

Check out these top holiday family films

According to a recent survey by Blockbuster, 50 percent of respondents named the Jimmy Stewart classic *It's A Wonderful Life* as the number one movie they plan to watch during the holiday season, and 21 percent picked it as their choice if they could own only one holiday video.

However, while *It's A Wonderful Life* and other holiday classics like *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* and *Miracle on 34th Street* might be at the top in people's hearts, data actually shows that more recent movies like *A Christmas Vacation*, *Home Alone*, and *The Santa Clause* are favorites at the video rental counter.

Watching holiday movies is a seasonal tradition for two-thirds of Americans, according to the Blockbuster survey.

"Classics like *It's A Wonderful Life* have been favorites for many decades and are always popular in our stores," said Dean Wilson, chief merchandising officer, worldwide, for Blockbuster.

It's hard to imagine anyone but Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life*, but, according to recent national survey by Blockbuster, Nicholas Cage would be the top choice to play Bailey if the movie were remade.

By a margin of six percent those surveyed thought that Cage would be the best choice for a modern-day George Bailey (27 percent). George Clooney was the second among all respondents with 21 percent, but was the top choice of women.

Next was Kevin Spacey (19 percent), followed by Bruce Willis in fourth place (13 percent).

"Jimmy Stewart beat out the beloved Santa Claus as movie watchers' all-time favorite holiday character," said Wilson. "Those are hard shoes to fill."

When asked for their favorite holiday movie character or star, survey respondents said:

- Jimmy Stewart
- Santa
- Scrooge
- Rudolph
- Bing Crosby

Whether it's *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Frosty the Snowman*, *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas*



Tender moment: Carolyn Grimes and James Stewart in *It's A Wonderful Life*.

Christmas or Christmas Vacation, holiday movies have become an integral part of the season's celebrations, according to survey results.

Here's Blockbuster's list of top-rated holiday movies:

■ *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

■ *Christmas Vacation*

■ *A Christmas Story*

■ *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*

■ *Jack Frost*

■ *White Christmas*

■ *Frosty the Snowman*

■ *Charlie Brown Christmas*

■ *It's A Wonderful Life*

■ *Miracle on 34th Street*

If you were going to attend a Christmas party with a famous actor/actress, Blockbuster survey respondents said they would most like to be seen with:

Top male celebrities

1. Harrison Ford (tied) Mel Gibson and George Clooney

2. Tom Cruise (tied) Denzel Washington, Bruce Willis and Brad Pitt

Top female celebrities

1. Julia Roberts

2. Sandra Bullock

3. Halle Berry

4. Goldie Hawn (tied) Jennifer Aniston and Nicole Kidman

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