



## **21st Annual SAG Awards® Fact Sheet**

### **Unique Atmosphere & Audience Appeal**

The SAG Awards® ceremony takes place in an intimate dinner setting where film casts and TV casts alike are seated next to one another making for a unique and relaxed party atmosphere. Between bites, actors can mix and mingle with their friends and peers.

The evening is a fast and fun two hours packed with various elements:

- Surprises – Nobody in the audience knows which actors will tell their "stories" during the show's signature opening sequence until the ceremony begins.
- Emotion and humor – There is no telling what the actors will say or do onstage during their acceptance speeches.
- No host – There is no single host for the SAG Awards. Prominent actors introduce each award or film sequence.
- Debbie Reynolds – The beloved actor, singer, dancer, author, champion for the preservation of the artifacts of film history and for the understanding and treatment of mental illness will receive the SAG 51st Life Achievement Award for career achievement and humanitarian accomplishment. It is presented annually to an actor who fosters the "finest ideals of the acting profession."

### **Award Categories & Voting**

The SAG Awards are a peer award, voted upon by 111,228 members of SAG-AFTRA.

There are 13 acting awards:

- Five for film, including awards for male & female lead actors, male & female supporting actors and ensemble.
- Eight for TV, including awards for male & female actors in drama series; male & female actors in comedy series, male & female actors in movies/miniseries and ensemble awards for drama and comedy series.

Recognizing that acting is a collaborative art, the SAG Awards include award categories for acting ensembles in film, television drama and television comedy. As a result, several other award-giving bodies now honor ensembles.

Honors for outstanding action performances by television and film stunt ensembles were instituted in 2008. These non-televised kudos are announced from the SAG Awards Red Carpet.

Studios, networks, actors and actors' representatives submit performances for consideration each year.

Nominations are decided by two panels selected annually in the spring through a random sample drawing from the 160,000 SAG-AFTRA members. A total of 2,200 members serve on the film nominating committee, with another 2,200 on the TV committee. After serving, members are not eligible to serve on the same committee again for eight years.

The nominating committees have cast their votes for the 21st Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards online and by paper ballot due by Monday, Dec. 8, 2014 at noon (PT). The Guild's official teller is Integrity Voting Systems in Washington State. Nominations were announced on Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2014, at the Pacific Design Center in West Hollywood by Ansel Elgort, star of the feature films *The Fault in Our Stars* and *Divergent*, and actress/director/producer and SAG Award® recipient Eva Longoria

Voting information for the SAG Awards will be mailed to every active paid-up member of SAG-AFTRA across the country on December 16, 2014.

In keeping with the SAG Awards' commitment to sustainable practices, online voting is encouraged and paper ballots are available only upon request. Votes must be received at Integrity Voting Systems by Saturday, Jan. 23, 2015 at noon (PT). Results will be sealed until the envelopes are opened onstage on Jan. 25.

### **The SAG Awards Online Auctions Benefiting the SAG Foundation**

The SAG Awards supports the SAG Foundation through sponsor donations and three online auctions: the Holiday Auction (Dec. 4-14, 2014); the Red Carpet Fan Bleacher Seat Auction (Dec. 31, 2014-Jan. 10, 2015); and the Ceremony Auction (Jan. 23-Feb. 2, 2015). The online auctions feature autographed collectibles, props, and wardrobe from awards contenders, celebrity meet-and-greets, fabulous vacations, one-of-a kind experiences and luxury items. Bidding is held at [www.sagawards.org/auction](http://www.sagawards.org/auction).

### **The SAG Foundation**

The Screen Actors Guild Foundation provides vital assistance and educational programming to the professionals of SAG-AFTRA while serving the public at large through its signature children's literacy programs. These award-winning programs include SAG Foundation [BookPALS](#) (Performing Artists for Literacy in Schools), through which volunteer union performers read to over 60,000 children monthly in classrooms nationwide, and [Storyline Online](#), the interactive literacy website that attracts over 4 million views each month. The SAG Foundation is a national non-profit organization, independent of SAG-AFTRA, and relies solely on grants, corporate sponsorships and individual donations to maintain its programs and create new ones. For more information, visit [sagfoundation.org](http://sagfoundation.org). Follow @SAGFoundation on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Like and subscribe to /SAGFoundation on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

### **SAG Awards Corporate Partners**

The official Post-Awards Gala, which is held immediately following the SAG Awards on the Shrine's back lot, is being hosted for the 19<sup>th</sup> year by PEOPLE Magazine and the Entertainment Industry Foundation to honor the SAG Foundation and actors' philanthropic activities in the same spirit of support for the SAG Foundation and actors' charitable activities, Graff Diamonds returns to host the SAG Awards Green Room. Also returning as corporate partners and SAG Foundation supporters are Champagne Taittinger, FIJI Water, L'Oréal Paris and Subaru. Joining this distinguished group of companies this year is AT&T.

### **The SAG Awards: A Leader in Sustainable Production Practices**

The Screen Actors Guild Awards is committed to reducing its environmental footprint. In October 2013, the SAG Awards received EMA's prestigious Green Production Award, honoring its overall environmental efforts. Since the 15<sup>th</sup> SAG Awards in 2009 each annual Actors® ceremony has been honored with the Environmental Media Association (EMA)'s Green Seal, recognizing a production's outstanding efforts to implement sustainable initiatives and promote environmental awareness. The SAG Awards is the only televised special event to have received this honor for six consecutive years.

### **The SAG Awards Production Team**

The 21st Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards® presented by SAG-AFTRA with Screen Actors Guild Awards, LLC will be produced by Avalon Harbor Entertainment, Inc. Kathy Connell is the executive producer. Producing for SAG-AFTRA are JoBeth Williams, Daryl Anderson, Scott Bakula, Shelley Fabares and Woody Schultz. The production team is also led by Gloria Fujita O'Brien and Benn Fleishman, producers; Mick McCullough, consulting producer; Rosalind Jarrett Sepulveda, executive in charge of publicity; Jon Brockett, supervising producer; Cynthia Kistler, coordinating producer; and Maggie Barrett Caulfield, talent producer. Alan Carter serves as director and Dave Boone as writer.

### **Connec with the SAG Awards**

*Hashtag: #sagawards*

*Information: <http://sagawards.org/about/>*

*Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/sagawardsofficialpage/>*

*Twitter: @sagawards or <http://twitter.com/sagawards>*

*Google +: <http://google.com/+SAGawards>*

*Instagram: @sagawards*

*Tumblr: <http://sagawards.tumblr.com>*

*Blog: <http://blog.sagawards.org>*

### **Press Materials**

*Photos and graphics: <http://sagawards.org/media-pr/photos-and-artwork/>*

*Press Kit: <http://www.sagawards.org/media-pr/press-kit/>*

### Telecast

The **21st Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards**, one of the awards season's premier events, will honor outstanding performances from 2014 in five film categories and eight television categories, including the distinctive ensemble awards. This year's Actor® recipients will be announced at the Los Angeles Shrine Exposition Center during a live **simulcast on TNT and TBS on Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015 at 8 p.m. (ET) / 5 p.m. (PT)**. A primetime encore presentation will follow immediately on The SAG Awards can also be viewed live on the TNT and TBS websites, and also the Watch TNT and Watch TBS apps for iOS or Android. (Viewers must sign in using their TV service provider user name and password).

Prior to the televised ceremony, recipients of the honors for television and film stunt ensembles will be announced from the red carpet during the **SAG Awards Red Carpet Pre-show webcast live on [sagawards.tntdrama.com](http://sagawards.tntdrama.com) and [People.com](http://People.com) beginning at 6 p.m. (ET)/3 p.m. (PT)**.

