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Visual Effects Society Announces Nominees for 23rd Annual VES Awards
Dune: Part Two Leads Feature Film Field; The Wild Robot is Top Animated Contender;
Shōgun and The Penguin Tie in the Episodic Field

Los Angeles (January 14, 2025) – Today, the Visual Effects Society (VES), the visual effects industry’s professional global honorary society, announced the nominees for the 23rd Annual VES Awards, the prestigious yearly celebration that recognizes outstanding visual effects artistry and innovation in features, animation, television, commercials, games and new media, and the VFX Supervisors, VFX Producers and hands-on Artists who bring this work to life. Awards will be presented at the 23rd Annual VES Awards on February 11, 2025 at The Beverly Hilton hotel. (X tags: @VFXSociety #VES Awards)

Dune: Part Two leads the photoreal feature film field with seven (7) nominations. ***The Wild Robot*** is the top animated contender with five (5) nominations. ***Shōgun*** and ***The Penguin*** each received four (4) nominations in the episodic field.

“The artistry, ingenuity and passion of visual effects practitioners around the world have come together to create remarkable imagery,” said Kim Davidson, VES Chair. “We are seeing best in class work that elevates the art of storytelling and exemplifies the spirit of innovation. The VES Awards is the only venue that showcases and honors these outstanding artists across a wide range of disciplines, and we are extremely proud of our nominees.”

Nominees in 25 categories were selected by VES members at 49 in-person and virtual nomination panels conducted around the world over a 30-hour continuous process. The distinctive and thoughtful VES Awards nominations protocol included a review of each awards submission including “Befores and Afters” by a minimum of three different judging panels. Participating VES members on the panels represented 307 cities in 24 countries, highlighting the full breadth of the Society’s diverse global membership.

“Whether it’s through a fully immersive environment, realistic characters, or jaw-dropping action sequences, visual effects artists continue to push the boundaries of creativity and transform the way stories are told,” said Diana Colella, Executive Vice President of Media & Entertainment at Autodesk, sponsor of the VES-Autodesk Student Award. “This year’s student film submissions celebrate the technical talent and creativity of up-and-coming visual effects artists. Congratulations to all the student nominees.”

The nominees for the 23rd Annual VES Awards in 25 categories are as follow:

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A PHOTOREAL FEATURE

Better Man

Luke Millar
Andy Taylor
David Clayton
Keith Herft
Peter Stubbs

Dune: Part Two

Paul Lambert
Brice Parker
Stephen James
Rhys Salcombe
Gerd Nefzer

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes

Erik Winquist
Julia Neighly
Paul Story
Danielle Immerman
Rodney Burke

Mufasa: The Lion King

Adam Valdez
Barry St. John
Audrey Ferrara
Daniel Fotheringham

Twisters

Ben Snow
Mark Soper
Florian Witzel
Susan Greenhow
Scott Fisher

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A PHOTOREAL FEATURE

Blitz

Andrew Whitehurst
Sona Pak
Theo Demiris
Vincent Poitras
Hayley Williams

Civil War

David Simpson
Michelle Rose
Freddy Salazar
Chris Zeh
J.D. Schwalm

Horizon: An American Saga – Chapter 1

Jason Neese
Armen Fetulagian
Jamie Neese
J.P. Jaramillo

Nosferatu

Angela Barson
Lisa Renney
David Scott
Dave Cook
Pavel Ságner

Young Woman and the Sea

Richard Briscoe
Carrie Rishel
Jeremy Robert
Stéphane Dittoo
Ivo Jivkov

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE

Inside Out 2

Kelsey Mann
Mark Nielsen
Sudeep Rangaswamy
Bill Watral

Moana 2

Carlos Cabral
Tucker Gilmore
Ian Gooding
Gabriela Hernandez

The Wild Robot

Chris Sanders
Jeff Hermann
Jeff Budsberg
Jakob Hjort Jensen

Transformers One

Frazer Churchill
Fiona Chilton
Josh Cooley
Stephen King

Ultraman: Rising

Hayden Jones
Sean M. Murphy
Shannon Tindle
Mathieu Vig

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A PHOTOREAL EPISODE

Fallout; The Head

Jay Worth
Andrea Knoll
Grant Everett
Joao Sita
Devin Maggio

House of the Dragon; Season 2; The Red Dragon and the Gold

Daði Einarsson
Tom Horton
Sven Martin
Wayne Stables
Mike Dawson

Shōgun; Anjin

Michael Cliett
Melody Mead
Philip Engström
Ed Bruce
Cameron Waldbauer

Star Wars: Skeleton Crew; Episode 5

John Knoll
Pablo Molles
Jhon Alvarado
Jeff Capogreco

The Lord of The Rings: The Rings of Power; Season 2; Eldest

Jason Smith
Tim Keene
Ann Podlozny
Ara Khanikian
Ryan Conder

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A PHOTOREAL EPISODE

Expats: Home

Robert Bock
Glorivette Somoza
Charles Labbé
Tim Emeis

Lady in the Lake; It Has to Do With the Search for the Marvelous

Jay Worth
Eddie Bonin
Culley Bunker
Eric Levin-Hatz
Mike Myers

Masters of the Air; Part Three; The Regensburg-Schweinfurt Mission

Stephen Rosenbaum
Bruce Franklin
Xavier Matia Bernasconi
David Andrews
Neil Corbould

The Penguin; Bliss

Johnny Han
Michelle Rose
Goran Pavles
Ed Bruce
Devin Maggio

The Tattooist of Auschwitz; Pilot

Simon Giles
Alan Church
David Schneider
James Hattsmith

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A REAL-TIME PROJECT

[REDACTED]

Fabio Silva
Matthew Sherman
Caleb Essex
Bob Kopinsky

Destiny 2: The Final Shape

Dave Samuel
Ben Fabric
Eric Greenlief
Glenn Gamble

Star Wars Outlaws

Stephen Hawes
Lionel Le Dain
Benedikt Podlesnigg
Andi-Bogdan Draghici

What If...? – An Immersive Story

Patrick N.P. Conran
Shereif Fattouh
Zain Homer
Jax Lee

Until Dawn

Nicholas Chambers
Jack Hidde Glavimans
Alex Gabor

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A COMMERCIAL

YouTube TV NFL Sunday Ticket: The Magic of Sunday

Chris Bayol
Jeremy Brooks
Lane Jolly
Jacob Bergman

Disney; Holidays 2024

Adam Droy
Helen Tang
Christian Baker-Steele
David Fleet

Virgin Media; Walrus Whizzer

Sebastian Caldwell

Ian Berry

Ben Cronin

Alex Grey

Coca-Cola; The Heroes

Greg McKneally

Antonia Vlasto

Ryan Knowles

Fabrice Fiteni

Six Kings Slam; Call of the Kings

Ryan Knowles

Joe Billington

Dean Robinson

George Savvas

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A SPECIAL VENUE PROJECT

D23; Real-Time Rocket

Evan Goldberg

Alyssa Finley

Jason Breneman

Alice Taylor

The Goldau Landslide Experience

Roman Kaelin

Gianluca Ravioli

Florian Baumann

MTV Video Music Awards; Slim Shady Live

Jo Plaete

Sara Mustafa

Cameron Jackson

Andries Courteaux

Tokyo DisneySea; Peter Pan's Never Land Adventure

Michael Sean Foley

Kirk Bodyfelt

Darin Hollings

Bert Klein

Maya Vyas

Paris Olympics Opening Ceremony; Run

Benjamin Le Ster
Gilles De Lusigman
Gerome Viavant
Romain Tinturier

OUTSTANDING CHARACTER IN A PHOTOREAL FEATURE

Better Man; Robbie Williams

Milton Ramirez
Andrea Merlo
Seoungseok Charlie Kim
Eteuati Tema

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes; Noa

Rachael Dunk
Andrei Coval
John Sore
Niels Peter Kaagaard

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes; Raka

Seoungseok Charlie Kim
Giorgio Lafratta
Tim Teramoto
Aidan Martin

Mufasa: The Lion King; Taka

Klaus Skovbo
Valentina Rosselli
Eli De Koninck
Amelie Talarmain

OUTSTANDING CHARACTER IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE

Inside Out 2; Anxiety

Alexander Alvarado
Brianna Francisco
Amanda Wagner
Brenda Lin Zhang

The Wild Robot; Roz

Fabio Lignini

Yukinori Inagaki

Owen Demers

Hyun Huh

Thelma The Unicorn; Vic Diamond

Guillaume Arantes

Adrien Montero

Anne-Claire Leroux

Gaspard Roche

Wallace & Gromit: Vengeance Most Fowl; Gromit

Jo Fenton

Alison Evans

Andy Symanowski

Emanuel Nevado

OUTSTANDING CHARACTER IN AN EPISODE, COMMERCIAL, GAME CINEMATIC, OR REAL-TIME PROJECT

Secret Level; Armored Core: Asset Management; Mech Pilot

Zsolt Vida

Péter Krucsai

Ágnes Vona

Enric Nebleza

Diablo IV: Vessel of Hatred; Neyrelle

Chris Bostjanick

James Ma

Yeon-Ho Lee

Atsushi Ikarashi

Disney; Holidays 2024; Octopus

Alex Doyle

Philippe Moine

Lewis Pickston

Andrea Lacedelli

Ronja the Robber's Daughter; Vildvittran the Queen Harpy

Nicklas Andersson

David Allan

Gustav Åhren

Niklas Wallén

OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENT IN A PHOTOREAL FEATURE

Civil War; Washington, D.C.

Matthew Chandler
James Harmer
Robert Moore
Adrien Zeppieri

Dune: Part Two; The Arrakeen Basin

Daniel Rhein
Daniel Anton Fernandez
Marc James Austin
Christopher Anciaume

Gladiator II; Rome

Oliver Kane
Stefano Farci
John Seru
Frederick Vallee

Wicked; The Emerald City

Alan Lam
Steve Bevins
Deepali Negi
Miguel Sanchez López-Ruíz

OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENT IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE

Kung Fu Panda 4; Juniper City

Benjamin Lippert
Ryan Prestridge
Sarah Vawter
Peter Maynez

The Wild Robot; The Forest

John Wake
He Jung Park
Woojin Choi
Shane Glading

Transformers One; Iacon City

Alex Popescu
Geoffrey Lebreton
Ryan Kirby
Hussein Nabeel

Wallace & Gromit: Vengeance Most Fowl; Aqueduct

Matt Perry
Dave Alex Riddett
Matt Sanders
Howard Jones

OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENT IN AN EPISODE, COMMERCIAL, GAME CINEMATIC, OR REAL-TIME PROJECT

Dune: Prophecy; Pilot; The Imperial Palace

Scott Coates
Sam Besseau
Vincent l'Heureux
Lourenco Abreu

Dune: Prophecy; Two Wolves; Zimia Spaceport

Nils Weisbrod
David Anastacio
Rene Borst
Ruben Valente

Shōgun; Osaka

Manuel Martinez
Phil Hannigan
Keith Malone
Francesco Corvino

The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power; Season 2; Doomed to Die; Eregion

Yordan Petrov
Bertrand Cabrol
Lea Desrozier
Karan Dhandha

OUTSTANDING CG CINEMATOGRAPHY

Better Man

Blair Burke
Shweta Bhatnagar
Tim Walker
Craig Young

Dune: Part Two; Arrakis

Greig Fraser
Xin Steve Guo
Sandra Murta
Ben Wiggs

House of the Dragon; Season 2; The Red Dragon and the Gold; Battle at Rook's Rest

Matt Perrin
James Thompson
Jacob Doehner
P.J. Dillon

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes ; Egg Climb

Dennis Yoo
Angelo Perrotta
Samantha Erickstad
Miae Kang

OUTSTANDING MODEL IN A PHOTOREAL OR ANIMATED PROJECT

Alien: Romulus; Renaissance Space Station

Waldemar Bartkowiak
Trevor Wide
Matt Middleton
Ben Shearman

Deadpool & Wolverine; Ant-Man Arena

Carlos Flores Gomez
Corinne Dy
Chris Byrnes
Gerald Blaise

Dune: Part Two; The Harkonnen Harvester

Andrew Hodgson
Timothy Russell
Erik Lehmann
Louie Cho

Gladiator II; The Colosseum

Oliver Kane
Marnie Pitts
Charlotte Fargier
Laurie Priest

OUTSTANDING EFFECTS SIMULATIONS IN A PHOTOREAL FEATURE

Dune: Part Two; Atomic Explosions and Wormriding

Nicholas Papworth
Sandy la Tourelle
Lisa Nolan
Christopher Phillips

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes; Burning Village, Rapids and Floods

Alex Nowotny
Claude Schitter
Frédéric Valleur
Kevin Kelm

Twisters

Matthew Hanger
Joakim Arnesson
Laurent Kermel
Zheng Yong Oh

Venom: The Last Dance; Water, Fire & Symbiote Effects

Xavi Martin Ramirez
Oscar Dahlen
Hedi Namar
Hang Yang

OUTSTANDING EFFECTS SIMULATIONS IN AN ANIMATED FEATURE

Kung Fu Panda 4

Jinguang Huang
Zhao Wang
Hamid Shamsavari
Joshua LaBrot

Moana 2

Zoran Stojanoski
Jesse Erickson
Shamintha Kalamba Arachchi
Erin V. Ramos

The Wild Robot

Derek Cheung
Michael Losure
David Chow
Nyoung Kim

Ultraman: Rising

Goncalo Cabaca
Zheng Yong Oh
Nicholas Yoon
Praveen Boppana

OUTSTANDING EFFECTS SIMULATIONS IN AN EPISODE, COMMERCIAL, GAME CINEMATIC, OR REAL-TIME PROJECT

Avatar: The Last Airbender; Legends; Koizilla

Ioan Boieriu
David Stopford
Per Balay
Saysana Rintharamy

Shōgun; Broken to the Fist; Landslide

Dominic Tiedeken
Heinrich Löwe
Charles Guerton
Timmy Lundin

Star Wars: Skeleton Crew; Pilot; Spaceship Hillside Takeoff

Travis Harkleroad
Xiaolong Peng
Marcella Brown
Mickael Ricciotti

The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power; Season 2; Shadow and Flame; Balrog Fire and Collapsing Cliff

Koen Hofmeester
Miguel Perez Senent
Miguel Santana da Silva
Billy Copley

Three Body Problem; Judgement Day

Yves D'Incau
Gavin Templer
Martin Chabannes
Eloi Andaluz Fullà

OUTSTANDING COMPOSITING & LIGHTING IN A FEATURE

Better Man

Mark McNicholl
Gordon Spencer de Haseth
Eva Snyder
Markus Reithoffer

Dune: Part Two; Wormriding, Geidi Prime, and the Final Battle

Christopher Rickard
Francesco Dell'Anna
Paul Chapman
Ryan Wing

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes

Joerg Bruemmer
Zachary Brake
Tim Walker
Kaustubh A. Patil

The Wild Robot

Sondra L. Verlander
Baptiste Van Opstal
Eszter Offertaler
Austin Casale

OUTSTANDING COMPOSITING & LIGHTING IN AN EPISODE

Shōgun; Broken to the Fist; Landslide

Benjamin Bernon
Douglas Roshamn
Victor Kirsch
Charlie Raud

Star Wars: Skeleton Crew; Episode 6; Jaws

Rich Grande
Tomas Lefebvre
Ian Dodman
Rey Reynolds

The Boys; Season 4; Life Among the Septics

Tristan Zerafa
Mike Stadnyckyj
Toshi Kosaka
Rajeev BR

The Penguin; After Hours

Jonas Stuckenbrock
Karen Cheng
Eugene Bondar
Miky Girón

OUTSTANDING COMPOSITING & LIGHTING IN A COMMERCIAL

Virgin Media; Walrus Whizzer

Sebastian Caldwell
Alex Grey
Kanishk Chouhan
Shubham Mehta

Coca-Cola; The Heroes

Ryan Knowles
Alex Gabucci
Jack Powell
Dan Yargici

Corcept; Marionette

Yongchan Kim
Arman Matin
Yoon Bae
Rajesh Kaushik

Disney; Holidays 2024

Christian Baker-Steele
Luke Warpus
Pritesh Kotian
Jack Harris

OUTSTANDING SPECIAL (PRACTICAL) EFFECTS IN A PHOTOREAL PROJECT

Blitz

Hayley Williams
David Eves
Alex Freeman
David Watson

Constellation

Martin Goeres
Johara Raukamp
Lion David Bogus
Leon Mark

The Penguin; Safe Guns

Devin Maggio
Johnny Han
Cory Candrilli
Alexandre Prod'homme

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Dune: Part Two; Nuke CopyCat

Ben Kent
Guillaume Gales
Mairead Grogan
Johanna Barbier

Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga; Artist-driven Machine Learning Character

John Bastian
Ben Ward
Thomas Rowntree
Robert Beveridge

Here; Neural Performance Toolset

Jo Plaete
Oriël Frigo
Tomas Koutsky
Matteo Oliviero-Dancey

Mufasa: The Lion King; Real-Time Interactive Filmmaking, From Stage To Post

Callum James
James Hood
Lloyd Bishop
Bruno Pedrinha

The Penguin; Phase Synced Flash-Gun System

Johnny Han
Jefferson Han
Joseph Menafra
Michael Pynn

OUTSTANDING VISUAL EFFECTS IN A STUDENT PROJECT

Dawn (entry from ESMA – École Supérieure Des Métiers Artistiques)

Noah Mercier
Apolline Royer
Lorys Stora
Marie Pradeilles

Student Accomplice (entry from Brigham Young University)

Spencer Blanchard
Lisa Bird
Anson Savage
Kiara Spencer

Pittura (entry from ARTFX – Schools of Digital Arts)

Adam Lauriol
Titouan Lassère
Rémi Vivenza
Helloïs Marre

Courage (entry from Supinfocom – Rubika)

Salomé Cognon
Margot Jacquet
Nathan Baudry
Lise Delcroix

As previously announced, special honorees at the 23rd Annual VES Award include: Golden Globe nominee and Emmy Award-winning actor-producer Hiroyuki Sanada, receiving the VES Award for Creative Excellence; Academy Award-winning director and Visual Effects Supervisor Takashi Yamazaki receiving the VES Visionary Award; and acclaimed Virtual Reality/Immersive Technology Pioneer Dr. Jacquelyn Ford Morie receiving the VES Georges Méliès Award.

About the Visual Effects Society

The Visual Effects Society is a professional global honorary society dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences and applications of visual effects and to upholding the highest standards and procedures for the visual effects profession. It is the entertainment industry's only official organization representing the extended global community of visual effects practitioners, including supervisors, artists, producers, technology developers, educators and studio executives. VES' more than 5,000 members in 50+ countries worldwide contribute to all areas of entertainment – film, television, commercials, animation, games and new media. To learn more about the VES, visit www.vesglobal.org and follow us on X @VFX Society. Read our award-winning signature publication *VFX Voice* at www.vfxvoice.com.