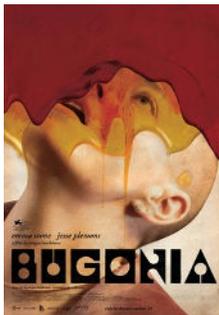


Hollywood: Her Story February 2026 ENewsletter The Oscar Nominations are Out!

The Academy Award nominations have been announced! The entertainment community and film fans around the world will turn their attention to the 98th Academy Awards ceremony on Sunday, March 15, to learn who will receive the highest honors in filmmaking. How did the women in Hollywood fare? A record 76 women are nominated for Oscars this year, with Emma Stone and Chloé Zhao nominated in two categories. The previous record of 71 was set in 2023.



Looking at the ten women who received the Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress nominations, only one has previously won an Oscar. Actually, **Emma Stone** has previously won two Oscars with an additional five nominations, including this year's nod for *Bugonia*. For the other four actresses in the Best Actress category, they are either receiving their first nomination (**Rose Byrne** for *If I Had Legs I'd Kick You* and **Renate Reinsve** for *Sentimental Value*) or are receiving their second nomination (**Jessie Buckley**, *Hamnet* and **Kate Hudson**, *Song Sung Blue*). The same is true for the Best Supporting Actress category with four receiving a nomination for the first time (**Elle Fanning** and **Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas** both for *Sentimental Value*, **Wunmi Mosaku** for *Sinners*, and **Teyana Taylor** for *One Battle after Another*) and **Amy Madigan** with her second nomination for *Weapons*.



Eight of the ten movies nominated for Best Picture have female producers: *Sinners* (16 nominations) - With an historic first, *Sinners* wins an all-time record of 16 nominations, being nominated in every category for which it was eligible. The record was previously held in a three-way tie with 14 nominations each: *All About Eve*, *Titanic*, and *La La Land*. *One Battle After Another* (13 nominations) *Frankenstein*, *Marty Supreme*, *Sentimental Value* (9 nominations each) *Hamnet* (8 nominations) *Bugonia*, *F1*, *The Secret Agent*, *Train Dreams* (4 nominations each)



Only one woman director received a nod from the Academy - **Chloé Zhao** for *Hamnet*. As is historically typical for female director nominees, she also received a nomination for Writing (Adapted Screenplay), along with her co-writer **Maggie O'Farrell**.

Looking at categories where women have historically done well, we can start with Costume Design where all five designer nominees are women. For three of these women, it's their first. **Deborah L. Scott** has one previous win (*Titanic*). This is **Ruth E. Carter's** fifth nomination, with two previous wins (*Black Panther* and *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*), making her the most-nominated Black woman in Oscar history. Makeup and Hairstyling has always been good to female nominees with four

of the five films this year. Women have usually had success in Best Production Design as well, with four nominations to show for it.

For the first time in Oscars history, the Academy will honor achievements in Casting. Four of the five inaugural nominations have been awarded to female casting directors, giving good odds for a woman to win the first Casting statuette in March. There hasn't been a new category since 2001, when Best



Animated Feature was introduced. A new Oscar recognizing stunts is scheduled to be handed out beginning in 2028.

With her nomination for Best Cinematographer for *Sinners*, **Autumn Durald Arkapaw** becomes the first woman of color and only the fourth woman ever to be recognized in this category. She says that she feels honored to join other female nominees from this picture who inspire her everyday. She and director Coogler previously collaborated on 2022's *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*."

We love to look at the Best Song category and see how **Diane Warren** is doing. With this year's nomination, she holds the record for most nominations without a win, not only in this category, but in any Oscar category (although she did receive a well-deserved honorary Oscar). Also nominated in this category is **Ejae** from the popular *KPop Demon Hunters* movie.



All five of the Best Animated Feature films include female nominees. *Zootopia 2* became the highest-grossing U.S. animated film of all time with \$1.7 billion worldwide. *KPop Demon Hunters*, whose fictional group became global superstars, earned a nod here, as well as for an original song. *Elio*, *Arco*, and *Little Amelie or the Character of Rain* round out the movies in this category. They are suited for younger audiences, and yet engage them with more difficult subject matter, such as global warming or mortality.

The women in the Best Animated Short category did not fare as well with the Academy as the animated features did with only one of their films getting a nomination. In the Documentary Feature category all five films had women nominees, while the Documentary Short category had three. Making history, **Geeta Gandbhir** is the first woman to be nominated for Documentary Short and Documentary Feature Film in the same year. Live Action Short came up short with only two nominations.

The one Best International Feature film with a female nominee, *The Voice of Hind Rajab* (from Tunisia), received a 23-minute standing ovation at the Venice Film Festival last September. Could this mean an Oscar in March?

Women received nominations in two movies for Best Sound - *F1* and *Sirat*. Typically not a strong category for women, Visual Effects had one nomination for *Jurassic World Rebirth*. There were no women nominees in the Film Editing, Music (Original Score), or Writing (Original Screenplay) 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 15 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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