



ANNIE AWARDS

Forty Three

NEWS

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43rd ANNIE AWARD NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED!

BURBANK, CA (December 1, 2015) – The International Animated Film Society, ASIFA-Hollywood, announced nominations today for its 43rd Annual Annie Awards™ recognizing the year's best in the field of animation. For a complete list of nominations, please visit www.annieawards.org.

The Annie Awards cover 36 categories and include Best Animated Feature, Best Animated Feature-Independent (new this year), Special Productions, Commercials, Short Subjects, Student Films and Outstanding Individual Achievements, as well as the honorary Juried Awards. The winners will be announced at a black tie ceremony on Saturday, February 6, 2016 at UCLA's Royce Hall. A pre-reception and press line begins at 5:00 pm with the awards ceremony following at 7:00 pm. A post-show celebration immediately follows the ceremony. All events will be held at Royce Hall.

This year's **Best Animated Feature** nominations include: **Anomalisa** (Paramount Pictures), **Inside Out** (Pixar Animation Studios), **Shaun the Sheep The Movie** (Aardman Animations), **The Good Dinosaur** (Pixar Animation Studios), and **The Peanuts Movie** (Blue Sky Studios, Twentieth Century Fox Animation).

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“This year we introduced an important new category – Best Feature-Independent,” says ASIFA-Hollywood President, Jerry Beck. “We will now recognize not only features in wide release, but also the independent animators, international studios, anime and special productions that might not otherwise get the attention they deserve. Adds Frank Gladstone, ASIFA-Hollywood's Executive Director, “With the growing capability worldwide to produce a wider range of animated features, we are certain that this award will expand in significance and influence going forward.”

The inaugural **Best Animated Feature-Independent** nominations include: **Boy And the World** (Filme de Papel), **Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet** (Ventanarosa), **The Boy and The Beast** (Studio Chizu), and **When Marnie Was There** (Studio Ghibli).

The Juried Awards honoring career achievement and exceptional contributions to animation will also be presented. Three **Winsor McCay** recipients have been selected by the ASIFA-Hollywood Board of Directors – **Joe Ranft, Phil Roman and Isao Takahata** for their career contributions to the art of animation; and the **June Foray** recipient – **Don Hahn** for his significant and benevolent or charitable impact on the art and industry of animation.

“We are also developing procedures that will allow us to include virtual reality projects into a widening list of Annie categories,” added Gladstone. “Each year we see a steady increase in submissions, too. The Annie Awards is becoming an even more encompassing celebration of the best talent and most remarkable projects in the animation industry.”

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ASIFA-Hollywood is the world's first and foremost professional organization dedicated to promoting the Art of Animation and celebrating the people who create it. Today, ASIFA-Hollywood, the largest chapter of the international organization ASIFA, supports a range of animation activities and preservation efforts through its membership. Current initiatives include the Animation Archive, Animation Aid Foundation, animated film preservation, special events, classes and screenings.

Created in 1972 by veteran voice talent June Foray, the Annie Awards have grown in scope and stature for the past four decades. **For tickets and additional information on the Annie Awards, please visit www.annieawards.org.**

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