at Lake Placid. Do you believe in miracles? You will after you watch this inspiring movie.
Mr. Holland's Opus (1995) (PG)	In 1965, passionate musician Glenn Holland (Richard Dreyfuss) takes a day job as a high school music teacher, convinced it's just a small obstacle on the road to his true calling: writing a historic opus. As the decades roll by with the composition unwritten but generations of students inspired through his teaching, Holland must redefine his life's purpose. Dreyfuss earned an Oscar nomination for his outstanding work in this emotional drama.

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Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939) (UR)	When idealistic junior senator Jefferson Smith (James Stewart) arrives in Washington, he's full of plans and dazzled by his surroundings -- qualities he retains even in the face of widespread corruption on the part of his colleagues. Jean Arthur puts in a sharp performance as Smith's cynical secretary, and former cowboy star Harry Carey makes a fine vice president in this Academy Award-winning classic from director Frank Capra.
October Sky (1999)	As the Soviet satellite Sputnik streaks across the heavens in October 1957, it's a source of inspiration for 17-year-old Homer Hickam ( <a href="#">Jake Gyllenhaal</a> ), who refuses to follow in his father's footsteps laboring in West Virginia's coal mines. Homer would rather reach for the stars -- literally. Drafting a few friends, he sets about crafting a rocket to compete for a science-fair scholarship -- and a chance to change his seemingly immutable future.
Pay it Forward (2000)	Young Trevor McKinney ( <a href="#">Haley Joel Osment</a> ) responds to an assignment from his teacher ( <a href="#">Kevin Spacey</a> ) with a plan to help three people ... who will help three more, and so on, in an ever-widening circle. Trevor touches more people than he expected in director <a href="#">Mimi Leder</a> 's gentle drama: his abused mother Arlene ( <a href="#">Helen Hunt</a> ), his physically and emotionally scarred teacher and a journalist who hears of the plan and starts investigating. ...
Remember the Titans (2000) (PG)	It looks like fourth down and long yardage when Denzel Washington replaces a well-respected -- and white -- football coach (Will Patton) in a Virginia high school rampant with prejudice, circa 1970. Not to be discouraged, Washington welds the young players, the Titans, into a force to be reckoned with on the gridiron and off. Based on real-life events.
Spartacus (1960) (PG-13)	Stanley Kubrick directed this epic saga based on ancient historical events when a vagabond slave-army led by an ex-gadiator, Spartacus (Kirk Douglas), threatened the very sovereignty of Rome. This film has everything, including a wonderfully funny (and Oscar-winning) performance from Peter Ustinov as the cowardly owner of a gladiator school. Laurence Olivier, Charles Laughton, Jean Simmons and Tony Curtis round out a superb cast.
Stand and Deliver (1987) (PG)	Anyone who's ever been in a classroom will be touched by this moving, mostly-true story of famed East L.A. math teacher Jaime Escalante (Edward James Olmos), who finds himself in a classroom of rebellious remedial-math students. He stuns fellow faculty members with his plans to teach AP Calculus, and even more when the mostly Hispanic teens (including Lou Diamond Phillips as Angel Guzman) overcome the odds and eventually go the distance.
The Last Hurrah (1958)	Aging political boss Frank Skeffington ( <a href="#">Spencer Tracy</a> ) tries to get reelected as mayor of an unnamed town one last time in the changing world of the 1950s, when television started to play a bigger role in the political process. Frank meets with opposition from the city council, which frowns upon his strong-arm tactics. His uphill battle is set against the political machinery that used ethnic hatred and old money as its weapons. <a href="#">John Ford</a> directs.
To Kill a Mockingbird (1962) (UR)	Southern comforts abound in this classic adaptation of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. <a href="#">Gregory Peck</a> won an Oscar for his role as Atticus Finch, a widowed lawyer who takes on the task of defending an innocent black man ( <a href="#">Brock Peters</a> ) against rape charges, only to wind up in a maelstrom of hate and prejudice that threatens to invade the lives of his children, Jem and Scout ( <a href="#">Phillip Alford</a> and <a href="#">Mary Badham</a> ).