

'Big Hero 6' Sweeps at the 13th Annual VES Awards

BY **AMID AMIDI** ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2015 1:57 AM

Comments **7** Like **334** Tweet **48**



Disney's "Big Hero 6" dominated the VES Awards tonight.

Disney's *Big Hero 6* was the big winner tonight at the 13th annual VES Awards, which recognize outstanding visual effects artistry and innovation throughout the entertainment industry. The Disney film won five awards, one for every category in which it was nominated, including the top prize for animation in an animated feature.

Every single other animated feature was shut out of the honors, including Laika's *The Boxtrolls*, which was nominated for five awards, and DreamWorks's *How to Train Your Dragon 2*, nominated for four honors.

The dominance of *Big Hero 6* is especially surprising considering that the film was nearly shut out of ASIFA-Hollywood's Annie Awards last weekend, **winning just a single award** for animated effects. I don't want to start a debate about which film had better animation or which organization got it right, but it's simply surprising to me that two organizations comprised of industry professionals could have such dramatically conflicting views on what constitutes quality animation. How do the voters in each of these organizations judge animated films that leads to such divergent appraisals of skill?

Otherwise, it was a night dominated by ape projects. The top award for vfx in a live-action film was won by WETA for its work on *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*; it was one of three awards given to the film. On the commercial side, a piece for Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) featuring a CGI



orangutan named Maya won three awards.

Game of Thrones also won three prizes, including the visual effects honor for a vfx-driven live-action broadcast program.

If anything, the VES Awards played out almost like **an exact repeat of last year** when Disney's *Frozen* swept all the animation categories, while a commercial with a chimp and *Game of Thrones* won three awards apiece.

The full list of winners is below. Congratulations to all!

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A VISUAL EFFECTS-DRIVEN PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Dawn of the Planet of the Apes

Joe Letteri

Ryan Stafford

Matt Kutcher

Dan Lemmon

Hannah Blanchini

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)

Ara Khanikian

Ivy Agregan

Sebastien Moreau

Isabelle Langlois

OUTSTANDING ANIMATION IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Big Hero 6

Don Hall

Chris Williams

Roy Conli

Zach Parrish

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A VISUAL EFFECTS-DRIVEN PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION BROADCAST PROGRAM

Game of Thrones; The Children

Joe Bauer

Steve Kullback

Stuart Brisdon

Thomas Schelesny

Sven Martin

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A VISUAL EFFECTS-DRIVEN PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION BROADCAST PROGRAM

American Horror Story; Freak Show; Edward Mordrake, Part 2

Jason Piccioni

Jason Spratt
Mike Kirylo
Justin Ball
Eric Roberts

OUTSTANDING REAL-TIME VISUALS IN A VIDEO GAME

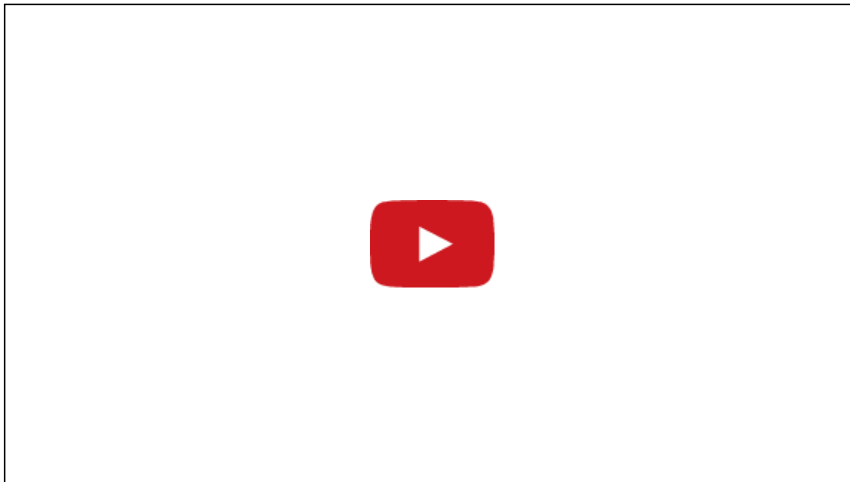
Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare

Yi-chao Sandy Lin-Chiang

Joseph Salud

Demetrius Leal

Dave Blizzard



OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A COMMERCIAL

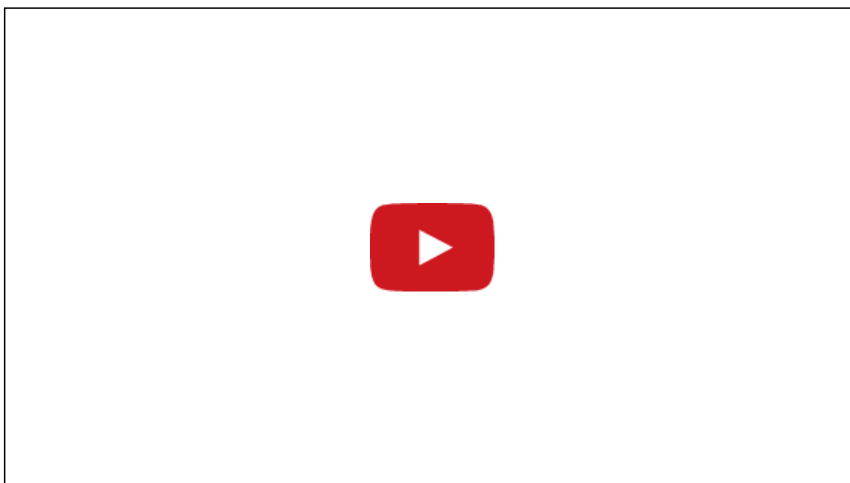
SSE; Maya

Neil Davies

Alex Hammond

Jorge Montiel

Beth Vander



OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A SPECIAL VENUE PROJECT

Ratatouille: L'Aventure Totalement Toquée de Rémy

Tony Apodaca
Marianne McLean
Gilles Martin
Edwin Chang
Mark Mine

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF AN ANIMATED CHARACTER IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Dawn of the Planet of the Apes; Caesar

Paul Story
Eteuati Tema
Andrea Merlo
Emiliano Padovani

OUTSTANDING ANIMATED CHARACTER IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Big Hero 6; Baymax

Colin Eckart
John Kahwaty
Zach Parrish
Zack Petroc

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF AN ANIMATED CHARACTER IN A COMMERCIAL, BROADCAST PROGRAM, OR VIDEO GAME

SSE; Maya

Jorge Montiel
Alex Hammond
Daniel Kmet
Philippe Moine

OUTSTANDING CREATED ENVIRONMENT IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Interstellar; Tesseract

Tom Bracht
Graham Page
Thomas Døhlen
Kirsty Clark

OUTSTANDING CREATED ENVIRONMENT IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Big Hero 6; Into the Portal

Ralf Habel
David Hutchins
Michael Kaschalk
Olun Riley

OUTSTANDING CREATED ENVIRONMENT IN A COMMERCIAL, BROADCAST PROGRAM, OR VIDEO GAME

Game of Thrones; Braavos Establisher

Rene Borst
Christian Zilliken
Jan Burda
Steffen Metzner

OUTSTANDING VIRTUAL CINEMATOGRAPHY IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION MOTION MEDIA PROJECT

X-Men: Days of Future Past; Kitchen Scene

Austin Bonang
Casey Schatz
Dennis Jones
Newton Thomas Sigel

OUTSTANDING MODELS IN ANY MOTION MEDIA PROJECT

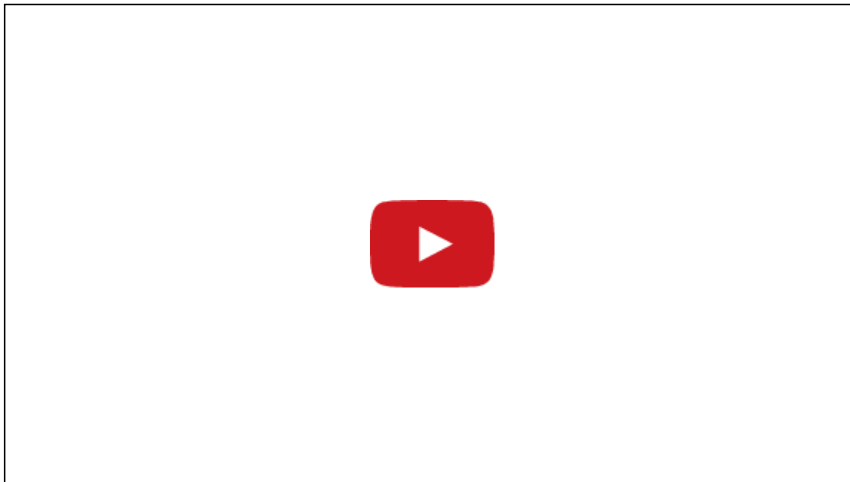
Big Hero 6; City of San Fransokyo

Brett Achorn
Minh Duong
Scott Watanabe
Larry Wu

OUTSTANDING EFFECTS SIMULATIONS IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

X-Men: Days of Future Past; Quicksilver Pentagon Kitchen

Adam Paschke
Premamurti Paetsch
Sam Hancock
Timmy Lundin



OUTSTANDING EFFECTS SIMULATIONS IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE MOTION PICTURE

Big Hero 6

Henrik Falt
David Hutchins
Michael Kaschalk
John Kosnik

**OUTSTANDING EFFECTS SIMULATIONS IN A COMMERCIAL,
BROADCAST PROGRAM, OR VIDEO GAME**

Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey

Dominique Vidal

Isabelle Perin-Leduc

Sandrine Lurde

Alexandre Leroug

**OUTSTANDING COMPOSITING IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION
FEATURE MOTION PICTURE**

Dawn of the Planet of the Apes

Christoph Salzmann

Florian Schroeder

Quentin Hema

Simone Riginelli

**OUTSTANDING COMPOSITING IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION
BROADCAST PROGRAM**

Game of Thrones; The Watchers on the Wall

Dan Breckwoldt

Martin Furman

Sophie Marfleet

Eric Andrusyszyn

**OUTSTANDING COMPOSITING IN A IN A PHOTOREAL/LIVE ACTION
COMMERCIAL**

SSE

Neil Davies

Leonardo Costa

Gianluca DiMarco

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A STUDENT PROJECT

Wrapped

Roman Kaelin

Falko Paeper

Florian Wittmann

Paolo Tamburrino