

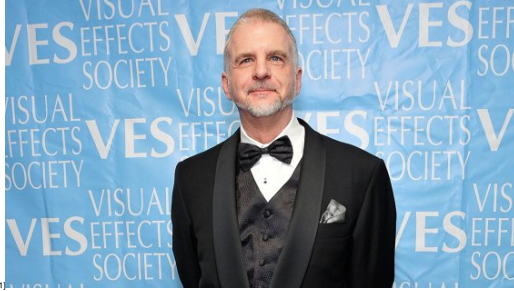
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## 'Return of the Jedi' VFX Pioneer Ken Ralston to Get VES Lifetime Honor

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**His Oscar-winning work also includes 'Forrest Gump' and 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit.'**



Michael Tullberg/Getty Images  
Ken Ralston

Five-time Academy Award-winning visual effects pioneer Ken Ralston will receive the Visual Effects Society's Lifetime Achievement Award at the 15th annual VES Awards on Feb. 7 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Ralston earned a Special Achievement Oscar for the visual effects in *Return of the Jedi*, as well as best visual effects Oscars for his influential work as VFX supervisor on *Forrest Gump*, *Death Becomes Her*, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* and *Cocoon*.

"Ken Ralston is an amazing force and a defining voice of the visual effects community," VES board chair Mike Chambers said Thursday in a statement. "His creativity, leadership and ability to use technologies to enhance the art of storytelling have brought us some of the most memorable films of all time. His pioneering work has truly raised the bar and helped redefine entertainment and our industry."

Ralston serves a senior VFX supervisor and creative head at Sony Pictures Imageworks, where his more recent work included *Alice in Wonderland*, *Men in Black III* and *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Earlier, at Industrial Light + Magic, his credits included *Jumanji*, *Dragonslayer* and the *Back to the Future* trilogy.

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