



## 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS

### **Actors' Stories are a SAG Awards® Tradition**

When the first Screen Actors Guild Awards® were presented on March 8, 1995, the ceremony opened with a speech by Angela Lansbury introducing the concept behind the SAG Awards and the Actor® statuette. During her remarks she shared a little of her own history as a performer: "I've been Elizabeth Taylor's sister, Spencer Tracy's mistress, Elvis' mother and a singing teapot." She ended by telling the audience of SAG Awards nominees and presenters, "Tonight is dedicated to the art and craft of acting by the people who should know about it: actors. And remember, you're one too!"

#### **Over the Years**

This glimpse into an actor's life was so well received that it began a tradition of introducing each Screen Actors Guild Awards telecast with a distinguished actor relating a brief anecdote and sharing thoughts about what the art and craft mean on a personal level.

For the first eight years of the SAG Awards, just one actor performed that customary opening. For the 9th Annual SAG Awards, however, producer Gloria Fujita O'Brien suggested a twist. She observed it would be more representative of the acting profession as a whole if several actors, drawn from all ages and backgrounds, told shorter versions of their individual journeys. To add more fun and to emphasize the universal truths of being an actor, the producers decided to keep the identities of those storytellers secret until they popped up on camera.

#### **An August Lineage**

Ever since then, the SAG Awards have begun with several of these short tales, typically signing off with his or her name and the evocative line, "**I am an actor™**." So far, audiences have been delighted by 93 of these unique yet quintessential Actors' Stories. Videos of a random sampling can be seen at [sagawards.org](http://sagawards.org).

The following is a complete alphabetical list of these special storytellers:

Alan Alda  
Will Arnett  
Alec Baldwin  
Kathy Bates  
Halle Berry  
Demián Bichir  
Jeff Bridges  
Sterling K. Brown  
Ellen Burstyn  
Rose Byrne  
Steve Carell

Keisha Castle-Hughes  
Tom Cavanagh  
Steve Coogan  
Darren Criss  
Marcia Cross  
Jon Cryer  
Kaley Cuoco  
Tyne Daly  
Kristin Davis  
James Denton  
Edie Falco

Sally Field  
Jenna Fischer  
Victor Garber  
Jeff Garlin  
(continued on next page)  
Jennifer Garner  
Brad Garrett  
Whoopi Goldberg  
Cuba Gooding Jr.  
Tony Hale  
Anne Hathaway

Dennis Haysbert  
Patricia Heaton  
Marg Helgenberger  
Hal Holbrook  
Dennis Hopper  
Helen Hunt  
David Hyde Pierce  
Jeremy Irons  
Shirley Jones  
Anil Kapoor  
Michael Keaton  
Ellie Kemper  
Ben Kingsley  
Jane Krakowski  
John Krasinski  
Ashton Kutcher  
Jesse L. Martin  
Queen Latifah  
Melissa Leo  
Juliette Lewis  
John Lithgow

Eva Longoria  
Rob Lowe  
Bernie Mac  
Kyle MacLachlan  
Rami Malek  
Julianna Margulies  
Jack McBrayer  
S. Epatha Merkerson  
Alfred Molina  
Cory Monteith  
Kunal Nayyar  
Thandie Newton  
Sandra Oh  
Jim Parsons  
Jada Pinkett Smith  
Randy Quaid  
Phylicia Rashad  
Debbie Reynolds  
Amber Riley  
Freddie Rodriguez  
Rico Rodriguez

Rebecca Romijn  
Doug Savant  
William Shatner  
Sherri Shepherd  
John Spencer  
Julia Stiles  
Eric Szmanda  
Jeffrey Tambor  
Chris Tucker  
Sofia Vergara  
Jessica Walter  
Kerry Washington  
Emily Watson  
Keith Williams  
Michael Kenneth Williams  
Vanessa Williams  
Evan Rachel Wood  
Alfre Woodard  
James Woods

**Screen Actors Guild Awards®, LLC**

*phone* 424.309.1400 • *email* [awardspr@sagawards.org](mailto:awardspr@sagawards.org) • *web* [www.sagawards.org](http://www.sagawards.org)

15260 Ventura Blvd. • Suite 800 • Sherman Oaks • CA 91403

Airs Sunday, January 21, 2018 on TNT & TBS

