

The 96th Academy Awards ceremony, which was presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), took place on March 10, 2024, at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles.[3] During the gala, the AMPAS presented Academy Awards (commonly referred to as Oscars) in 23 categories honoring films released in 2023. Comedian Jimmy Kimmel hosted the show for the fourth time, following the 89th ceremony in 2017, the 90th ceremony in 2018, and the 95th ceremony in 2023.[4] The nominations were announced on January 23, 2024. *Oppenheimer* led with 13 nominations, followed by *Poor Things* and *Killers of the Flower Moon* with 11 and 10, respectively.[5][6][7] *Oppenheimer* won a leading seven awards, including Best Picture and Best Director.[8] Other major winners were *Poor Things* with four awards and *The Zone of Interest* with two. The films which went home with one award each include *American Fiction*, *Anatomy of a Fall*, *Barbie*, *The Boy and the Heron*, *Godzilla Minus One*, *The Holdovers*, and *20 Days in Mariupol*. The telecast drew 19.5 million viewers in the United States, becoming the most watched awards show since 2020.[9] In related events, the Academy held its 14th annual Governors Awards ceremony, hosted by John Mulaney, at the Ray Dolby Ballroom at Ovation Hollywood on January 9, 2024.[10] The Academy Scientific and Technical Awards were presented by host Natasha Lyonne on February 23, 2024, at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles.[11] An American Sign Language livestream was broadcast on the Academy's YouTube page featuring video of interpreters.[12] Winners and nominees The nominees for the 96th Academy Awards were announced on January 23, 2024, by actors Zazie Beetz and Jack Quaid at the Samuel Goldwyn Theater in Beverly Hills.[3][13][14] The winners were announced during the awards ceremony on March 10, 2024.[3] The cultural phenomenon of "*Barbenheimer*" received a total of twenty-one nominations (eight for *Barbie* and thirteen for *Oppenheimer*). The two films competed against each other in six categories, including Best Picture.[6][15][16] Several notable nominees include Steven Spielberg, who extended his record for the most Best Picture nominations to thirteen;[17] Martin Scorsese, who received his tenth nomination for Best Director, and became the oldest nominee in the category;[a][18] *Thelma Schoonmaker*, who received her ninth nomination for Best Film Editing;[20] composer John Williams, who received his 54th nomination;[21][22] and Willie D. Burton, who received his eighth nomination as a below-the-line crew member.[21][23][24] Ten actors received their first Oscar nominations this year.[25] The acting nominees included portrayals from three openly LGBTQ+ actors: Colman Domingo, Jodie Foster, and Lily Gladstone.[26][27] Gladstone also became the first Native American actress to be nominated.[28][29] Scott George, who wrote the music and lyrics to "*Wahzhazhe (A Song for My People)*", became the first member of the Osage Nation to be nominated for an Academy Award.[30] This was the fifth consecutive year with at least one Best Picture nominee directed by a woman: Greta Gerwig with *Barbie*, Celine Song with *Past Lives*, and Justine Triet with *Anatomy of a Fall*. [31][32] Triet also became the eighth woman nominated for Best Director.[33][34] Overall, six couples received nominations that they shared together in their respective categories.[35] Billie Eilish and Finneas O'Connell won Best Original Song, becoming the youngest two-time Oscar winners in history (22 and 26 years, respectively) after also winning it during the 94th Academy Awards.[36] *Killers of the Flower Moon* became Scorsese's third film to be nominated in ten categories and not win a single award, after *Gangs of New York* and *The Irishman*. [37] *The Zone of Interest* is the first non-English language British film to win for International Feature and Sound.[38] *Godzilla Minus One* became the first ever *Godzilla* film to ever be nominated for an Academy Award, as well as the first Japanese,[b] Asian, and overall second non-English language film to be nominated for (after *All Quiet on the Western Front* in 2023), and the first to win, the Best Visual Effects category.[43] In addition, Yamazaki became the first director since Stanley Kubrick (for *2001: A Space Odyssey* in 1969),[c] and Kiyoko Shibuya became the first

woman of color[47] in the category. The Boy and the Heron is the second traditionally hand-drawn, second anime, and second non-English language animation to win Best Animated Feature, with director Hayao Miyazaki the first Asian director to win Best Animated Feature twice and, at the age of 83, the oldest director to win Best Animated Feature.[48] Additionally, The Boy and the Heron became the first PG-13 animated film to win Best Animated Feature; all of the previous winners are rated G or PG.[49] Awards . Christopher Nolan, Best Picture co-winner and Best Director winner . Cillian Murphy, Best Actor winner . Emma Stone, Best Actress winner . Robert Downey Jr., Best Supporting Actor winner . Da'Vine Joy Randolph, Best Supporting Actress winner . Justine Triet, Best Original Screenplay co-winner . Arthur Harari, Best Original Screenplay co-winner . Mstyslav Chernov, Best Documentary Feature Film co-winner . Jonathan Glazer, Best International Feature Film winner . Hayao Miyazaki, Best Animated Feature co-winner . Wes Anderson, Best Live Action Short co-winner . Ludwig Göransson, Best Original Score winner . Billie Eilish, Best Original Song co-winner . Finneas O'Connell, Best Original Song co-winner . Takashi Yamazaki, Best Visual Effects co-winner Winners are listed first, highlighted in boldface, and indicated with a double dagger (‡).[50] Best Picture Oppenheimer – Emma Thomas, Charles Roven, and Christopher Nolan, producers ‡ American Fiction – Ben LeClair, Nikos Karamigios, Cord Jefferson, and Jermaine Johnson, producers Anatomy of a Fall – Marie-Ange Luciani and David Thion, producers Barbie – David Heyman, Margot Robbie, Tom Ackerley, and Robbie Brenner, producers The Holdovers – Mark Johnson, producer Killers of the Flower Moon – Dan Friedkin, Bradley Thomas, Martin Scorsese, and Daniel Lupi, producers Maestro – Bradley Cooper, Steven Spielberg, Fred Berner, Amy Durning, and Kristie Macosko Krieger, producers Past Lives – David Hinojosa, Christine Vachon, and Pamela Koffler, producers Poor Things – Ed Guiney, Andrew Lowe, Yorgos Lanthimos, and Emma Stone, producers The Zone of Interest – James Wilson, producer Best Director Christopher Nolan – Oppenheimer ‡ Justine Triet – Anatomy of a Fall Martin Scorsese – Killers of the Flower Moon Yorgos Lanthimos – Poor Things Jonathan Glazer – The Zone of Interest Best Actor Cillian Murphy – Oppenheimer as J. Robert Oppenheimer ‡ Bradley Cooper – Maestro as Leonard Bernstein Colman Domingo – Rustin as Bayard Rustin Paul Giamatti – The Holdovers as Paul Hunham Jeffrey Wright – American Fiction as Thelonious "Monk" Ellison Best Actress Emma Stone – Poor Things as Bella Baxter ‡ Annette Bening – Nyad as Diana Nyad Lily Gladstone – Killers of the Flower Moon as Mollie Burkhart Sandra Hüller – Anatomy of a Fall as Sandra Voyter Carey Mulligan – Maestro as Felicia Montealegre Best Supporting Actor Robert Downey Jr. – Oppenheimer as Lewis Strauss ‡ Sterling K. Brown – American Fiction as Clifford "Cliff" Ellison Robert De Niro – Killers of the Flower Moon as William King Hale Ryan Gosling – Barbie as Ken Mark Ruffalo – Poor Things as Duncan Wedderburn Best Supporting Actress Da'Vine Joy Randolph – The Holdovers as Mary Lamb ‡ Emily Blunt – Oppenheimer as Kitty Oppenheimer Danielle Brooks – The Color Purple as Sofia America Ferrera – Barbie as Gloria Jodie Foster – Nyad as Bonnie Stoll Best Original Screenplay Anatomy of a Fall – Justine Triet and Arthur Harari ‡ The Holdovers – David Hemingson Maestro – Bradley Cooper and Josh Singer May December – Screenplay by Samy Burch; Story by Samy Burch and Alex Mechanik Past Lives – Celine Song Best Adapted Screenplay American Fiction – Cord Jefferson; based on the novel Erasure by Percival Everett ‡ Barbie – Greta Gerwig and Noah Baumbach; based on Barbie by Mattel Oppenheimer – Christopher Nolan; based on the biography American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin Poor Things – Tony McNamara; based on the novel by Alasdair Gray The Zone of Interest – Jonathan Glazer; based on the novel by Martin Amis Best Animated Feature The Boy and the Heron – Hayao Miyazaki and Toshio Suzuki ‡ Elemental – Peter Sohn and Denise Ream Nimona – Nick Bruno, Troy Quane, Karen Ryan, and Julie Zackary Robot Dreams – Pablo Berger,

Ibon Cormenzana, Ignasi Estapé, and Sandra Tapia Díaz Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse – Kemp Powers, Justin K. Thompson, Phil Lord, Christopher Miller, and Amy Pascal Best International Feature Film The Zone of Interest (United Kingdom) – directed by Jonathan Glazer ‡ Io capitano (Italy) – directed by Matteo Garrone Perfect Days (Japan) – directed by Wim Wenders Society of the Snow (Spain) – directed by J. A. Bayona The Teachers' Lounge (Germany) – directed by İlker Çatak Best Documentary Feature Film 20 Days in Mariupol – Mstyslav Chernov, Michelle Mizner, and Raney Aronson-Rath ‡ Bobi Wine: The People's President – Moses Bwayo, Christopher Sharp, and John Battsek The Eternal Memory – Maite Alberdi Four Daughters – Kaouthar Ben Hania and Nadim Cheikhrouha To Kill a Tiger – Nisha Pahuja, Cornelia Principe, and David Oppenheim Best Documentary Short Film The Last Repair Shop – Ben Proudfoot and Kris Bowers ‡ The ABCs of Book Banning – Sheila Nevins and Trish Adlesic The Barber of Little Rock – John Hoffman and Christine Turner Island in Between – S. Leo Chiang and Jean Tsien Nǎi Nai & Wǎi Pó – Sean Wang and Sam Davis Best Live Action Short Film The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar – Wes Anderson and Steven Rales ‡ The After – Misan Harriman and Nicky Bentham Invincible – Vincent René-Lortie and Samuel Caron Knight of Fortune – Lasse Lyskjær Noer and Christian Norlyk Red, White and Blue – Nazrin Choudhury and Sara McFarlane Best Animated Short Film War Is Over! Inspired by the Music of John and Yoko – Dave Mullins and Brad Booker ‡ Letter to a Pig – Tal Kantor and Amit R. Gicelter Ninety-Five Senses – Jared and Jerusha Hess Our Uniform – Yegane Moghaddam Pachyderme – Stéphanie Clément and Marc Rius Best Original Score Oppenheimer – Ludwig Göransson ‡ American Fiction – Laura Karpman Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny – John Williams Killers of the Flower Moon – Robbie Robertson (posthumous nomination) Poor Things – Jerskin Fendrix Best Original Song "What Was I Made For?" from Barbie – Music and lyrics by Billie Eilish and Finneas O'Connell ‡ "The Fire Inside" from Flamin' Hot – Music and lyrics by Diane Warren "I'm Just Ken" from Barbie – Music and lyrics by Mark Ronson and Andrew Wyatt "It Never Went Away" from American Symphony – Music and lyrics by Jon Batiste and Dan Wilson "Wahzhazhe (A Song for My People)" from Killers of the Flower Moon – Music and lyrics by Scott George Best Sound The Zone of Interest – Tarn Willers and Johnnie Burn ‡ The Creator – Ian Voigt, Erik Aadahl, Ethan Van der Ryn, Tom Ozanich, and Dean Zupancic Maestro – Steven A. Morrow, Richard King, Jason Ruder, Tom Ozanich, and Dean Zupancic Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One – Chris Munro, James H. Mather, Chris Burdon, and Mark Taylor Oppenheimer – Willie Burton, Richard King, Gary A. Rizzo, and Kevin O'Connell Best Production Design Poor Things – Production Design: James Price and Shona Heath; Set Decoration: Zsuzsa Mihalek ‡ Barbie – Production Design: Sarah Greenwood; Set Decoration: Katie Spencer Killers of the Flower Moon – Production Design: Jack Fisk; Set Decoration: Adam Willis Napoleon – Production Design: Arthur Max; Set Decoration: Elli Griff Oppenheimer – Production Design: Ruth De Jong; Set Decoration: Claire Kaufman Best Cinematography Oppenheimer – Hoyte van Hoytema ‡ El Conde – Edward Lachman Killers of the Flower Moon – Rodrigo Prieto Maestro – Matthew Libatique Poor Things – Robbie Ryan Best Makeup and Hairstyling Poor Things – Nadia Stacey, Mark Coulier, and Josh Weston ‡ Golda – Karen Hartley Thomas, Suzi Battersby, and Ashra Kelly-Blue Maestro – Kazu Hiro, Kay Georgiou, and Lori McCoy-Bell Oppenheimer – Luisa Abel Society of the Snow – Ana López-Puigcerver, David Martí, and Montse Ribé Best Costume Design Poor Things – Holly Waddington ‡ Barbie – Jacqueline Durran Killers of the Flower Moon – Jacqueline West Napoleon – Janty Yates and Dave Crossman Oppenheimer – Ellen Mirojnick Best Film Editing Oppenheimer – Jennifer Lame ‡ Anatomy of a Fall – Laurent Sénéchal The Holdovers – Kevin Tent Killers of the Flower Moon – Thelma Schoonmaker Poor Things – Yorgos Mavropsaridis Best Visual Effects Godzilla Minus One – Takashi Yamazaki, Kiyoko Shibuya, Masaki Takahashi, and Tatsuji Nojima ‡

The Creator – Jay Cooper, Ian Comley, Andrew Roberts, and Neil Corbould
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 – Stéphane Ceretti, Alexis Wajsbrot, Guy Williams, and Theo Bialek
Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One – Alex Wuttke, Simone Coco, Jeff Sutherland, and Neil Corbould
Napoleon – Charley Henley, Luc-Ewen Martin-Fenouillet, Simone Coco, and Neil Corbould

Governors Awards The Academy held its 14th annual Governors Awards ceremony on January 9, 2024,[d] which was hosted by John Mulaney, during which the following awards were presented:[51][52][10] Academy Honorary Awards Angela Bassett[53] Mel Brooks[53] Carol Littleton[53] Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award Michelle Satter[53] Films with multiple nominations and awards Films with multiple nominations[54][55] Nominations

Film 13	Oppenheimer	11
Poor Things	10	Killers of the Flower Moon
8	Barbie	7
Maestro	5	American Fiction
Anatomy of a Fall	The Holdovers	The Zone of Interest
3	Napoleon	2
The Creator	Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One	Nyad
Past Lives	Society of the Snow	Films with multiple wins
[56][57] Awards	Film 7	Oppenheimer
4	Poor Things	2
The Zone of Interest		

Presenters and performers The following presented awards and performed musical numbers.[58]

Presenters Name(s)	Role
David Alan Grier	Served as announcer for the 96th Academy Awards
Jamie Lee Curtis Regina King Rita Moreno Lupita Nyong'o Mary Steenburgen	Presented the award for Best Supporting Actress Chris Hemsworth Anya Taylor-Joy Presented the awards for Best Animated Short Film and Best Animated Feature Film
Melissa McCarthy Octavia Spencer	Presented the awards for Best Original Screenplay and Best Adapted Screenplay
Michael Keaton Catherine O'Hara	Presented the awards for Best Makeup and Hairstyling and Best Production Design
John Cena	Presented the award for Best Costume Design
Bad Bunny Dwayne Johnson	Presented the award for Best International Feature Film
Emily Blunt Ryan Gosling	Presented tribute to all the stunt performers in cinema history
Mahershala Ali Ke Huy Quan Tim Robbins Sam Rockwell Christoph Waltz	Presented the award for Best Supporting Actor
Danny DeVito Arnold Schwarzenegger	Presented the awards for Best Visual Effects and Best Film Editing
America Ferrera Kate McKinnon	Presented the awards for Best Documentary Short Film and Best Documentary Feature Film
Zendaya	Presented the award for Best Cinematography
Issa Rae Ramy Youssef	Presented the award for Best Live Action Short Film
John Mulaney	Presented the award for Best Sound
Cynthia Erivo Ariana Grande	Presented the awards for Best Original Score and Best Original Song
Nicolas Cage Brendan Fraser Ben Kingsley Matthew McConaughey Forest Whitaker	Presented the award for Best Actor
Steven Spielberg	Presented the award for Best Director
Sally Field Jessica Lange Jennifer Lawrence Charlize Theron Michelle Yeoh	Presented the award for Best Actress
Al Pacino	Presented the award for Best Picture
Performers Name Role	Work
Rickey Minor	Music director
Directed the orchestra	Billie Eilish Finneas O'Connell
Performers	"What Was I Made For?" from Barbie
Scott George Osage	singers and dancers
"Wahzhazhe (A Song for My People)" from Killers of the Flower Moon	Jon Batiste
Performer	"It Never Went Away" from American Symphony
Becky G	"The Fire Inside" from Flamin' Hot
Ryan Gosling Mark Ronson Simu Liu Scott Evans Ncuti Gatwa Kingsley Ben-Adir Slash Wolfgang Van Halen	Performers
"I'm Just Ken" from Barbie	Andrea Bocelli Matteo Bocelli
"Time to Say Goodbye" during the annual "In Memoriam" tribute	"In Memoriam"

The following people who had died received tributes in the "In Memoriam" segment.[59] Alexei Navalny – activist Michael Gambon – actor Norman Jewison – director, producer Harry Belafonte – actor, singer, producer, activist Diana Giorgiutti – visual effects producer Alan Arkin – actor, director Nitin Chandrakant Desai – production designer Bo Goldman – writer Norman Reynolds – production designer, art director Julian Sands – actor Mark Gustafson – director Andre Braugher – actor Chita Rivera – actress, dancer Tom Wilkinson – actor Glynis Johns – actress Jane Birkin – actress, singer Paul Reubens –

actor, comedian, writer Piper Laurie – actress Richard Roundtree – actor Ryan O'Neal – actor Cynthia Weil – songwriter Bill Lee – composer Ryuichi Sakamoto – composer, musician, actor Robbie Robertson – composer, musician, songwriter, actor Dewitt L. Sage – producer, director, documentarian Margaret Riley – manager, producer Hengameh Panahi – sales agent, producer Michael Latt – marketing consultant, activist Nancy Buirski – director, writer, producer Sue Marx – producer Peter Berkos – sound editor Osvaldo Desideri – set decorator Joanna Merlin – actress, casting director Erik Lomis – distribution executive Glenn Farr – film editor Leon Ichaso – director, writer Robert M. Young – director, producer Greg Morrison – marketing executive Jake Bloom – entertainment attorney Matthew Perry – actor John Bailey – cinematographer, past Academy President Richard Lewis – actor, comedian Edward Marks – costume supervisor John Refoua – film editor Lawrence Turman – producer Lee Sun-kyun – actor Arthur Schmidt – film editor Bill Butler – cinematographer Carl Weathers – actor William Friedkin – director, writer, producer Glenda Jackson – actress, politician Tina Turner – singer, actress

At the end of the segment, a collage of additional names appeared on the theater's main screen: Kenneth Anger, Norma Barzman, Léa Garcia, Jenne Casarotto, Jamie Christopher, Terence Davies, Carl Davis, Arlene Donovan, Peter Werner, Daniel Goldberg, Elisha Birnbaum, Ross McDonnell, Nancy Green-Keyes, Shecky Greene, Matthew A. Sweeney, Gary O. Martin, William F. Matthews, John Hamlin, Mo Henry, Barry Humphries, Ron Cephas Jones, Robert Klane, Daniel Langlois, Norman Lear, Michael Lerner, Lance Reddick, Jess Search, Tom Smothers, Suzanne Somers, David McCallum, Cormac McCarthy, Ernst F. Goldschmidt, Norman Steinberg, Frances Sternhagen, Ray Stevenson, Don Murray, Sinéad O'Connor, Conrad Palmisano, Cilia van Dijk, Steven Weisberg, Frederic Forrest, George Maharis, Paolo Taviani, Kevin Turen, Paxton Whitehead, Treat Williams, Ian Wingrove and Burt Young.[59][60]

Ceremony Photo of Jimmy Kimmel in June 2022. Jimmy Kimmel hosted the 96th Academy Awards, his fourth overall. On October 17, 2023, Raj Kapoor and Katy Mullan were announced as executive producers, with Hamish Hamilton serving as director; Mullan is an executive of Hamilton's production company Done and Dusted.[61]

On November 15, Jimmy Kimmel was announced as host, returning for the second consecutive year and fourth Academy Awards overall.[4]

On the same day, his wife, Molly McNearney, was announced to return as executive producer for the ceremony.[4]

On November 30, 2023, ABC and the Academy announced that the start time of the ceremony would be moved up by an hour to 4:00 p.m. PT (7:00 p.m. ET).[62]

This change enabled ABC to air a half-hour of primetime programming as a lead-out, featuring a new episode of its sitcom *Abbott Elementary*. [62]

The pre-show was hosted for the third consecutive year by Vanessa Hudgens, joined by new co-host Julianne Hough.[63]

Due to the scheduling change, the pre-show was shortened to 30 minutes.[62]

The beginning of the ceremony was delayed by six minutes, due to arrivals being slowed by Israel– Hamas war protests outside of the theatre.[64][65][66]

On January 29, 2024, comedian and broadcaster Amelia Dimoldenberg, host of the YouTube interview series *Chicken Shop Date*, was announced as the social media ambassador and red carpet correspondent. Dimoldenberg was involved in multiple Oscar season events, including the Oscars Nominees luncheon, where she participated in an Academy video production with nominees. She was also involved with an "Oscars 96 Behind the Scenes Tour", in addition to interviewing nominees and other talent present at the Oscars red carpet.[67]

Presenters were announced in a series of groups beginning on February 26, 2024.[68][69][70]

Performers were announced on February 28, 2024,[71] although Ryan Gosling's performance of "I'm Just Ken" from *Barbie* was reported by *Variety* two days earlier.[72]

After the first batch of presenters was announced, *The Hollywood Reporter* learned that the Academy would revive a popular presenting format previously used during the 81st ceremony,[73] where five Oscar-winning actors for leading

and supporting performances took the stage together to introduce the current nominees in their respective categories.[74] David Alan Grier was selected as the event's announcer.[75] Production designers Alana Billingsley and Misty Buckley designed an "inviting, colorful, and intimate" stage over the course of nine months. According to Billingsley and Buckley, they were inspired by contemporary spaces where people can "meet, exchange, create. Like a modern-day plaza".[76] The stage utilized "soft plaster, warm whites, and tones that pull the whole design together".[76] Kapoor wanted the stage to feel "immersive and innovative, and then at times we also wanted it to feel intimate. I think when you walk into the theater and when you see it, it has this very warm and enveloping feel and the gestures feel soft. It is kind of like a hug, because of how the screens and [structures] have this lovely curve shape. That's how we want people to feel".[76] Throughout the ceremony, the stage subtly changed its design to honor the nominees; the screenplay categories included images of real typewriters, while the Best Costume Design category showcased images of several of the nominated costumes.[76] Nominees Kaouthar Ben Hania, Finneas O'Connell, Billie Eilish, and Mark Ruffalo wore red Artists4Ceasefire badges calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.[77][78][79][80]

Diversity rules This was the first year that the diversity rules for the Best Picture category became mandatory. In June 2020, under its Academy Aperture 2025 initiative, the academy established a set of "representation and inclusion standards" that a film would be required to satisfy in order to compete in the category.[81] For the 94th and 95th Academy Awards (films released in 2021 and 2022), filmmakers were just required to submit a confidential "Academy Inclusion Standards" form for data purposes only.[82] There are four general standards, of which a film must satisfy two to be considered for Best Picture: (a) "on-screen representation, themes, and narratives"; (b) "creative leadership and project team"; (c) "industry access and opportunities"; and (d) "audience development".[81] As explained by Alissa Wilkinson of Vox in 2020, the standards "basically break down into two big buckets: standards promoting more inclusive representation and standards promoting more inclusive employment".[82] The standards are intended to provide greater opportunities for employment for "underrepresented" racial and ethnic groups, women, LGBTQ+ people, and persons with "cognitive or physical disabilities".[81]

Box office performance of Best Picture nominees When the nominations were announced, the films nominated for Best Picture had earned a combined gross of \$1.09 billion at the American and Canadian box offices at the time.[83] Barbie was the highest-grossing film among the Best Picture nominees, with \$636 million in domestic box office receipts. Oppenheimer came in second with \$327 million. The two films, comprising the Barbenheimer phenomenon, represented 88% of the cumulative box office haul generated by Best Picture nominees prior to their nominations.[84] Oppenheimer became the highest-grossing Best Picture winner since *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* at the 76th Academy Awards in 2004. It also became the first one to gross more than \$100 million at the domestic box office in the decade since *Argo* at the 85th Academy Awards in 2013.[85]

Reception The ceremony received mostly positive reviews from the critics,[86] with musical performances of "I'm Just Ken" and "Wahzhazhe (A Song for My People)", John Mulaney summarizing the plot of *Field of Dreams* while presenting the award for Best Sound, an almost nude John Cena presenting Best Costume Design (which Kimmel billed as marking the 50th anniversary of a streaking incident at the 1974 ceremony),[87][88] respective wins of Japanese films *Godzilla Minus One* and *The Boy and the Heron*,[89][90][91] and past acting winners introducing this year's nominees considered by many to be the highlights of the ceremony.[92][93][94] Conversely, the In Memoriam section received criticism for being too distracting and the names and faces being so tiny and distant much of the time that it was difficult recognizing them.[95][96][97] While *The Zone of Interest* director Jonathan Glazer was mostly praised for his Best International Feature acceptance speech during which he called for

the end to Israel's attacks in Gaza,[98] he was criticized by pro-Israel and some Jewish figures[99][100] who claimed that he was "refuting his Jewishness", which uses a quote from his speech out of context.[101] Al Pacino, who was assigned to present the award for Best Picture at the end of the show, received criticism for not naming the 10 nominees before announcing the winner.[102][103] Instead, Pacino made a short statement, opened the envelope, then awkwardly announced that Oppenheimer was the Best Picture winner. The next day, Pacino revealed that the choice of omitting the names of the 10 nominees was made by the show producers and that he only "followed the Academy's script for the night".[104] Clips from the Best Picture nominees had been shown over the course of the ceremony, and producer Molly McNearney said to Variety that the reading of the nominees was cut "because we were very worried that the show was going to be long". The nominees for Best Original Song had also not been read aloud when that award was handed out, as each of the songs had been performed earlier in the evening.[105] Ratings The American telecast on ABC drew in an average of 19.5 million people over its length, which was a 4% increase from the previous year's ceremony.[106] However, the show slipped a little in 18–49 demo rating with a 3.81 rating among viewers in that key demographic, down 5% from 4.03 rating of last year's ceremony.[107] The viewership peaked in the last half-hour with 21.9 million total viewers.[108] The ceremony scored the biggest audience for any awards show since the 92nd Academy Awards in 2020.[9] ABC's Abbott Elementary lead-out also benefitted, with the episode reaching a series high in the 18–49 demo (1.42 rating) and total viewership (6.9 million).[109][62]