

# Forbes

BILLIONAIRES

## America's Richest Celebrities

Fame might be fickle, but it sure pays well.

**GOLF. RHYMING VERSE.** Even fancy card tricks: There are innumerable ways to earn great fame and fortune by entertaining people, and no one has done it better than the 20 on this diverse list. It's our first-ever tally of the country's wealthiest celebrities, and we had just one criterion: We considered only those who got rich off their fame, not those—such as the president-elect—who became famous because of their wealth. For more, including methodology, please visit [forbes.com/wealthiest-celebs](http://forbes.com/wealthiest-celebs).

### 1. GEORGE LUCAS NET WORTH: \$4.6 BIL

**Key source of fortune:** Lucasfilm's \$4.1 billion sale to Disney in 2012  
**Future growth?** *Star Wars* creator has largely retired from filmmaking and now has little to do with the franchise. His fortune may dip due to charitable giving.  
**Star-worthy asset:** His reportedly 6,000-acre Skywalker Ranch in Marin County, California

### 2. STEVEN SPIELBERG NET WORTH: \$3.7 BIL

**Key source of fortune:** DreamWorks  
**Future growth?** Relunched production venture Amblin Partners with \$325 million in financing; signed pact with Jack Ma's Alibaba Pictures to co-produce films.  
**Star-worthy asset:** A cut of Universal theme-parks revenue since 1987

### 3. OPRAH WINFREY NET WORTH: \$2.8 BIL

**Key source of fortune:** Harpo Productions  
**Future growth?** Ratings at former talk-show queen's OWN cable network finally rose this year, but Weight Watchers stock—of which she owns 10%—is suffering.  
**Star-worthy asset:** More than 565 acres of property in the Maui mountains

### 4. MICHAEL JORDAN NET WORTH: \$1.2 BIL

**Key source of fortune:** Jordan brand  
**Future growth?** Nike forecasts annual brand revenue to increase by 61%, to \$4.5 billion, by 2020.  
**Star-worthy asset:** The NBA's Charlotte Hornets

### 5. DAVID COPPERFIELD NET WORTH: \$850 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Decades of illusionist earnings that he has invested in the world's largest collection of magic artifacts  
**Future growth?** Continues to conjure big money with Las Vegas shows; 2016 marked his biggest year to date.  
**Star-worthy asset:** An enclave of 11 private Bahamian islands

### 6. DIDDY NET WORTH: \$750 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Parlayed 1990s hip-hop stardom into a diversified empire, including a partnership with Diageo's Ciroc vodka  
**Future growth?** The vodka market has largely leveled off, but DeLeón tequila, which Diddy owns with Diageo, could compensate.  
**Star-worthy asset:** Controlling stake in Revolt TV

### 7. TIGER WOODS NET WORTH: \$740 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Golf and endorsements  
**Future growth?** Unlikely to re-create his best year's income (2008, \$115 million) but will continue to earn big.  
**Star-worthy asset:** His \$60 million Jupiter Island, Florida, home

### 8. DR. DRE NET WORTH: \$710 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Apple's \$3 billion 2014 purchase of Beats  
**Future growth?** The remainder of his Beats payment in the form of Apple stock could certainly turn out to be lucrative.  
**Star-worthy asset:** His back catalog of hip-hop hits, including "Nuthin' but a G Thang"

### 9. JAMES PATTERSON NET WORTH: \$700 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Books  
**Future growth?** Prolific output helped him record career-high earnings of \$95 million in 2016; reader demand for his work shows no signs of slowing.  
**Star-worthy asset:** \$23 million home in Palm Beach, Florida

### 10. JERRY SEINFELD NET WORTH: \$670 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Syndication checks from his eponymous sitcom, plus standup touring income  
**Future growth?** Still earns big on the road, even as *Seinfeld* residuals decline.  
**Star-worthy asset:** His enormous car collection

### 11. JAY Z NET WORTH: \$610 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Roc Nation entertainment company  
**Future growth?** Streaming startup Tidal has grown substantially in value since he bought it for \$56 million in 2015. It could go under—or become the next Beats.  
**Star-worthy asset:** A \$20 million penthouse in Manhattan's Tribeca neighborhood

### 13. JIMMY BUFFETT NET WORTH: \$550 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Margaritaville restaurants, hotels and casinos  
**Future growth?** As long as people enjoy being drunk on the beach, expect the Margaritaville empire to continue to expand.  
**Star-worthy asset:** String of bars named after hit song with Alan Jackson "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere"

### 12. MADONNA NET WORTH: \$560 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Career touring gross: an estimated \$1.4 billion  
**Future growth?** If she keeps touring, fans will keep buying tickets.  
**Star-worthy asset:** Her triple-wide Manhattan town house

### 14. BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN NET WORTH: \$460 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Grossed more than \$1.5 billion over decades of touring  
**Future growth?** Even as he pushes 70, the Boss continues to sell out wherever he plays.  
**Star-worthy asset:** A 200-acre horse farm worth \$10 million—plus in Colts Neck, New Jersey

### 15. HOWARD STERN NET WORTH: \$450 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Radio  
**Future growth?** Airwave earnings may have peaked for potty-mouthed host, but Stern's digital efforts—apps, video streaming—could hold promise.  
**Star-worthy asset:** A \$53 million spread in Palm Beach, Florida

### 17. RUSH LIMBAUGH NET WORTH: \$400 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Radio  
**Future growth?** His eponymous show continues to be the most distributed syndicated program on the air, but earnings look set to dip.  
**Star-worthy asset:** His \$51 million Palm Beach, Florida, mansion

### 16. JON BON JOVI NET WORTH: \$410 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Decades on the road  
**Future growth?** Having sold out football stadiums nationwide, he's now said to be eyeing a potentially lucrative investment in an NFL franchise.  
**Star-worthy asset:** His \$8 million home in the Hamptons

### 19. BARBRA STREISAND NET WORTH: \$370 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Record sales  
**Future growth?** Investments could pay off: Her Malibu, California, compound, which she reportedly bought for less than \$20 million, is nearing \$100 million in value.  
**Star-worthy asset:** Grammy, Tony, Oscar and Emmy awards

### 18. PHIL MICKELSON NET WORTH: \$375 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Golf and endorsements  
**Future growth?** His best days on the course may be behind him, but his fortune will grow modestly thanks to ongoing eight-figure sponsorships.  
**Star-worthy asset:** All the hardware that comes with 42 PGA Tour victories, including five major championships

### 20. KATHY IRELAND NET WORTH: \$360 MIL

**Key source of fortune:** Licensing empire Kathy Ireland Worldwide  
**Future growth?** The former supermodel continues to expand her offerings, now including branded office furniture and a handbag line.  
**Star-worthy asset:** A jewelry collection worth some \$25 million

