



## NETFLIX THANKS THE TELEVISION ACADEMY AND CONGRATULATES OUR TELEVISION ACADEMY HONOREES







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#### WELCOME TO THE

## Television Academy HONORS®

#### May 23, 2024



Welcome to the 17th Television Academy Honors!

We have come together to recognize seven outstanding programs. Three are scripted, four are non-scripted. All cast light on diverse and deserving subjects, including American racism and the 1619 Project; the Lakota peoples' struggle to reclaim their ancestral lands; the story of the woman responsible for the survival of Anne Frank's diaries; what it's like to grow up in a mixed-race family; the evolution of Americans' opinions of the Supreme Court; the trials and tribulations of LGBTQ teenhood; and the darkly comedic side of such distressing social phenomena as class anxiety, alienation and rage.

Each program addresses the complexity and sensitivity of its subject with unflinching candor, keen insight and immense creativity. Each embodies the mission and essence of what this event is about, and

presents not only an occasion, but an obligation, for our industry to celebrate storytelling that is powerful and provocative, with the potential to effect change. As the Television Academy Honors founders described it: "television with a conscience."

These seven programs do not stand alone; they are the distillation of numerous worthy submissions to the Television Academy Honors Selection Committee, led by chair Scott Freeman, a governor of the Reality Programming Peer Group, and vice chair Bobbi Banks, a governor for the Sound Editors Peer Group. Our sincere thanks to the committee for its dedicated work, and to the members of the Awards department and other staff who have made this evening's festivities possible.

And, to all of you in attendance, your presence alone is an important acknowledgment of the importance of the programs we have gathered to celebrate and elevate — television that educates, enlightens and entertains. This is our medium at its best.

#### **Cris Abrego**

Chair Television Academy



#### TONIGHT'S HOST



Known for playing standout characters in an array of genres, Constance Zimmer has displayed great versatility throughout her career.

Zimmer's notable projects include the hit drama *UnReal*, which aired for four seasons on Lifetime. On the show — available on Hulu — she starred as Quinn King, the executive producer of a fictional television dating program. For her performance, she earned an Emmy Award nomination for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series in 2016.

Her other accolades for *UnReal* include a 2016 Critics' Choice Award and a Critics' Choice nomination. In addition, the series received a 2015 Peabody Award and was named one of AFI's Top 10 shows of 2016.

Her numerous other credits include *Entourage* (HBO), *The Newsroom* (HBO), *House of Cards* (Netflix), *Boston Legal* (ABC), *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.* (ABC) and *Big* Sky (ABC). More recently, Zimmer starred in the Amazon series

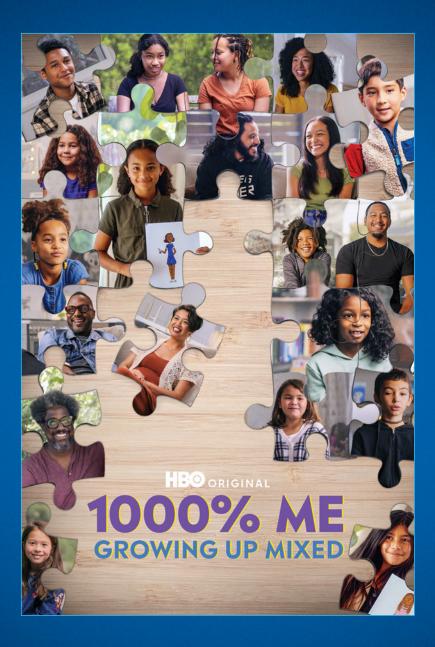
Shelter (Prime Video) based on novelist Harlan Coben's trilogy of the same name. She was also a series regular on *Condor* (AT&T) and had recurring roles on *Grey's Anatomy* (ABC), *The New Adventures of Old Christine* (CBS), *The Calling* (Peacock), *Good Trouble* (Freeform), *Maron* (IFC) and *Shameless* (Showtime).

Zimmer has lent her voice to several animated series, including *Bojack Horseman* (Netflix), *Robots in Disguise* (Cartoon Network) and *Krapopolis* (Fox).

In addition to her work as a performer, Zimmer has directed episodes of *UnReal* and *Good Trouble*, as well as the movie *Boy in the Walls* for Lifetime.

Zimmer resides in Los Angeles with her husband, Russ, a director, and their daughter.

## CONGRATULATIONS to our 17th annual TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS® RECIPIENT



Thank you, ACADEMY HONORS COMMITTEE, for your recognition.

## max



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# The 1619 Project

#### WE PROUDLY CONGRATULATE HULU AND ONYX COLLECTIVE'S THE 1619 PROJECT

- AND -

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC AND ABC SIGNATURE'S **A SMALL LIGHT** ON THEIR TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS



## A SMALL LIGHT



abc signature



#### ABOUT THE TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS

## This year, the Television Academy Honors marks its 17th ceremony spotlighting programming that speaks to some of society's most pressing concerns — programming that educates, enlightens and can inspire real change.

The Television Academy Honors has, since its beginnings in 2008, recognized programs on such diverse topics as immigration, drug addiction, teen suicide, racism, homophobia, the United States and the Holocaust, Alzheimer's disease and young life on the reservation, among others. Issues addressed by this year's Honors winners include democracy and the 1619 Project; the story of a woman who helped shelter Anne Frank from the Nazis for two years; growing up in a mixed-race family; the ongoing pursuit of social justice by members of the Lakota nation; loneliness, depression and road rage; an uplifting portrayal of LGBTQ teenhood; and a look at the Supreme Court's confirmation process and the court's role in shaping our political landscape.

Compelling programs like these have the power not just to inspire, but to change minds.

It was through the efforts of Television Cares, then the Academy's committee devoted to social outreach, that the Honors awards was born. The committee's co-chairs, former Television Academy chairman John Shaffner and Lynn Roth, as well as former Academy chair Dick Askin, envisioned an annual event to recognize what Shaffner described as "television with a conscience." Eventually the committee would be renamed to focus on the Television Academy Honors.

This year, as always, the programs selected for distinction have made us look differently at some issues we thought we already understood. In an era of division and turmoil, television programming has never played a more essential role in our society than it does now, as a medium to inform and enlighten, but also as a source of comfort, companionship and, of course, entertainment.

That's an achievement truly worthy of being honored in today's busy programming landscape.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS RECIPIENT



THANK YOU TO THE TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS COMMITTEE FOR YOUR RECOGNITION





## **1000% ME** GROWING UP MIXED

HBO | Max

When 16-year-old Kaylin went to enroll in a new school, she got an early lesson in how racism works.



"My mom marked my race as half Asian and half white," says the teen, who's white, Black and Korean. "I guess she wanted to protect me from the anti-Blackness out there." The Television Academy honors 1000% Me: Growing Up Mixed, Max's charming and insightful documentary directed by producer and comedian W. Kamau Bell. Featuring a series of interviews with children and adults who are of mixed race, the special seeks to help audiences better understand what life is like for people whose racial makeup encompasses two or more cultures. As Bell explains, being "a father of three mixed daughters" inspired him to create this project as a personal mission of discovery.

So, how do children of mixed race view themselves? No doubt it's different for each one, but a consistent theme among these young people is that they have much more important things on their minds than issues related to identity — sports, shopping and such — and they don't see themselves as all that different from other kids. "I'm mixed, but I'm not mixed up," says Sami, age 10, who is Bell's daughter.

When asked who he looks like, 11-year-old Kanani — whose mother is white and dad is Latino and Indigenous — has a ready and unambiguous answer. "I look like me!"

## Television DEFICIAL RECIPIENT 2024 CONGRATULATIONS: LAKOTA VS. UNITED NUTED STATES

DIRECTED BY JESSE SHORT BULL AND LAURA TOMASELLI

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#### Television Academy HONORS<sup>®</sup>

## The 1619 Project

Harpo Films, Lionsgate Television, One Story Up Productions, *The New York Times* Hulu and Onyx Collective Hulu

### In 1619, the first ship carrying slaves from Africa arrived in the United States, in the state of Virginia.



It was an event that would have a defining effect on the history and legacy of this country.

The Television Academy honors The 1619 Project, Hulu's six-part docuseries that originated as a collection of essays in The New York Times Magazine in August 2019, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of that watershed event. Narrated by Nikole Hannah-Jones — who received a Pulitzer Prize for the commentary she wrote to accompany the *Times* coverage — *The 1619 Project* looks at the history surrounding this introduction of slavery to the United States; reveals how it shaped generations of people on all sides of the political and racial spectrums; and considers how it continues to inform thought and opinion in our country today.

Hannah-Jones tells of how her own father served in the Army, with the hope that his service would give him full acceptance as a citizen. "He was brilliant, but he could never get ahead," she says.

It is her contention that while racism is still very much alive in the U.S., this stark truth remains: Slaves labored, suffered and died to build this country. "By virtue of our bondage," she says, "we became the most American of all."

But as the docuseries notes, peoples' views of history are shaped by what they are taught. And today there are efforts across multiple states to erase education related to racism. For many African Americans, this is a continuing bitter aftermath of our history.



Netflix

#### We've all seen the headlines.



"Road rage leads to..." — well, some unhappy end. But behind the headline, there's also a flicker of recognition; so, what does it say about our society that such moments of rage might be relatable?

The Television Academy honors

Netflix's *BEEF*, a wild ride of a black comedy from Korean-American director Lee Sung Jin that plunges viewers into an increasingly violent feud that erupts between two strangers who nearly bump into each other in a parking lot. Danny Cho (Steven Yeun)

is a down-on-his-luck Korean contractor who just avoids backing into a white SUV driven by Amy Lau (Ali Wong), an upscale business owner of Chinese and Vietnamese descent. Amy's own nerves are already frayed by the potential sale of her business and her life at home with her husband, daughter and mother-in-law. The cars never meet, but Amy's middle-finger reaction sparks a burning rage in Cho, and the chase that follows is the kind of scary event that's all too common on the streets of Los Angeles.

One thing leads to another as the combatants plot escalating payback scenarios.

Their anger, their rage, their revenge are elements in a dangerous game. These are just characters in an absurd dispute, but in our age of personal and social angst, has rage become part of our daily existence?



## DEADLOCKED HOW AMERICA SHAPED THE SUPREME COURT

Showtime Documentary Films Presents A Trilogy Films Production Showtime

#### Today, the United States Supreme Court is more unpopular than it has ever been.



It's a tenuous position for the court, given that, absent any powers of enforcement, its only strength comes from its *perception* of legitimacy. And that perception, certainly over the past decade, has been shaken to its core.

The Television Academy honors Showtime's Deadlocked: How America Shaped the Supreme *Court*, a four-part documentary directed by Dawn Porter that examines how the court has worked to shape civil liberties in this country — from segregation to affirmative action, same-sex marriage to abortion — and how, as the court has become more conservative, it finds itself increasingly out of step with the views of the average American.

Nominations to the Supreme Court have always been tinged with political overtones, as presidents of both parties look to fill seats with judges who hold similar worldviews. But political maneuvering came to a head in 2016, when Republican Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell refused to allow the Senate to vote on President Barack Obama's Supreme Court nominee. Merrick Garland, citing that confirmations should not take place in an election year. Four years later, McConnell did an about-face and allowed then-President Donald Trump to nominate Amy Coney Barrett, who joined the court just days before the presidential election.

As scholars in the documentary note, it was a clear signal to the public that the court was no longer an unblemished refuge for justice. In much of the public's eyes, it has been downhill ever since.



See-Saw Films Netflix

#### Nick and Charlie are boyfriends.



But the road to their teenage romance has been complicated at times. For one thing, Nick has had to come to terms with his sexuality and admit to himself that he's bisexual — not an easy thing to do when you're the star rugby player at an all-boys' school.

The Television Academy honors Netflix's *Heartstopper*, writer Alice

Oseman's touching coming-of-age story about British students who, while navigating the oft-painful chapters of first loves and first heartbreaks, also face a world full of intolerance. At this age and in this environment, bullies abound.

Charlie (Joe Locke) came out to his schoolmates early on, but has struggled to find a boyfriend who is willing to openly own up to his homosexuality. There's Ben (Sebastian Croft), who's willing to steal secret kisses with Charlie, but hurtfully ignores him when other students are around. Then Charlie meets Nick (Kit Connor), to whom he's immediately attracted, but he's also terrified of overstepping the bounds of their friendship. It's a slow awakening for Nick, who has always prided himself on being a rugged and straight — rugby player.

There are other hearts being broken in *Heartstopper* — Elle (Yasmin Finney) has moved over to the local all-girls' school after transitioning and has had to work to make friends at her new school, while also dealing with a crush she has on one of her childhood friends, Tao (William Gao).

In a young world where most communication is done through texting and heart emojis fly like confetti, subtlety and nuance can be early casualties.



#### Television Academy HONORS<sup>®</sup>

## LAKOTA NATION vs. UNITED STATES

Unceded Films, LLC, AMC+ and IFC Films AMC+  $% \mathcal{A}$ 

#### To the Lakota people, the Black Hills of South Dakota are the most sacred place in the world.



Generations of Lakota, who are part of the Sioux people, have fought to preserve their claim to these holy lands. They've signed treaty after broken treaty with the United States government that gave them nominal ownership of this land. To this day, they are still fighting.

The Television Academy honors

the AMC documentary *Lakota Nation vs. United States*, a powerful account from directors Jesse Short Bull and Laura Tomaselli of the dishonorable deceit the Lakota have suffered, dating to the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851, which set forth territories for several Indigenous tribes, including the Lakota. When that treaty was abrogated, a second one was signed in 1868, one that gave the Lakota ownership of the Black Hills.

Not one of the treaties would stand.

"The treaties were violated as soon as they were created," says Nick Tilson, an Oglala Lakota resident and president and CEO of NDN Collective, an Indigenous-led organization based in South Dakota. "It wasn't just the land that was taken away from us, it was part of a process to assume control over us."

The famed Mount Rushmore is carved into the granite of the Black Hills. To the Lakota, it stands as the ultimate shrine to white supremacy and historical betrayal.

The Lakota see these lands as sacred, as their Mecca. But, to date, there has been no redress. As Tilson notes, "That's why we're still at war today."

## A SMALL LIGHT

ABC Signature and Keshet Studios National Geographic

The diary of Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl's account of the horrors of living under the Nazi regime, might never have been discovered if not for a woman named Miep Gies.



Gies, an Amsterdam resident who worked as Otto Frank's secretary, helped the businessman and his family hide for two years in the secret annex of an office building. When Germany's SS discovered the family and arrested them, it was Gies who later went back to the hideout, found Anne's diaries and saved them.

The Television Academy honors National Geographic's *A Small Light*, a compelling eight-part miniseries created by Joan Rater and Tony Phelan that relives this heartbreaking chapter of history. The series, starring Bel Powley as Gies and Liev Schreiber as Otto Frank, is a poignant dramatization of a little-known series of events that would ultimately give the world a tragic, insider view of the horror of Germany's genocide of the Jewish people.

In addition to helping to care for the Franks while they were in hiding, Gies and her husband Jan (Joe Cole) risked their lives to help hide and feed other people during the war. And though their ruse with the Franks would eventually be discovered — they were arrested in 1944 — Gies's actions and bravery played a crucial role in this real-life drama.

The fate of the Frank family would not become clear until the Allies liberated Amsterdam in May 1945. The only survivor was Otto. Gies, who had never read Anne's diary, viewing that as a violation of the girl's privacy, then turned the pages over to the grieving father and thus history was made.

#### RECIPIENTS OF THE TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS®

#### 2008

Alive Day Memories: Home from Iraq, HBO Boston Legal, ABC Girl, Positive, Lifetime God's Warriors, CNN Law & Order: Special Victims Unit, NBC Pictures of Hollis Woods, CBS Planet Earth, Discovery Channel Shame, Showtime Side Order of Life, Lifetime

#### 2009

Breaking the Huddle: The Integration of College Football, HBO Sports Brothers and Sisters, ABC Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, ABC God on Trial, PBS A Home for the Holidays, CBS Stand Up To Cancer, ABC, CBS, NBC 30 Days, FX Whale Wars, Animal Planet

#### 2010

CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, CBS Explorer: Inside Death Row, National Geographic Glee, Fox Grandpa, Do You Know Who I Am? With Maria Shriver, HBO Private Practice, ABC Taking Chance, HBO Unlocking Autism, Discovery Health Vanguard: The OxyContin Express, Current TV

#### 2011

The Big C, Showtime Friday Night Lights, DirecTV Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution, ABC The Oprah Winfrey Show, Syndicated Parenthood, NBC Private Practice, ABC The 16th Man, ESPN Wartorn 1861-2010, HBO

#### 2012

The Dr. Oz Show, Syndicated Five, Lifetime Harry's Law, NBC Hot Coffee, HBO Men of a Certain Age, TNT Rescue Me, FX Women, War & Peace, PBS

#### 2013

D.L. Hughley: The Endangered List, Comedy Central Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, PBS Hallmark Hall of Fame: A Smile as Big as the Moon, ABC Hunger Hits Home, Food Network The Newsroom, HBO Nick News with Linda Ellerbee, "Forgotten but Not Gone: Kids, HIV and AIDS," Nickelodeon One Nation Under Dog: Stories of Fear, Loss & Betrayal, HBO Parenthood, NBC

#### 2014

The Big C, Showtime Comedy Warriors: Healing Through Humor, Showtime The Fosters, ABC Family Mea Maxima Culpa: Silence in the House of God, HBO Mom, CBS Screw You Cancer, Glamour.com Vice, HBO

#### 2015

black-ish, ABC E60, Dream On: Stories of Boston's Strongest, ESPN The Normal Heart, HBO Paycheck to Paycheck: The Life & Times of Katrina Gilbert, HBO Transparent, Amazon Studios Virunga, Netflix

#### 2016

Born This Way, A&E Going Clear: Scientology and the Prison of Belief, HBO Homeland, Showtime The Knick, Cinemax Mississippi Inferno, Smithsonian Channel Winter on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom, Netflix

#### 2017

Before the Flood, National Geographic Last Week Tonight with John Oliver, HBO Speechless, ABC The Night Of, HBO This Is Us, NBC We Will Rise, CNN

#### 2018

Andi Mack, Disney Channel Daughters of Destiny, Netflix Forbidden: Undocumented and Queer in Rural America, Logo Full Frontal with Samantha Bee, TBS.com LA 92, National Geographic One Day at a Time, Netflix 13 Reasons Why, Netflix

#### 2019

Alexa & Katie, Netflix A Million Little Things, ABC I Am Evidence, HBO My Last Days, The CW Pose, FX RBG, CNN Rest in Power: The Trayvon Martin Story, Paramount Network

#### 2020

16 Shots, Showtime At the Heart of Gold: Inside the USA Gymnastics Scandal, HBO Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj, Netflix Queen Sugar, OWN Unbelievable, Netflix Watchmen, HBO

#### 2021

For Life, ABC I Am Greta, Hulu I May Destroy You, HBO Little America, Apple TV+ The Daily Show with Trevor Noah, Comedy Central The Social Dilemma, Netflix Welcome to Chechnya, HBO

#### 2022

Black and Missing, HBO, Max Dopesick, Hulu Insecure, HBO, Max It's a Sin, HBO, Max Reservation Dogs, FX Taste the Nation: Holiday Edition with Padma Lakshmi, Hulu The Year Earth Changed, Apple TV+

#### 2023

37 Words, ESPN As We See It, Prime Video Mo, Netflix The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks, Peacock The U.S. and the Holocaust, PBS We're Here, Max



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A SMALL LIGHT

#### BEEF

DEADLOCKED: HOW AMERICA SHAPED THE SUPREME COURT

HEARTSTOPPER

LAKOTA NATION VS. UNITED STATES



