

Cage

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yourself regarding the movie business, if you could go back in time and speak to the teenaged Nicolas Cage about to make his first film?
NC: I would say, "Be more careful with your finances, and try to not let them get in the way."

KW: Children's book author Irene Smalls asks: Are there goals you still want to attain?

NC: Yeah, I want to continue in the direction I'm already headed by mixing the independent, dramatic work with an increasingly abstract style of acting that I can explore in horror or sci-fi films. I just want to keep going there, and hopefully one day even write a script.

KW: Irene was also wondering, what gives you the greatest joy?

NC: Children smiling and laughing.

KW: Filmmaker Kevin Williams asks: Did you ever consider writing your own material and or/directing yourself? I think you would be wonderful at both.

NC: Thanks, Kevin. Well, I did have a small role in a movie I directed called "Sonny." I played a gay pimp named "Acid Yellow" in that movie. And yes, I plan to explore writing, but more likely in a novel format.

KW: The Melissa Harris-Perry question: How did your first, big heartbreak impact who you are as a person?

NC: Well, because I'm a romantic, I tend to take things pretty hard, and I'm sure the emotion of my first big heartbreak had much to do with the energy that I put into my performances. So, it fueled my work.



Nicolas Cage

KW: Dante Lee, author of "Black Business Secrets," asks: What was the best business decision you ever made?

NC: My best business decision was probably doing "Leaving Las Vegas," although that was more of a creative expression than a business decision. I think my best business choices have come as a result of collaborating with Jerry Bruckheimer because he always has his finger on the pulse of what the audience seems to want.

KW: The Judyth Piazza question: What key quality do you believe all successful people share?

NC: I believe there's an infinite energy that emanates from successful people. They're tireless and have a need to be creative. There's no choice in the matter. They just have to do it.

KW: Attorney Bernadette Beekman asks: What is your

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--Nicolas Cage

KW: The Sanaa Lathan question: What excites you?

NC: What excites me is making a positive connection with an audience where I create something and the public enjoys it and rolls with it.

favorite charity?

NC: I'm always interested in children, anything having to do with kids. I used to work with Amnesty International and the United Nations to free child soldiers in Africa.

KW: The Laz Alonso question: How can your fans help you?

NC: By just being themselves.

KW: Two Pastor Alex Kendrick questions: When do you feel the most content?

NC: When everybody I love is okay.

KW: Secondly, what do you wish other people would note about you?

NC: That I care about my work.

KW: The Toure question: Who is the person who led you to become the person you are today?

NC: My father.

KW: The Nancy Lovell Question: Why do you love doing what you do?

NC: Because it is a positive expression that can take negative memories and turn them into something good, sort of like Ghost Rider himself.

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