

Hollywood: Her Story February 2025 ENewsletter 2025 Oscar Nominations

Because of the devastating wildfires in California, and particularly in Los Angeles County, the Academy Award nominations were twice delayed. Questions were raised about whether the Oscar presentation ceremony should even take place. The Academy officials made the decision to have the award ceremony to "honor the unifying spirit and creative synergy of moviemaking" and to "acknowledge those who fought so bravely against the wildfires."

And so the Oscar nominations have been announced! The entertainment community and film fans around the world will turn their attention to the 97th Academy Awards ceremony on Sunday, March 2, to learn who will receive the highest honors in filmmaking. How did the women in Hollywood fare this year?



For the first time since 1978, each of the five women who were nominated in the Best Actress category are also in a Best Picture nominee. Four of these women are first-time academy honorees: Karla Sofia Gascón for *Emilia Pérez* (becoming the first openly trans actress to receive an Oscar nomination), Mikey Madison for *Anora*, Demi Moore for *The Substance*, and Fernanda Torres for *I'm Still Here*. Cynthia Erivo is receiving her second Oscar nomination in this category for *Wicked*; her first was for *Harriet* in 2020. With this being Demi Moore's first Oscar nomination in more than four decades of acting, and with her poignant acceptance speech at the Golden Globes, she may be the one to keep an eye on this Oscar night.



In the Best Supporting Actress category, the same is true as above - four of the five women are first-time Oscar nominees: Monica Barbaro for *A Complete Unknown*, Ariana Grande for *Wicked*, Isabella Rossellini for *Conclave*, and Zoe Saldana for *Emilia Pérez*. Felicity Jones is receiving her second acting Oscar nomination for *The Brutalist*. Both Saldana's and Grande's roles could have been considered lead roles, but each decided to run as secondary candidates. Fernanda Torres and Isabella Rossellini both come from acting families. Torres' mother, Fernanda Montenegro, was nominated for Best Actress in 1999 for *Central Station*. Rossellini's mother, **Ingrid Bergman**, was a three-time Oscar winner.



Six of the ten movies that are nominated for Best Picture include female producers: *Anora* (6 nominations), *Conclave* (8 nominations), *Dune: Part Two* (5 nominations), *I'm Still Here* (3 nominations), *Nickel Boys* (2 nominations), and *The Substance* (5 nominations).

Only one of the Best Picture nominees was helmed by a woman - Coralie Fargeat's *The Substance*. Fargeat received an Oscar nomination for Best Director, the tenth nomination of a woman for this category in Oscar's 97-year history. Like eight of the nine female best director nominees before her, she also received a nomination in a writing category - Best Original Screenplay. Three other films have female writing nominees - *The Brutalist* (also Original Screenplay) and two more in Best Adapted Screenplay - *Emilia Pérez* and *Nickel Boys*.

Traditionally women shine in the Best Makeup and Hairstyling category, which they continued to do this year with five nominations. The Costume Design,



Documentary Feature Film, and Documentary Short Film categories each had four films with female nominees. Music - Original Song also ended up with four nominations for women. We are still watching **Diane Warren** in this category with her 16th Oscar nomination and no wins - the Susan Lucci of the Original Song Oscar. (It should be noted that The Academy did award her an Honorary Oscar in 2023.) We are told that a toned-down Oscars show will "move away from live performances" of nominated songs.

Categories with three female Oscar nominations include: Animated Short Film, Live Action Short Film, and Best Production Design. Women received only one nomination in Music - Original Score, Sound, Animated Feature, Film Editing, and Directing. There were no nominations for women in

the Cinematography, Visual Effects, and International Feature categories.

For a complete list of all the women who have been nominated for and who have won Oscars, by year and by category, please go to our website - www.hollywoodherstory.com. You can watch on March 2 to see who takes home the Oscars this year!

Women in front of and behind the camera make the movies that we all welcome into our hearts and homes. Women across all the areas of moviemaking from actress to animator, editor to stuntwoman, costume designer to screenwriter, producer to director have contributed to the success of the movie industry since its founding in the 1890s. Help us celebrate these women who are written into movie history in *Hollywood: Her Story*.

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