



SAG-AFTRA to Honor Finest Performances of 2017 at the 24th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards®

Simulcast Live on TNT and TBS on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018, at 8 p.m. (ET) / 5 p.m. (PT)

The **24th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards®**, one of the awards season's premier events, will honor outstanding performances from 2016 in film and television, including the distinctive ensemble awards. **Kristen Bell** (*The Good Place*, *Frozen*) will host the ceremony during which the coveted Actor® statuettes will be handed out at the Los Angeles Shrine Exposition Center during a **simulcast live on TNT and TBS on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018 at 8 p.m. (ET) / 5 p.m. (PT)**.

TBS and TNT subscribers can also watch the SAG Awards live through the networks' websites and mobile apps. In addition, TNT will present a special encore of the ceremony at 11 p.m. (PT)/8 p.m.(PT).

Prior to the internationally televised ceremony, honorees for outstanding television and film stunt ensemble action performances will be announced from the red carpet during the **SAG Awards Live Red Carpet Pre-show** webcast on sagawards.org, tntdrama.com/sagawards and People.com.

The SAG Awards Are Unique

Of the top industry honors presented to performers, only the SAG Awards® are conferred solely by actors' peers: members of SAG-AFTRA. The SAG Awards was the first televised awards show created by a union to acknowledge the work of actors and the first to establish ensemble and cast awards. The presentation of this year's SAG Awards marks the 21st telecast of this prestigious industry event on TNT and the 12th simulcast on TBS.

Each year at the SAG Awards, the red carpet and showroom teem with a who's who of the entertainment industry as the casts of the year's best-acted films and television come together with industry leaders to meet, mingle and cheer their colleagues. Set within an intimate dinner-party atmosphere, the event is an evening of camaraderie, glamorous fashion, warm reunions, spontaneous laughter and mutual respect.

Unlike other awards ceremonies, the SAG Awards puts its focus squarely on the actors, from the signature opening montage of "Actors Stories" to the acceptance speeches in which Actor recipients speak from the heart to their peers. The Screen Actors Guild Awards are closely watched by the industry as a precursor of possible Oscar® and Emmy® recognition and by viewers as an emotional, memorable night of live television.

Morgan Freeman, Life Achievement Award Honoree

A highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the **2017 SAG Life Achievement Award** to Academy Award® winning actor, producer, voice actor and activist **Morgan Freeman**. SAG-AFTRA's highest accolade recognizes career achievement and humanitarian accomplishment, and is given annually to an actor who fosters the "finest ideals of the acting profession." The 54th SAG Life Achievement Award will join Freeman's exceptional catalog of preeminent industry and public honors, which includes a Screen Actors Guild Award, an Academy Award, HFPA's Cecil B. DeMille Award®, an AFI Lifetime Achievement Award, seven Image Awards, a Silver Berlin Bear, several Obies®, a Kennedy Center Honor, and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Previous SAG Life Achievement recipients include Lily Tomlin, Carol Burnett, Debbie Reynolds, Rita Moreno, Dick Van Dyke, Mary Tyler Moore, Ernest Borgnine, Betty White, James Earl Jones, Julie Andrews, Shirley Temple Black, James Garner, Karl Malden, Clint Eastwood, Edward Asner, Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, Sidney Poitier, Kirk Douglas,

Elizabeth Taylor, Angela Lansbury, Robert Redford and George Burns, among others. A complete list of the 53 previous Life Achievement Award recipients can be found at sagawards.org.

Stylish and Style Conscious

The style and décor of this year's SAG Awards bring a fluid elegance to the Shrine Expo Center. Huge sweeps of glamorous fabric draw the eye to the stage, toying with the lights by appearing metallicly reflective at times but diaphanous at other times. Delicately swathed chandeliers carry this theme out into the room of celebrants, where all of the tables are adorned with an artistic composition of white roses, calla lilies and green foliage.

Nominations & Voting

SAG Awards nominees are chosen by separate film and television nominating committees, randomly selected anew each year, each consisting of 2,500 SAG-AFTRA members from around the country. **Olivia Munn** (*X-Men: Apocalypse*, *The Predator*) and **Niecy Nash** (*Claws*, *The Soul Man*) announced this year's nominations on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2016 at the Pacific Design Center in West Hollywood.

The 121,544 members of SAG-AFTRA who were in good standing on Dec. 1, 2017, were sent voting instructions on Dec. 19. Votes to determine who will receive the bronze Actor® statuettes on Jan. 21 must be received by the SAG Awards official teller, Integrity Voting Systems, by noon (PT) on Friday, Jan. 19.

Screen Actors Guild Post-Awards Gala

PEOPLE magazine and the **Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF)** will host the Screen Actors Guild Post-Awards Gala for the 22nd consecutive year, joined for the first time by **TNT & TBS**. This exclusive event, which honors the philanthropic causes and good works of the members of SAG-AFTRA and of the non-profit SAG-AFTRA Foundation charitable efforts of actors in their communities, will immediately follow the SAG Awards on the transformed Shrine Auditorium stage.

The SAG Awards: A Leader in Sustainable Production Practices

The Screen Actors Guild Awards is committed to reducing its environmental footprint. In October 2017, the SAG Awards received EMA's prestigious Green Production Award, honoring its overall environmental efforts. Since the 15th 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 nine consecutive years.

The SAG Awards Production Team

The 24th 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 SAG Awards Committee Chair JoBeth Williams, Vice Chair Daryl Anderson, Jason George, Elizabeth McLaughlin and Woody Schultz. Producers Gloria Fujita O'Brien and Benn Fleishman, Consulting Producer Mick McCullough, Executive in Charge of Publicity Rosalind Jarrett Sepulveda, Supervising Producer Jon Brockett, Coordinating Producer Cynthia Kistler and Talent Producer Maggie Barrett Caulfield also lead the production team. Alan Carter serves as director. Dave Boone and Beth Armogida are the writers.

About the 24th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards®

The 24th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards® presented by SAG-AFTRA with Screen Actors Guild Awards, LLC will be produced by Avalon Harbor Entertainment, Inc. and **nationally simulcast live on TNT and TBS on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018 at 8 p.m. (ET) / 5 p.m. (PT). Nominations were announced on Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017. The event will be hosted by Kristen Bell (*The Good Place*, *Frozen*).**

One of the awards season's premier events, the SAG Awards annually celebrates the outstanding motion picture and television performances from the previous calendar year. Of the top industry honors presented to actors, only the SAG Awards are selected entirely by performers' peers in SAG-AFTRA. The SAG Awards was the first televised

awards show to acknowledge the work of union members and the first to present awards to motion picture casts and television ensembles. For more information about the SAG Awards®, SAG-AFTRA, TNT and TBS, visit sagawards.org/about.

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