

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****14<sup>th</sup> TELEVISION ACADEMY HONORS ANNOUNCED****Award to Acknowledge Programs and Producers Who Leverage the Immense Power of Television to Fuel Social Change**

**(NOHO ARTS DISTRICT, Calif. — May 3, 2021)** — The Television Academy announced today the recipients of its 14<sup>th</sup> Television Academy Honors, recognizing seven exceptional television programs and their producers who have used powerful and innovative storytelling to advance social change.

The honorees include three documentaries, two drama series, an anthology series and a late-night comedy news show representing some of the most relevant and impactful television of 2020. They are: ***For Life, I Am Greta, I May Destroy You, Little America, The Daily Show with Trevor Noah, The Social Dilemma*** and ***Welcome to Chechnya***.

Television Academy Honors annually celebrates programs across numerous platforms and genres that elevate complex issues facing society. This year's honorees used their talents to produce compelling programs, in both fictional and non-fictional works, to address racism, criminal justice, social justice, sexual assault, LGBTQ+ persecution, immigration and climate change. The remarkable storytelling of these honorees has energized, educated and challenged audiences around the globe.

"During one of the most challenging years in television history, these seven extraordinary programs illuminated and championed some of the most critical issues facing our communities," said Television Academy Chairman and CEO Frank Scherma. "We are thrilled to be honoring programs and producers who are influencing social change around the globe."

Howard Meltzer, CSA, Governor for the Academy's Casting Peer Group, chaired this year's Television Academy Honors selection committee, with Jill Sanford, Governor for the Children's Programming Peer Group, serving as vice chair.

"The Academy Honors Committee was pleased to receive many worthy submissions for this award. In a year defined by a significant social justice movement, it was inspiring to see so many compelling stories highlighting the important issues of our day," said Meltzer. "It is so gratifying to see our community of groundbreaking writers, producers, directors and actors take on empowering stories that have such a profound and positive impact on viewers."

The Honors recipients will be celebrated during a virtual program scheduled for this summer.

**Recipients of the 14<sup>th</sup> Television Academy Honors are:**

***For Life* (ABC Studios in association with Sony Pictures Television)**

*For Life* is a fictional serialized legal and family drama inspired by the life of Isaac Wright, Jr., imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit. The series' protagonist, Aaron Wallace, becomes a lawyer while in prison, litigating cases for other inmates while fighting to overturn his own life sentence. Through the window of Wallace's ferocious struggle and complicated relationship with a progressive female prison warden, the flaws and challenges in our penal and legal systems are exposed. (ABC)

***I Am Greta* (BR•F)**

The story of teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg is told through compelling, never-before-seen footage in this intimate documentary from Swedish director Nathan Grossman. Starting with her one-person school strike for climate action outside the Swedish Parliament, Grossman follows Greta—a shy student with Asperger's—in her rise to prominence and her galvanizing global impact as she sparks school strikes around the world. The film culminates with her extraordinary wind-powered voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to speak at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York City. (Hulu)

***I May Destroy You* (HBO in association with BBC)**

Michaela Coel stars in this fearless, frank and provocative series that explores the question of sexual consent in contemporary life and how, in the new landscape of dating and relationships, we make the distinction between liberation and exploitation. (HBO)

***Little America* (Apple/Universal Television)**

Inspired by true stories featured in *Epic Magazine*, "*Little America*" goes beyond the headlines to look at the funny, romantic, heartfelt, inspiring and surprising stories of Immigrants in America, when they're more relevant now than ever. (Apple TV+)

***The Daily Show with Trevor Noah* (Comedy Central)**

As countless social justice crises played out against the backdrop of a global pandemic, *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah* marked these tragedies as chances to elevate marginalized perspectives and help audiences make sense of the world's many contradictions. Alongside the most diverse news team in late-night, Trevor harnesses his unique ability to calmly analyze, skillfully explain and provide crucial commentary on complex social issues including race, equity and social justice—all while deftly balancing humor with advocacy for underrepresented points of view. (Comedy Central)

***The Social Dilemma* (An Exposure Labs Production in association with Argent Pictures for Netflix)**

Digital platforms have increasingly become our lifelines to stay connected. In *The Social Dilemma*, key tech insiders question the consequences of our dependence and show how social media is reprogramming civilization by exposing what's hiding on the other side of your screen. (Netflix)

***Welcome to Chechnya* (HBO Documentary Films presents a Public Square Films production, a David France & Joy A. Tomchin film in association with Ninety Thousand Words, Maylo Films and BBC Storyville)**

Directed by acclaimed writer and Oscar®-nominated director David France, *Welcome to Chechnya* shadows a group of brave activists risking their lives to confront the ongoing anti-LGBTQ campaign in the Russian republic of Chechnya. With unfettered access and a commitment to protecting anonymity, this documentary exposes these underreported atrocities, while highlighting an extraordinary group of people confronting deadly brutality. (HBO)

Sponsors for Television Academy Honors include **PEOPLE, Sterling Vineyards** and **Ketel One Vodka**.

**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](http://TelevisionAcademy.com).

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