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NOMINEES FOR 40TH NAACP IMAGE AWARDS ANNOUNCED LIVE AT PRESS CONFERENCE BY CORBIN BLEU, AUDRA MCDONALD, KEKE PALMER, NATE PARKER, REGINA TAYLOR AND NAACP EXECUTIVES

The 40th NAACP IMAGE AWARDS Airs Live Thursday, February 12 On FOX

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., (January 7, 2009) -- **The 40th NAACP Image Awards** nominees were announced today during a press conference at The Beverly Hilton Hotel. Corbin Bleu, Audra McDonald, Keke Palmer, Nate Parker and Regina Taylor joined NAACP Image Awards Committee Chair, Clayola Brown, and Vicangelo Bulluck, Executive Producer of the telecast, to announce the categories and nominees. The 40th NAACP Image Awards will air live on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>February 12</u> (8:00 – 10:00 PM ET/PT Tape-delayed) on FOX.

Academy Award-winner Halle Berry and acclaimed screenwriter/actor Tyler Perry, both recipients of an NAACP Image Award, will host the 40TH NAACP IMAGE AWARDS, broadcast live from Los Angeles' historic Shrine Auditorium. This star-studded event, which coincides with the NAACP's 100th anniversary, will kick off the organization's year-long centennial celebration. Previously announced honorees include Former Vice President Al Gore and Dr. Wangari Maathai, who will both receive the Chairman's Award.

The ABC network leads with a total of 24 nominations, followed by CBS with 14, and The CW and NBC both with 10. HBO has 9, with FOX coming in with 7. Television shows "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" received 6 nominations, followed by "Ugly Betty" with 5 and "Everybody Hates Chris", "The Game" and "Grey's Anatomy" each with 4.

Columbia Records leads the Recording category with 8 nominations, including 5 for Beyoncé. J Records and Arista both followed with 6 nominations apiece, and Island Def Jam has 4.

In the Motion Picture category, Fox Searchlight received 11 nominations. Sony Music Films/Parkwood Pictures follows with 7 nominations, and Columbia Pictures, Lionsgate and Sony Pictures Classics each have 3.

This year, over 1,200 entries were received. From those entries, a special committee of 300 industry professionals and NAACP leaders as well as a few specialized subcommittees from across the country selected five nominees in each of 53 categories. Any artist, manager, publicist, production company, record label, studio, network or publishing house could submit an entry to the NAACP Image Awards. The final selections are voted on by NAACP members, and winners will be announced during the live airing of the 40th NAACP Image Awards.



Event sponsors for the 40th NAACP Image Awards include Chrysler, FedEx, American Airlines, Bank of America, Blockbuster, Ford Motor Company and Southwest Airlines.

Founded on February 12, 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its half-million adult and youth members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, and monitor equal opportunity in the public and private sectors. For more information on the NAACP IMAGE AWARDS, please visit naacpimageawards.net.

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THE 40th NAACP IMAGE AWARDS NOMINATION RESULTS

TELEVISION CATEGORIES

Outstanding Comedy Series

- "30 Rock" (NBC)
- "Everybody Hates Chris" (CW)
- "The Game" (CW)
- "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" (TBS)
- "Ugly Betty" (ABC)

Outstanding Actor in a Comedy Series

- Donald Faison "Scrubs" (NBC)
- LaVan Davis "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" (TBS)
- Paul James "Greek" (ABC Family)
- Terry Crews "Everybody Hates Chris" (CW)
- Tyler James Williams "Everybody Hates Chris" (CW)

Outstanding Actress in a Comedy

Series

- America Ferrera "Ugly Betty" (ABC)
- Cassi Davis "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" (TBS)
- Tia Mowry "The Game" (CW)
- Tichina Arnold "Everybody Hates Chris" (CW)
- Tracee Ellis Ross "Girlfriends" (CW)

Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series

- Blair Underwood "The New Adventures of Old Christine" (CBS)
- Dulé Hill "Psych" (USA)
- Lance Gross "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" (TBS)
- Larramie 'Doc' Shaw "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" (TBS)
- Tracy Morgan "30 Rock" (NBC)

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series

- Keshia Knight Pulliam "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" (TBS)
- Tisha Campbell-Martin "Rita Rocks" (Lifetime)
- Vanessa Williams "Ugly Betty" (ABC)
- Wanda Sykes "The New Adventures of Old Christine" (CBS)
- Wendy Raquel Robinson "The Game" (CW)

Outstanding Drama Series

- "Grey's Anatomy" (ABC)
- "House" (FOX)
- "Lincoln Heights" (ABC Family)
- "The Unit" (CBS)
- "The Wire" (HBO)

Outstanding Actor in a Drama

Series

- Anthony Anderson "Law & Order" (NBC)
- Blair Underwood "In Treatment" (HBO)
- Dennis Haysbert "The Unit" (CBS)
- Hill Harper "CSI: NY" (CBS)
- Omar Epps "House" (FOX)

Outstanding Actress in a Drama Series

- CCH Pounder "The Shield" (FX)
- Chandra Wilson "Grey's Anatomy" (ABC)
- Loretta Devine "Eli Stone" (ABC)
- Nicki Micheaux "Lincoln Heights" (ABC Family)
- Wendy Davis "Army Wives" (Lifetime)

Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series

- Blair Underwood "Dirty Sexy Money" (ABC)
- James Pickens, Jr. "Grey's Anatomy" (ABC)
- Michael Kenneth Williams "The Wire" (HBO)
- Taye Diggs "Private Practice" (ABC)
- Wendell Pierce "The Wire" (HBO)

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series

- Alfre Woodard "My Own Worst Enemy" (NBC)
- Angela Bassett "ER" (NBC)
- Audra McDonald "Private Practice" (ABC)
- S. Epatha Merkerson "Law & Order" (NBC)
- Sonja Sohn "The Wire" (HBO)

Outstanding Television Movie, Mini-Series or Dramatic Special

- "24: Redemption" (FOX)
- "A Raisin in The Sun" (ABC)
- "Accidental Friendship" (Hallmark Channel)
- "House of Saddam" (HBO)
- "Racing For Time" (Lifetime)

Outstanding Actor in a Television Movie, Mini-Series or Dramatic Special

- Andre Braugher "The Andromeda Strain" (A&E)
- Ben Vereen "Accidental Friendship" (Hallmark Channel)
- Charles S. Dutton "Racing For Time" (Lifetime)
- Sean Combs "A Raisin in The Sun" (ABC)
- Sean Patrick Thomas "A Raisin in The Sun" (ABC)

Outstanding Actress in a Television Movie, Mini-Series or Dramatic

Audra McDonald – "A Raisin in The Sun" (ABC)

- Chandra Wilson "Accidental Friendship" (Hallmark Channel)
- Phylicia Rashad "A Raisin in The Sun" (ABC) Sanaa Lathan – "A Raisin in The Sun" (ABC)
- Vanessa Williams "Flirting With Forty" (Lifetime)

Outstanding Actor in a Daytime Drama Series

Special

- Bryton McClure "The Young And The Restless" (CBS)
- Cornelius Smith, Jr. "All My Children" (ABC)
- Dan Martin "The Bold and the Beautiful" (CBS)
- Montell Williams "The Guiding Light" (CBS)
- Texas Battle "The Bold and the Beautiful" (CBS)

Outstanding Actress in a Daytime Drama Series

- Christel Khalil "The Young And The Restless" (CBS)
- Debbi Morgan "All My Children" (ABC)
- Eva Marcille "The Young and the Restless" (CBS)
- Nia Peeples "The Young and the Restless" (CBS)
- Tonya Lee Williams "The Young and the Restless" (CBS)

Outstanding News/ Information -

(Series or Special)

- "American Gangster" (BET)
- "Anderson Cooper 360: Race in America" (CNN)
- "An Oprah Winfrey Show Special Event: The Dream Lives A Martin Luther King Day Special" (Syndicated)
- "In Conversation: Michelle Obama Interview" (TVOne)
- "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" (HBO)

Outstanding Talk Series

- "Iconoclasts: Venus Williams & Wyclef Jean" (Sundance Channel)
- "Judge Mathis" (Syndicated)
- "Tavis Smiley" (PBS)
- "The Tyra Banks Show" (CW)
- "The View" (ABC)

Outstanding Reality Series

- "American Idol 7" (FOX)
- "Dancing with the Stars" (ABC)
- "Keyshia Cole: The Way It Is" (BET)
- "Project Runway" (Bravo)
- "Run's House 5" (MTV)

Outstanding Variety – (Series or Special)

- "American Idol 7: Idol Gives Back" (FOX)
- "BET Awards '08" (BET)
- "Chris Rock Kill the Messenger" (HBO) "Russell Simmons' Def Comedy Jam" (HBO)
- "UNCF An Evening of Stars: Tribute to Smokey Robinson" (Syndicated)

Outstanding Children's Program

- "Cheetah Girls: One World" (Disney Channel)
- "Cory in the House" (Disney Channel)
 "Dora The Explorer" (Nickelodeon)
- "Go, Diego, Go" (Nickelodeon)
- "True Jackson, VP" (Nickelodeon)

Outstanding Performance in a Youth/Children's Program – (Series

- Caitlin Sanchez "Dora the Explorer" (Nickelodeon)
- Keke Palmer "True Jackson" (Nickelodeon)
- Kyle Massey "Cory in the House" (Disney Channel)
- Lil' JJ "Just Jordan" (Nickelodeon)
- Selena Gomez "Wizards of Waverly Place" (Disney Channel)

RECORDING CATEGORIES

Outstanding New Artist

or Special)

- Anthony David (Soulbird/Universal Republic)
- Estelle (Atlantic/Homeschool)
- Jazmine Sullivan (J Records)
- Jennifer Hudson (Arista)
- Leona Lewis (J Records/Syco)

Outstanding Male Artist

- Chris Brown (Jive/Zomba)
- Common (G.o.o.d. Music/Geffen Records)
- Jamie Foxx (J Records)
- John Legend (Columbia Records)
- Will.i.am (Will.i.am Music Group/Interscope Records)

Outstanding Female Artist

- Alicia Keys (J Records)
- Beyoncé (MusicWorld/Columbia Records)
- Jennifer Hudson (Arista)
- Mariah Carey (Island Def Jam)
- Rihanna (Island Def Jam)

Outstanding Duo, Group or Collaboration

- Anthony David & India.Arie "Words" (Soulbird/Universal Republic)
- Estelle feat. Kanye West "American Boy" (Atlantic/ Homeschool)
- Jennifer Hudson feat. Fantasia "I'm His Only Woman" (Arista)
- Jordin Sparks feat. Chris Brown "No Air" (Jive/Zomba)
- Natalie Cole/ Nat "King" Cole Walkin' My Baby Back Home" (DMI Records)

Outstanding Jazz Artist

- Esperanza Spalding "Esperanza" (Heads Up International)
- James Carter "Present Tense" (Emarcy)
- Natalie Cole "Still Unforgettable" (DMI Records)
- The Roy Hargrove Quintet "Earfood" (Decca Label Group)
- Sonny Rollins "Road Shows Vol. 1"(Doxy/Emarcy)

Outstanding Gospel Artist – (Traditional or Contemporary)

- Hezekiah Walker (Zomba Gospel)
- Marvin Sapp (Zomba Gospel)
- Mary Mary (Columbia Records)
- Regina Belle (Pendulum Records/Walker Davis Entertainment)
- Take 6 (Heads Up International)

Outstanding World Music Album

- Cheryl Keyes "Let Me Take You There" (Keycan Records)
- Esperanza Spalding "Esperanza" (Heads Up International)
- Miquel Zen'on "Awake" (Marsalis Music)
- Omega Bugembe Okello "Kiwombra Emmeeme" (Alexom Productions)
- Toumani Diabate "The Mande Variations" (Nonesuch Records)

Outstanding Music Video

- "If I Were A Boy" Beyoncé (MusicWorld/Columbia Records)
- "Single Ladies" Beyoncé (MusicWorld/Columbia Records)
- "Spotlight" Jennifer Hudson (Arista)
- "Superwoman" Alicia Keys (J Records)
- "Yes We Can" Will.i.am (Will.i.am Music Group/Interscope)

Outstanding Song

- "Greenlight" John Legend (Columbia Records)
- "Single Ladies" Beyoncé (MusicWorld/Columbia Records)
- "Spotlight" Jennifer Hudson (Arista)
- "Superwoman" Alicia Keys (J Records)
- "Yes We Can" Will.i.am (Will.i.am Music Group/Interscope)

Outstanding Album

- Beyoncé "I Am...Sasha Fierce" (MusicWorld/Columbia Records)
- Jennifer Hudson "Jennifer Hudson" (Arista)
- Kanye West "808 & Heartbreaks" (Island Def Jam)
- Ne-Yo "Year of the Gentleman" (Island Def Jam)
- Seal "Soul" (Warner Bros. Records)

LITERATURE CATEGORIES

Outstanding Literary Work – Fiction

- "Blood Colony: A Novel" Tananarive Due (Atria Books/Simon & Schuster)
- "Going Down South: A Novel" Bonnie J. Glover (Random House/One World/Ballentine)
- "In the Night of the Heat: A Tennyson Hardwick Novel" Blair Underwood, Tananarive Due, Steven Barnes (Atria Books/ Simon & Schuster)
- "Just Too Good to Be True" E. Lynn Harris (Doubleday)
- "Song Yet Sung" James McBride (Riverhead Books)

Outstanding Literary Work – Non-Fiction

- "Hope on a Tightrope: Words and Wisdom" Cornel West (Smiley Books)
- "Letter to My Daughter" Maya Angelou (Random House)
- "Moving to Higher Ground" Wynton Marsalis, Geoffrey Ward (Random House)
- "The Sea is So Wide And My Boat Is So Small" Marian Wright Edelman (Hyperion)
- "There's No Traffic on the Extra Mile: Lessons on the Road From Dreams to Destiny" – Rickey Minor (Gotham Books)

Outstanding Literary Work – Debut Author

- "Barack, Race, and the Media: Drawing My Own Conclusion" David Glenn Brown (David G. Brown Studios)
- "The Beautiful Struggle" Ta-Nehisi Coates (Spiegel and Grau)
- "Homeroom Heroes: Freshman Edition" Michael B. Jordan, Rahfeal Gordan (RahGor Publishing)
- "No Way Home" Carlos Acosta (Scribner)
- "War of the Blood In My Veins" Dashaun "Jiwe" Morris (Scribner)

Outstanding Literary Work – Biography/Auto-Biography

- "21 Nights" Prince (Photography by Randee St. Nicholas) (Atria Books/Simon & Schuster)
- "Baldwin's Harlem: A Biography of James Baldwin" Herb Boyd (Atria Books/Simon & Schuster)
- "The Black List" Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, Elvis Mitchell (Atria Books/Simon & Schuster)
- "The Legs Are The Last To Go" Diahann Carroll (Amistad)
- "Maya Angelou: A Glorious Celebration" Marcia Ann Gillespie, Rosa Johnson Butler, Richard A. Long (Doubleday)

Outstanding Literary Work – Instructional

- "32 Ways To Be A Champion In Business" Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Crown Business)
- "The Black Male Handbook: A Blueprint for Life" Kevin Powell (Atria Books/Simon & Schuster)
- "Dining In" G. Garvin (Meredith Books)
- "Good is not Enough and Other Unwritten Rules for Minority Professionals" Keith R. Wyche (Portfolio/Centennial)
- "Tapping the Power Within: A Path To Self-Empowerment For Women" – Iyanla Vanzant (Smiley Books)

Outstanding Literary Work - Poetry

- "Hardheaded Weather" Cornelius Eady (Marian Wood Books)
- "Hip Hop Speaks To Children: A Celebration of "Poetry With A Beat" – Nikki Giovanni (Source Books/Jabberwocky)
- "Honoring the Ancestors" James Cherry (Third World Press)
- "Things I Must Have Known" A B Spellman (Coffee House Press)
- "Warhorses" Yusef Komunyakaa (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

Outstanding Literary Work – Children

- "Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem" Maya Angelou (illustrators - Lou Fancher & Steven Johnson) (Schwartz & Wade)
- "Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope" Nikki Grimes, (illustrator - Bryan Collier) (Simon & Schuster)
- "Say a Little Prayer" Dionne Warwick, David Freeman Wooley, Tonya Bolden, (illustrator Soud) (Running Press)
- "We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball" Kadir Nelson (Disney Publishing)
- "You Can Do It!" Tony Dungy, (illustrator Amy June Bates)
 (Simon & Schuster)

Outstanding Literary Work – Youth/Teens

- "Beacon Hills High" Mo'Nique Imes Jackson, Sherri McGee McCovey (Amistad)
- "Joseph" Shelia P. Moses (Simon & Schuster)
- "Letters To A Young Sister: Define Your Destiny" Hill Harper (Gotham Books)
- "Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s American Heroes: Robert Smalls, The Boat Thief" – Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., (illustrator Patrick Faricy) (Disney Hyperion)
- "Sugar Plum Ballerinas: Plum Fantastic" Whoopi Goldberg, Nancy Cato, (illustrator - Maryn Roos)(Disney Publishing)

MOTION PICTURE CATEGORIES

Outstanding Motion Picture

- "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- "Miracle at St. Anna" (Touchstone Pictures)
- "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- "Seven Pounds" (Columbia Pictures)
- "Tyler Perry's The Family That Preys" (Lionsgate)

Outstanding Actor in a Motion Picture

- Derek Luke "Miracle at St. Anna" (Touchstone Pictures)
- Don Cheadle "Traitor" (Overture Films)
- Jeffrey Wright "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- Rob Brown "The Express" (Universal Pictures)
- Will Smith "Seven Pounds" (Columbia Pictures)

Outstanding Actress in a Motion Picture

- Alfre Woodard "Tyler Perry's The Family That Preys" (Lionsgate)
- Angela Bassett "Tyler Perry's Meet The Browns" (Lionsgate)
- Dakota Fanning "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- Queen Latifah "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- Rosario Dawson "Seven Pounds" (Columbia Pictures)

Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Motion Picture

- Cedric the Entertainer "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- Columbus Short "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- Dev Patel "Slumdog Millionaire" (Fox Searchlight)
- Mos Def "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- Nate Parker "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture

- Alicia Keys "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- Beyoncé Knowles "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- Jennifer Hudson "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- Sophie Okonedo "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- Taraji P. Henson "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" (Paramount)

The nominees listed in the following categories were voted upon by Subcommittees.

Outstanding Independent Motion

• "Ballast" (Alluvial Film Co.)

Picture

- "Noah's Arc: Jumping the Broom" (Logo)
- "Rachel Getting Married" (Sony Pictures Classics)
- "Slumdog Millionaire" (Fox Searchlight)
- "The Visitor" (Overture Films)

Outstanding Foreign Motion Picture

- "Captain Abu Raed" (Neoclassics Films)
- "The Class" (Sony Pictures Classics)
- "Mongol" (Picturehouse)
- "Song of Sparrows" (Regent Releasing)
- "Under the Same Moon" (Fox Searchlight)

DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY

Outstanding Documentary (Theatrical or Television)

- "The Black List" (HBO)
- "Black Magic" (ESPN)
- "CNN Presents: Black in America" (CNN)
- "Dare Not Walk Alone" (DNWA Productions)
- "Trouble the Water" (Zeitgeist Films)

WRITING CATEGORIES

Outstanding Writing in a Comedy Series

- Aaron McGruder & Rodney Barnes "The Boondocks" The Story of Gangstalicious Part 2 (Cartoon Network)
- Erica D. Montolfo "The Game" White Coats and White Lies (CW)
- Marc Wilmore "The Simpsons" My Pods and Broomstick (FOX)
- Ryan Koh "The Office" Business Ethics (NBC)
- Tracy Poust & Jon Kinnally "Ugly Betty" Crush'd (ABC)

Outstanding Writing in a Dramatic Series

- Aaron Rahsaan Thomas "Friday Night Lights" Leave No One Behind (NBC)
- Janine Sherman Barrois "ER" Parental Guidance (NBC)
- Kathleen McGhee-Anderson "Lincoln Heights" Glass House (ABC)
- Liz Friedman & Sara Hess "House" Lucky Thirteen (FOX)
- Shonda Rhimes "Grey's Anatomy" Freedom Part 1 & 2 (ABC)

Outstanding Writing in a Motion Picture (Theatrical or Television)

- Darnell Martin "Cadillac Records" (Sony Music Film/Parkwood Pictures)
- Gina Prince-Bythewood "The Secret Life of Bees" (Fox Searchlight)
- Jenny Lumet "Rachel Getting Married" (Sony Pictures Classics)
- Paris Qualles "A Raisin In The Sun" (ABC)
- Patrik-lan Polk & John R. Gordon "Noah's Arc: Jumping the Broom" (LOGO)

Nominees in the Directing Category will be announced at a later date.

END