

Taran killam – the american performer

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Taran Killam is a Nickelodeon veteran, he is one of the most successful performing artists to have emerged from the movie theatre. A passionate comic book reader, it is not surprising how prolific writer he is himself.

The American performer Taran Killam made his debut in acting when he was only 12 years old, in *Naked Gun*, and made his Broadway debut in 2017.

Killam first achieved fame for his role in the *Amanda Show*.

Since he made his debut in the entertainment business, he has gone on to feature in over half a century of films and TV shows, amidst a theatre performance.

Taran Hourie Killam is an American actor, comedian and author born on April 1, 1982, in Culver City, California, U. S. He is American by nationality and of mixed ethnicity- English, Irish and Scottish. He was raised alongside his brother, Taylor Killam and although he was born in Culver City, Taran spent most of his childhood days at Bog Bear Lake in California.

Killam went to Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. After he graduated from high school, he opted to study at the University of California, Los Angeles, which he did but never got to complete his studies in college, spending just a year in the varsity back in 2000.

Taran Killam was only an adolescent when he made his acting debut. He made his first film appearance in 1994, when he was only 12 years old, in the film *Naked Gun 33 $\frac{1}{3}$: The Final Insult*. He didn't command much recognition from his debut role in the film, he didn't pick up major roles in films as at the time.

However, he had to wait till the year 2000 to get the recognition he very well craved for, when the Amanda show premiered. He was only 18 when he featured in the Nickelodeon TV show as Spaulding, a young teen who had a crush on Moody. His role in the TV show can be termed as a success as it earned him his well-deserved fame and helped him receive significant roles in other films and TV shows. He featured in 7 episodes between 2000 and 2002.

At the age 19, when he first made an appearance in MADtv, he featured in the TV show in 13 episodes between 2001 and 2002. He was the youngest cast member on MADtv.

Killam became only the second Nickelodeon veteran to make an appearance on Saturday Night Live when he featured in the 36th season of the TV show on September 25, 2010, also only the second Saturday Night Live cast member who had previously featured in MADtv. He featured in 126 episodes of SNL.

In 2013, Killam made a minor appearance in Grown Ups 2 as a male cheerleader. In the same year, he was cast as Adam in The Heat. He also featured in 12 Years a Slave as Abram Hamilton in 2013.

Killam is a lover of the animated kiddies film Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and in 2014 he made a brief appearance in the film as Jim McNaughton.

Amongst the host of films and TV shows he has featured in is a theatre play which he starred in 2017, titled Hamilton. The theatre play was his debut in

Broadway. His appearance in the theatre play was made possible after he replaced Rory O'Malley as King George III.

In 2012, he was nominated for the Gold Derby Award for his role in Saturday Night Live. He also got nominated in the same Award in 2014 but this time for his role in 12 Years a Slave. His part in the film also got him nominated for the Film Critics Society Awards.

In 2017, he won an award at the San Diego international film festival for the Visionary Filmmaker Award.