

Hilton Hosts American Black Film Festival Honors Celebrating Diverse Talent in Hollywood **Thursday, February 27, 2020 06:31:00 PM (GMT)**

Jamie Foxx, Leonardo DiCaprio, Morgan Freeman and more converged at the Beverly Hilton to pay tribute to Black excellence in entertainment

MCLEAN, Va., Feb. 27, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- On Sunday, February 23, Hilton hosted the American Black Film Festival Honors awards ceremony and dinner at the Beverly Hilton hotel to celebrate influential artists and creators for their distinguished contributions to American entertainment.

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During the evening, the American Black Film Festival recognized Academy Award-winning actor Louis Gossett Jr. with the Hollywood Legacy Award; screenwriter, Emmy-winning producer, actress and writer Lena Waithe with the Industry Renaissance Award; actor, singer and producer Jamie Foxx with the Excellence in the Arts Award; Academy Award-nominated actress Cynthia Erivo with the Rising Star Award and television series, *The Wire*, was presented with the Classic Television Award.

"Hilton is proud to once again partner with the American Black Film Festival to celebrate the rich diversity of talent and creators in Hollywood and recognize the impact of their work in the entertainment industry," said Andréa Richardson, Head of Multicultural Engagement at Hilton.

"It is my honor to be able to play the true part of a community partner tonight by welcoming our Rising Star," said Richardson during her address to the audience on behalf of Hilton. "Congratulations again to Cynthia Erivo for this much-deserved recognition, and congratulations to all of the future rising stars to come. Hilton looks forward to welcoming you."

Additional guests in attendance included many of Hollywood's best and brightest including actress Tiffany Haddish, actress Sheryl Lee Ralph and director Melina Matsoukas, with surprise appearances from Academy Award-winning actors Leonardo DiCaprio and Morgan Freeman. Actor and comedian Deon Cole served as the host for the evening.

Hilton also applied its corporate sustainability practices by donating leftover food from the evening to the Hollywood Food Coalition. True to its Travel with Purpose goals, Hilton is committed to cutting its environmental footprint in half and doubling its investment in social impact programs by the year 2030. The Beverly Hilton also donates all unused soaps to the Clean World organization, where they are converted into hygiene kits for third world countries.

About Hilton

Hilton (NYSE: HLT) is a leading global hospitality company with a [portfolio](#) of 17 world-class brands comprising more than 5,600 properties with nearly 913,000 rooms, in 113 countries and territories. Dedicated to fulfilling its mission to be the world's most hospitable company, Hilton earned a spot on the 2018 world's best workplaces list and has welcomed more than 3 billion guests in its nearly 100-year history. Through the award-winning guest loyalty program, Hilton Honors, nearly 85 million members who book directly with Hilton have access to instant benefits, including digital check-in with room selection, Digital Key, and Connected Room. Visit newsroom.hilton.com for more information, and connect with Hilton on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

About ABFF Honors

ABFF Honors is an annual awards season gala dedicated to saluting excellence in the motion picture and television industry. The ceremony celebrates Black culture by recognizing artists who have made distinguished contributions to American entertainment through their work, as well as those who champion diversity and inclusion. Individual recognition awards include Hollywood Legacy, Excellence in the Arts, Rising Star, Industry Renaissance and Pro Hollywood. Recognition of outstanding content awards include Movie of the Year and Classic Television Award. Previous honorees and presenters include Denzel Washington, Don Cheadle, Robert Downey, Jr. Regina King, Will Packer, Ryan Coogler, Ava DuVernay, Tiffany Haddish, Issa Rae, Viola Davis, Cicely Tyson, Octavia Spencer, Armie Hammer, the late Diahann Carroll and more. To learn more about ABFF Honors and to stay up-to-date on upcoming announcements for the 2020 ceremony, visit www.ABFFHonors.com.

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