Superhero Star

Ben Affleck wanted to be an actor from a young age, landing his first gig at age 12 in a PBS series, *The Voyage of the Mimi*. He got his big break with *Good Will Hunting*, which he co-wrote with lifelong friend and then neighbor Matt Damon. Damon’s character – an MIT janitor – was inspired by Affleck’s father who worked as a janitor at Harvard. Affleck has starred in countless films since and has the unique distinction of playing three superheroes – Daredevil, Batman and Superman. Affleck, who turns 50 on August 15, is also a skilled poker player and even won the California State Poker Championship. It seems his luck hasn’t run out; after 18 years apart, Affleck rekindled a relationship with Jennifer Lopez and in April they got engaged!

Modern Mogul

Universally recognized as “Gloria” on the hit show *Modern Family*, Sofia Vergara started her career as a model after she was scouted on a beach in Columbia at 17 – at the time she aspired to be a dentist. Vergara landed her first big job in a Pepsi commercial, kick-starting a decades-long career. Recognizing the need for better representation of diverse talent, Vergara founded Latin World Entertainment in 1994. Today it’s one of the biggest Latin American talent agencies in the U.S. A survivor of thyroid cancer, the actress, who turns 50 on July 10, is a passionate advocate for cancer prevention. She’s also a believer in true love – she and actor Joe Manganiello got engaged just six months after meeting at a White House Correspondents’ Dinner and have been married seven years.

Superhero Star

Tom Cruise originally wanted to be a priest. When he injured himself during a high school wrestling match, he decided to audition for a production of *Guys and Dolls* – and fell in love with acting. He found meteoric success early on with *Risky Business*; made famous by his improvised dance scene. Cruise, who turned 60 on July 3, learned to dance by watching *Soul Train*. He’s starred in countless hit films including *Top Gun* and the *Mission* impossible franchise, where he’s known for doing death-defying stunts—including holding his breath under water for six minutes; repelling down a 163-story building; and dangling from a plane. This real-life thrill seeker who uses 160 make-up artists to fines his own face, recently starred in *Top Gun: Maverick*. It earned $155 million opening weekend – marking a Memorial Day box office record and career best for Cruise.

Funny Lady

Comedy powerhouse Maya Rudolph is famous for her hilarious roles in *Bridesmaids* and *Grown Ups* and a seven-year run on *Saturday Night Live*. She discovered her love of comedy at a young age when she realized she could cheer up friends with a good joke. Born to famed soul singer Minnie Riperton and musical composer Richard Rudolph, the Emmy Award-winning actress dabbled in music herself, touring with her band, which opened for the Red Hot Chili Peppers. She admired Gilda Radner from a young age and always dreamed of joining *SNL*. The mother of four turns 50 on July 27 and is celebrating the recent Apple TV+ premier of her new show *Loot*, where she plays an eccentric billionaire battling a slew of bad press.

America’s Favorite TV Boss

Winner of the Golden Globe, SAG and AARP Movies for Grownups Awards, Steve Carell skyrocketed to fame as “Michael Scott,” a regional manager at fictional paper company Dunder Mifflin in *The Office*. Before becoming an actor, Carell had some real-life experience with paper working as a mailman. Carell, who turns 60 on August 16, learned to dance by watching *Soul Train*. He’s starred in countless hit films like *Top Gun* and the *Mission Impossible* franchise, where he’s known for doing death-defying stunts—including holding his breath under water for six minutes; repelling down a 163-story building; and dangling from a plane. This real-life thrill seeker, who enjoys fencing and flies his own plane, recently starred in Netflix’s *Top Gun: Maverick*. It earned $156 million opening weekend – marking a Memorial Day box office record and career best for Cruise.