

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### 11TH ANNUAL TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS ANNOUNCED

Exceptional Television Programs and Producers Advancing Social Change are Center Stage at May 31 Celebration

(NoHo Arts District, Calif. — May 4, 2018) — The Television Academy announced today the recipients of its  $11^{\text{th}}$  Annual Television Academy Honors, recognizing seven outstanding programs that have leveraged the dynamic power of television to inspire social change.

The 2018 honorees were selected from a record number of submissions and represent some of the most meaningful and relevant series, programs and documentaries of the past year, including: *Andi Mack, Daughters of Destiny, Forbidden: Undocumented & Queer in Rural America, Full Frontal with Samantha Bee, LA 92, One Day at a Time,* and *13 Reasons Why.* 

Television Academy Honors celebrates programming across numerous platforms and genres that addresses the complex challenges and important social issues facing society in a compelling and impactful way. Showrunners and producers are honored for channeling the power of television to explore these issues via captivating and thoughtful storytelling that advances positive change.

Honorees will be recognized at a special presentation and reception held on Thursday evening, May 31, at NeueHouse Hollywood, hosted for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year by actress, producer and activist Dana Delany.

"It's been a gift to host Television Academy Honors for the past 10 years. Every year I learn something new and am inspired by the work that is recognized," said Delany. "With all the places to watch TV now, we have a wealth of human stories to tell. This year's honorees are very special."

"Our dynamic television landscape is a catalyst for raising awareness of relevant issues around the globe," said Television Academy Chairman and CEO Hayma Washington. "We are proud to be part of an industry that spreads understanding, uncovers truth, encourages compassion and shines a light on darkness."

Howard Meltzer, CSA, Governor for the Academy's Casting Peer Group, chaired this year's Television Academy Honors selection committee, with Mitch Waldow serving as vice-chair. Honorees represent a diverse spectrum of important issues challenging our world, including sexual harassment, LGBTQ prejudice and acceptance, veterans' healthcare, teen mental health and suicide, racial discrimination, immigrant rights, and social justice.

### Recipients of the 11th Annual Television Academy Honors are:

## Andi Mack (Produced by Horizon Productions with Go Dog Go and MM Productions)

In this heartwarming and comedic story, 13-year-old Andi Mack learns her older sister, Bex, is actually her mother, a revelation that sends Andi on an uncharted course of self-discovery. At least she's in good company -- her best friends Cyrus and Buffy and her crush, Jonah Beck, are also figuring out their places in the world; and they lean on each other to navigate the emotional roller coaster of middle school. *Andi Mack* presents stories and characters that are relevant to kids' lives and reflect the real world while helping them realize that they are not alone in their journeys of self-discovery. (Disney Channel)

### **Daughters of Destiny (A Cause & Affect Media Production)**

This four-part documentary chronicles the lives of five girls from the "untouchable" caste at a unique boarding school in India. Over the course of seven years, the girls' stories explore fate, free will, human potential and the universal common longing for opportunity, purpose and meaning. The series also delves into India's urgent issues of education, equity, social justice, gender roles, adolescence, identity, social discrimination, poverty alleviation, human rights, leadership, citizenry and community empowerment. (Netflix)

# Forbidden: Undocumented & Queer in Rural America (Produced and directed by Tiffany Rhynard; also produced by Heather Mathews. Taj Paxton and Pamela Post oversaw the project for Logo)

Moises Serrano fell in love with a country that refused to recognize his full humanity, both as an undocumented immigrant and as a gay man. An illustration of the intersection of queer and immigrant issues, *Forbidden: Undocumented & Queer in Rural America* relates directly to the 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the U.S. and to LGBTQ individuals fighting for equality and civil rights. It chronicles Serrano's work as an activist and explores the American Dream with inspired conversations about LGBTQ rights, immigrant rights, DACA and the Dream Act. (Logo)

# Full Frontal with Samantha Bee (Produced by Turner Entertainment Networks Inc. with Jax Media and Randy & Pam's Quality Entertainment)

In a male-dominated late-night landscape, *Full Frontal with Samantha Bee* has set itself apart by covering topics not typically addressed in this format, particularly women's issues. With a female host at the helm and a staff dedicated to speaking out against social injustices, *Full Frontal* found itself in the unique position to deliver commentary on sexual harassment and the #MeToo movement in a truthful and passionate way. (TBS)

## LA 92 (National Geographic Documentary Films Presents a Lightbox Production)

Academy Award- and Emmy-winning filmmakers Dan Lindsay and TJ Martin reexamined the civil unrest following the 1992 Rodney King trial. Through evocative news footage, radio reports, police files and home videos, *LA 92* offers a fresh perspective on a pivotal moment and further inspired a new, empathetic conversation about racial oppression, police brutality and socioeconomic inequality. (National Geographic)

### One Day at a Time (Produced by Sony Pictures Television)

This comedy tells the story of a newly single military veteran, Penelope Alvarez, and her multi-generational Cuban-American family. With heart and much empathy, this series explores several pertinent social issues, including immigration and undocumented residents, veteran healthcare, sexuality and coming out, and LGBTQ prejudice and acceptance. (Netflix)

### 13 Reasons Why (Produced by Paramount Television)

Based on the best-selling book, 13 Reasons Why follows teenager Clay Jensen as he returns home from school to find a mysterious box with his name on it lying on his porch. Inside he discovers cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker—his classmate and crush—who tragically died from suicide two weeks earlier. On the tape, Hannah explains that there are 13 reasons why she decided to end her life. Through Hannah and Clay's dual narratives, 13 Reasons Why weaves an intricate and heart-wrenching story of teenage life that dramatically increased discussion and awareness about teen mental health and suicide. (Netflix)

### **About the Television Academy**

The Television Academy seeks to expand the horizons of television excellence. Through the programs, publications and events of the Academy and its Foundation, it strives to empower storytellers who shape the evolving television space. And it celebrates those who have excelled by recognizing their achievements through accolades and awards, including television's most coveted prize the Primetime Emmy® Award. For more information, please visit TelevisionAcademy.com.

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