



TELEVISION

2009 Primetime Emmy Award Nominations Announced

By: *Emily Hochberg* on July 16, 2009 in *TV News*



Within minutes of the 2009 Emmy nominations being announced at the Academy of Television in North Hollywood, critics and commentators were talking about surprising new faces, the same old-same old, and the snubs.

One thing was beyond debate: there were plenty of nominations to go around, with additional nominees added this year to major categories led by NBC's comedy '30 Rock,' which picked up 22 nominations, and AMC's drama "Mad Men," which scored 16 nominations.

Some of the highlights included 'Family Guy' receiving a nomination for outstanding comedy, the first time an animated series received such a nod since 'The Flintstones' in 1961. Also, Simon Baker earned his first nod for lead actor in a drama for "The Mentalist."

HBO's whimsical and wacky "Flight of the Conchords" received two nominations, one as outstanding comedy and another for Jemaine Clement; and Comedy Central's crude but funny Sarah Silverman was a newbie in the best lead actress in a comedy category.

In addition to "30 Rock" and "Mad Men," other big nominees include "Big Love," "Breaking Bad," "Dexter," "Damages," "House" and "Lost."

In a nice twist, actors Chandra Wilson of "Grey's Anatomy" and Jim Parsons of "Big Bang Theory" helped announce the nominations at 5:40 AM PST and both learned on live TV they were also among the nominees.

"All right, goin' to the party!" Wilson said upon hearing her name.

Moments later, Parsons heard his name mentioned among fellow best actor in a comedy series nominees Charlie Sheen, Steve Carrell, Alec Baldwin, Tony Shaloub and Clement and exclaimed, "No! This is some sort of trickfest."

The 61st Primetime Emmys will be handed out in Los Angeles on September 20 in a live broadcast on CBS. Here's the complete list of nominees:

Best TV Drama

Big Love

Breaking Bad

Damages

Dexter

House

Lost

Mad Men