

NEW YORK WOMEN IN FILM & TELEVISION (NYWIFT) TO CELEBRATE EXCEPTIONAL VISIONARIES AT THE 42ND ANNUAL NYWIFT MUSE AWARDS VIRTUALLY ON DECEMBER 16, 2021

GOLDEN GLOBE® AND SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARD-WINNING AND EMMY AWARD®-NOMINATED ACTOR SANDRA OH; WARNERMEDIA'S CHRISTY HAUBEGGER; DIRECTOR DARNELL MARTIN; TONY AWARD®-WINNING ACTRESS & SINGER PATINA MILLER; AND EMMY AWARD®-WINNING FILMMAKER & ACTIVIST JASON DASILVA TO RECEIVE CAREER RECOGNITION

NEW YORK, NY – NOVEMBER 17, 2021 – New York Women in Film & Television (NYWIFT) is proud to present the 42nd Annual **NYWIFT Muse Awards** virtual event on Thursday, December 16, 2021. The event will be held virtually beginning at 1:00PM ET and available for all those who register to watch online at nywift.org/muse. This year's theme is "Perseverance," as NYWIFT recognizes the innovation and fortitude of creatives who overcame the challenges of the last two years. A virtual VIP networking mixer will follow the awards presentation.

CBS Sunday Morning contributor, comedian, actress, and self-described "Accidental Pundette" Nancy Giles will again host the event, which celebrates women and men of outstanding vision and achievement both in front of and behind the camera in film, television, the music industry, and digital media.

The honorees for this year's Muse Awards are some of the most extraordinary in the business:

Sandra Oh is a two-time Golden Globe®-winning, a two-time Screen Actors Guild Award-winning, and a twelve-time Emmy Award®-nominated actor and producer. She currently stars as 'Professor Ji-Yoon Kim' in the critically acclaimed Netflix comedy *The Chair* and as 'Eve Polastri' in the award-winning AMC/BBC spy thriller *Killing Eve*, which will return for its fourth and final season in 2022, and serves as Executive Producer on both of these series. Oh previously starred for ten seasons as 'Dr. Cristina Yang' on the ABC medical drama series *Grey's Anatomy*. Oh will next star as 'Ming' in the Disney and Pixar feature film *TURNING RED*, which will be released in theatres on March 11, 2022. Her feature film credits include *SIDEWAYS*, *UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN* and voiced characters in the films *THE MOON*, *RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON*, and the Amazon Prime television series *Invincible*.

Christy Haubegger is Executive Vice President, Communications, and Chief Inclusion Officer at WarnerMedia. Haubegger leads WarnerMedia's global marketing and communications efforts and is also responsible for furthering diversity, equity, and inclusion across the enterprise, so it more closely reflects the audience and community the company serves. Prior to WarnerMedia Haubegger was at Creative Artists Agency (CAA) for 14 years leading the company's drive to become the market leader in the representation of women and people of color. Haubegger founded *Latina Magazine* in 1996.

Darnell Martin will receive the "Nancy Malone Directing Award." Martin is a director and writer born in the Bronx, NY. She has directed films including *CADILLAC RECORDS*, starring Adrien Brody, Jeffrey Wright and Beyoncé Knowles, *I LIKE IT LIKE THAT*, which won the New York Film Critics Circle award for best first feature and was an official selection of Cannes, starring Lauren Velez and Jon Seda, *PRISON SONG*, starring Q-Tip and Mary J. Blige, and *THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD*, produced by Oprah Winfrey and starring Halle Berry. She directed the pilot for HBO's *Oz*, as well as episodes of other television series including *Firelight*, *New Amsterdam*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *American Rust*, *Outer Banks*, *The Good Lord Bird*, *The Walking Dead*, and *Law and Order*.

Alexis Fish has been at forefront of LGBTQ media for two decades, advocating for queer voices in publishing, film, tv and music. As VP of Pride at MRC, she created the first Billboard Pride List, launched

the first Billboard & The Hollywood Reporter Pride Summit and oversaw The Hollywood Reporter's first annual Pride issue and list. Prior to her work as Editor of Billboard Pride, she was a founding editor of Condé Nast's first LGBTQ vertical, *them*. Her award winning film producing includes executive producing John Cameron Mitchell's *Shortbus*. She was SVP of the first independent LGBTQ television network, QTV. Alexis sits on the Board of the Outfest Los Angeles. She graduated from Smith College with a degree in Political Science.

Patina Miller will receive a "Made in New York" Award from the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, for her contributions to NYC's entertainment industry. Miller is a Tony Award-winning actress and singer who starred as Deloris Van Cartier in the 2009 West End and 2011 Broadway productions of *Sister Act*, as well as the Leading Player in the 2013 revival of *Pippin*, which earned her a Tony® Award for Best Actress in a Musical. She has also starred in film and television projects including *THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY*, *THE MANY SAINTS OF NEWARK*, PBS' *Mercy Street*, CBS' long running political drama *Madam Secretary* and the Starz hit series *Power Book III: Raising Kanan*.

Jason DaSilva will receive the "Loreen Arbus Changemaker Award." DaSilva is an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and disability rights activist whose films have premiered at the Sundance and Tribeca Film Festivals, and have won top awards at Hot Docs and the Chicago International Film Festival. In 2013 he directed the Emmy winning autobiographical documentary *WHEN I WALK*, which follows him during the seven years following his diagnosis of primary progressive multiple sclerosis. He also directed the 2019 follow up *WHEN WE WALK*, as well as other documentaries including *FROM THE MOUTHPIECE ON BACK* and short *OLIVIA'S PUZZLE*. In 2019 he received the Gotham Made in NY Award. Jason is the founder of the non-profit organization AXS Lab, whose mandate is to serve those with disabilities through the arts, media, and technology. He also created the new media project called AXS Map that encourages communities to share reviews on the accessibility of businesses, restaurants and other public places. In 2021 the AXS Film Fund was launched to support documentary filmmakers and non-fiction new media creators of color with disabilities.

"The honorees for our 42nd Annual NYWIFT Muse Awards have proven that perseverence is one of the keys to becoming creative leaders in the entertainment field today. Each recipient is breaking barriers in their own respect and working to build inclusive media environments that offer a plethora of voices and visions including people of color, those with disabilities, and women. Their legacy will lead future generations that want to reimagine our industry. We look forward to celebrating these risk-takers, agitators for change and visionary women and men," said New York Women in Film & Television **Executive Director Cynthia Lopez**.

"The NYWIFT Muse Awards is an annual staple for our organization and it is so important we continue to highlight our honorees' talent and hard work in the industry. I'm so proud of our team for pivoting to virtual for a second year, and we're grateful for the opportunity to bring the show to a wider international audience one more time," said New York Women in Film & Television **Board of Directors President Jamie Zelermyer**.

NYWIFT is also pleased to continue its partnership with the Mayor's Office of Media Entertainment, which will present its "Made in NY" award, established in 2006, which recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to New York City's entertainment industry over the course of their careers. Previous "Made in NY" honorees include Awkwafina, Caroline Hirsch, Meryl Streep, Whoopi Goldberg, Rachael Ray, Tina Fey, Spike Lee, John Leguizamo, Alysia Reiner, Michael K. Williams, and Judith Light.

"We are thrilled to present this year's 'Made in New York' award to Patina Miller, whose performances have given life to powerful female characters on stage and screen, spanning Broadway, television, film and music," said the NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment Commissioner, Anne del Castillo. "We are proud to join New York Women in Film & Television in honoring women working in television,

film and theatre at the 42nd Annual MUSE Awards, and offer our congratulations to all of this year's honorees for their individual achievements as leaders in the field."

The NYWIFT Muse Awards is always a highly anticipated celebration at the height of the holiday season. Past recipients include some of the most respected women in the entertainment industry such as Rashida Jones, Rachel Brosnahan, Gloria Estefan, Ann Dowd, Sarah Jessica Parker, Claire Danes, Mary-Louise Parker, Anne Sweeney, Martha Stewart, Robin Wright, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Julianne Moore, America Ferrera, Laura Dern, Julianna Margulies, Blythe Danner, Victoria Alonso, Gabourey Sidibe, Debi Mazar, Martha Plimpton, Cicely Tyson and Lucy Liu. Additional information on the event available at <https://www.nywift.org/>.

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About the 2021 Muse Awards Honorees

Please find headshots of this year's honorees [here](#).

Sandra Oh

Born and raised in Ottawa, Canada, Sandra started ballet lessons at the age of four and appeared in her first play The Canada Goose at the age of ten. She started working professionally at age sixteen in television, theatre and commercials. After three years at the prestigious National Theatre School of Canada, she beat out more than 1,000 other hopefuls and landed the coveted title role in the CBC telefilm "The Diary of Evelyn Lau" based on the true story of a tortured poet who ran away from home and ended up a drug addict and prostitute on the streets of Vancouver. Her performance brought her a Gemini (Canada's Emmy) nomination for Best Actress and the 1994 Cannes FIPA d'Or for Best Actress.

Oh currently stars in and serves as Executive Producer on the Netflix comedy series "The Chair." The fourth and final season of BBC America's "Killing Eve," for which she also serves as Executive Producer will air in 2022. She will star in the Disney and Pixar film "Turning Red," which released in theaters on March 11, 2022.

Oh won a historic Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Drama Series, a SAG Award for Female Actor in a Drama Series and a Critics Choice Award for Lead Actress in a Drama Series for her work on the show and has also received three Emmy Award nominations for Lead Actress in a Drama Series for this series. Sandra recently hosted an episode of "Saturday Night Live," for which she was nominated for an Emmy Award in the category of Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series. Sandra starred on ten seasons of the hit ABC series "Grey's Anatomy," winning a Golden Globe Award and Screen Actors Guild Award and received two Emmy Award nominations for her role as Dr. Cristina Yang.

Oh starred in the enormously successful and Oscar-winning Fox Searchlight feature film "Sideways," for which she won a Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. On stage, Sandra starred in Death and the Maiden at the Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago and completed a sold-out run of the World Premiere of Satellites at New York's Public Theater for playwright Diana Son. She won her first Genie Award (Canada's Oscar) for her leading role in Double Happiness, a bittersweet coming-of-age story about a young Chinese-Canadian woman – a performance that brought her much acclaim and secured her place as one of Canada's rising young film stars. Never straying far from her theatre roots, Sandra has also starred in the world premieres of Jessica Hagedorn's Dogeaters at the La Jolla Playhouse and Diana Son's Stop Kiss at Joseph Papp's Public Theatre in New York, a role for which she received a Theatre World award. She also performed the Vagina Monologues in New York. Recently, Oh was back at The Public in New York, in Hansol Jung's Wild Goose Dreams which participated in the 2016 Sundance MENA workshop in Morocco.

Recently Sandra lent her voice to the animated features "Over the Moon," "Raya and the Last Dragon" and "Window Horses". Oh's additional feature film credits include "Under the Tuscan Sun", "Catfight," "Tammy", "Defendor", "Blindness", "The Night Listener", "For Your Consideration", "Three Needles", "Long Life Happiness and Prosperity", "Sorry Haters", "Ramona and Beezus", "Rick", "Bean", "Guinevere", "The Red Violin", "Waking the Dead", "The Princess Diaries", and "Pay or Play". She also starred in Michael Radford's improvised "Dancing at the Blue Iguana", a bleak and raw view of life in a strip club in Los Angeles. Her performance in Last Night, a Canadian film about the end of the world, led to her winning a second Genie Award for Best Actress in 1999.

Her additional television credits include six seasons of HBO's "Arli\$\$" for which she won the final Cable Ace Award for Best Actress in a Comedy, the British production of "Thorne: Scaredy Cat", HBO's "Six Feet Under," and Showtime's "Further Tales of the City."

Christy Haubegger

Executive Vice President, Communications and Chief Inclusion Officer, WarnerMedia

Recognized for advancing diverse representation in the entertainment industry, Haubegger leads WarnerMedia's global marketing and communications efforts and is also responsible for furthering diversity, equity, and inclusion across the enterprise's workforce, so it more closely reflects the audience and community the company serves. Additionally, Haubegger works cross-divisionally to support and facilitate WarnerMedia's overall mission to deliver the world's best stories and most engaging content to help its global businesses capitalize on the outsized opportunities represented by underserved and diverse voices.

Haubegger joined WarnerMedia from Creative Artists Agency (CAA) where she spent 14 years leading the company's drive to become the market leader in the representation of women and people of color, as well as transforming the workforce to become the most diverse and inclusive agency in the entertainment business. Under Haubegger's leadership, CAA launched CAA Amplify, an invitation-only annual event convening high-level multicultural artists and leaders, as well as the Amplify Database, the industry's first searchable database of television writers of color. During her tenure, the agency grew its diverse roster more than 1400% and according to USC's Annenberg Inclusion Initiative, the agency now represents the largest share of female directors and African- American directors in the motion picture business.

Upon graduating from Stanford Law School, Haubegger founded Latina magazine in 1996. She moved into the world of entertainment in 2002 and worked as a film producer on Chasing Papi (20th Century Fox) and Oscar-winner James L. Brooks' romantic comedy Spanglish (Columbia Pictures).

Haubegger serves on the boards of Management Leadership for Tomorrow (ml4t.org), a non-profit organization that works to increase the number of minority business leaders, as well as Hudson Pacific Properties (NYSE: HPP). Haubegger is also a founding member of "Poderistas" (formerly known as "She Se Puede"), a coalition of 10 prominent Latina activists from a variety of backgrounds who elevate, celebrate, and inspire Latinas to amplify their voices and actions on behalf of themselves, their communities and injustice in the workplace.

Alexis Fish

For over two decades Alexis Fish has been at forefront of LGBTQ media advocating for and centering queer voices in publishing, film, tv and music. In 2019, she joined MRC (*Billboard*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *MRC Film & TV* and *Dick Clark Productions*) as Vice President of Pride focusing exclusively on creating LGBTQ verticals across all brands. In her role as editor of *Billboard Pride*, she created the first *Billboard Pride List* highlighting LGBTQ individuals in the music business and launched the first *Billboard & The Hollywood Reporter Pride Summit*. She pivoted the Summit's second year to a virtual event bringing

together the largest gathering of LGBTQ artists ever assembled virtually while launching The Hollywood Reporter's first annual Pride issue and list.

She was a founding editor of Condé Nast's first LGBTQ vertical, *them* directing and producing the video driven brands inaugural tent pole videos and most recently ran point on GLAAD's Spirit Day, the most visible LGBTQ anti-bullying campaign in the world.

She is an award winning producer having Executive Produced John Cameron Mitchell's critically acclaimed queer feature *Shortbus* as well as numerous other films. The past two years she has had the distinct privilege of programming LGBTQ panels at Sundance including a follow-up to the seminal New Queer Cinema Panel with B Ruby Rich. Early in her career she was a SVP at the first LGBTQ independent television network, *QTV*.

At the heart of all of her work is the firm belief that media has the power to educate, impact and save lives. Her company School of Fish now consults with companies worldwide in the LGBTQ/BIPOC inclusive media and entertainment spaces using her years of experience coupled with trusted relationships to help produce powerful changemaking media.

Alexis sits on the Board of the Outfest Los Angeles, one of the largest LGBTQ Film Festivals in the world, was an advisor for the launch of Lesbians Who Tech and continues to mentor numerous LGBTQ people and projects in the entertainment industry. She graduated from Smith College with a degree in Political Science.

Darnell Martin

Darnell Martin is a director and writer born in Bronx, New York. From the Bronx, she went on to Sarah Lawrence College and New York University Film School. Along the way, she worked in film labs and camera rental houses and as a bartender, made music videos and short films, and wrote the first draft of *I Like It Like That*.

In 1992, Martin's short film, *Suspect*, which examined the treatment of young black people as assumed criminals, won critical acclaim at the New York Public Theater's Young Black Cinema showcase. After *Suspect*, Martin served as assistant camera operator on Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing*, and for Jonathan Demme's documentary *Cousin Bobby*, about his cousin Robert Castle, an Episcopal pastor who works in Harlem.

In 1994, she directed the Columbia Pictures release *I Like It Like That*, a romantic comedy-drama about a young woman trying to work at her relationship, keep her family together, assert her self-worth as a person, and keep her sanity all at the same time. She directed the critically-acclaimed pilot for *Oz*, HBO's first drama series, in 1997. In 2001 Martin directed *Prison Song*, and four years later, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, produced by Oprah Winfrey and starring Halle Berry.

She has directed episodes of TV shows like *Law & Order* and *Grey's Anatomy*. In 2008, Martin returned to the big screen, writing and directing a musical-drama film based on Leonard Chess and the singers who recorded for Chess Records, titled *Cadillac Records*. In 2012, she directed the well-received television film *Firelight*. Her most recent directing credits include episodes of *New Amsterdam*, *American Rust*, *Outer Banks*, *The Good Lord Bird*, and *Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist*. Martin has also participated as a mentor in The Writers Lab for women over 40, produced by New York Women in Film & Television (NYWIFT).

Patina Miller

Patina Miller is a Tony award-winning actress whose work has made a lasting impact across all mediums including the big and small screens, as well as on stage. Miller can be seen headlining the newest

installment of the "Power" franchise "Power Book III: Raising Kanan" for Starz. Miller plays 'Raquel Thomas' the fierce and compelling mother of 'Kanan', a character that was portrayed by Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson in the original series. She is currently in production for season 2.

Miller starred as press coordinator 'Daisy Grant' in the CBS hit drama, "Madam Secretary," alongside Téa Leoni for all six seasons of the series. Miller was also seen in the PBS Civil War-era drama, "Mercy Street," alongside Mary Elizabeth Winstead. The show marked PBS' first original drama in more than a decade.

Miller made her feature film debut as 'Commander Paylor' in Lionsgate's THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1, starring Jennifer Lawrence, Julianne Moore, and Philip Seymour Hoffman. The first part of the blockbuster franchise's finale was released in November 2014. Miller then reprised her role in the final installment of the series, THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 2, which was released in November 2015. Other features include the upcoming "Sopranos" prequel film THE MANY SAINTS OF NEWARK.

In 2013, Miller starred as the 'Leading Player' in the American Repertory Theater and Broadway revival productions of Stephen Schwartz's famous 1972 musical, "Pippin." The Broadway production was directed by Tony Award-winning director Diane Paulus, and co-starred Matthew James Thomas, Andrea Martin, and Terrance Mann. The revival received the Tony Award for Best Revival of a Musical at the 67th Annual Tony Awards. Miller earned a Tony Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical, an Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Actress in a Musical, as well as a Drama League Award, Fred and Adele Astaire Award, and Broadway.com Audience Choice Award for the role.

Miller made her Broadway debut in the 2011 Broadway season as the gutsy nightclub-singer-turned-nun 'Deloris Van Cartier' in the stage adaptation of "Sister Act," for which she earned her first Tony nomination as well as a Drama Desk, Drama League, and Outer Critics Circle Award nominations. Miller originated the role in the West-End production of the musical the year prior and went on to receive a Laurence Olivier Award nomination for her performance.

Additionally, Miller starred in multiple Off-Broadway productions, including "Ragtime" at Avery Fisher Hall, City Center Encores! production of Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson's "Lost in the Stars," and the Manhattan Theatre Club's "Romantic Poetry." Patina also appeared in the Public Theater's pre-Broadway revival of "Hair" during its 2008 run at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park. Miller's regional theatre credits include "First You Dream," a Kander and Ebb revue at the Kennedy Center, "Sister Act" at the Alliance Theatre and Pasadena Playhouse, and the Philadelphia Theater Company production of "Being Alive." Miller also participated in workshops for "Book of Mormon," "Nightingale," and "American Idiot." In addition, Miller also starred as 'The Witch' in the Hollywood Bowl's limited run of "Into the Woods", to rave reviews.

Miller performed her first solo concert at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts during its 2013-2014 theatrical season. Following that performance, Miller made her New York City debut in February 2014 as part of Lincoln Center Theater's "American Songbook" series, which subsequently aired on PBS. Miller received a degree in musical theater from Carnegie Mellon University. She currently resides in New York City.

Jason DaSilva

As a Director Jason DaSilva has been a prolific filmmaker for over the past 20 years. He has directed four short films (*Olivia's Puzzle*, *A Song For Daniel*, *Twins of Mankala*, *First Steps*) and four feature length-documentary films. *Olivia's Puzzle* premiered at the 2003 Sundance Festival and qualified for an Academy Award. In 2005 Jason was diagnosed with primary progressive M.S. and he turned the camera on himself, advocating and giving a voice to people with disabilities through his films.

Following the success of "When I Walk" (Emmy Award for Outstanding Informational Programming, 2013 Sundance premiere, Hot Docs best picture). Jason premiered his sequel "When We Walk", in 2019 at the Hot Docs Film Festival, which won best documentary at CAAMFest, and had its New York debut at the Human Rights Watch Film Festival. Jason is currently working on the last of the trilogy "When They Walk".

In 2008 Jason setup AXS LAB, with the aim to engage audiences to explore the disability experience using new media, films and the power of story. AXS MAP is it's primary technology branch, the largest online database in North America of accessibility, giving access to thousands of users a month for free to map and research the accessibility of establishments and public places. In 2021 AXS Lab launched their first year of AXS Film Fund, a fund to support documentary filmmakers and nonfiction new media creators of color with disabilities in their endeavors to create content and tell stories. Jason has also won the following awards: AAPD Mobility Magazine's Person of the Year, the Paul E. Hearn Leadership Award, the Christopher Award for Excellence in Film and, most recently, Made in New York recognition at the Gotham Awards.

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About New York Women in Film & Television

New York Women in Film & Television (NYWIFT) advocates for equality in the moving image industry and supports women in every stage of their careers. As the preeminent entertainment industry association for women in New York, NYWIFT energizes women by illuminating their achievements, presenting training and professional development programs, awarding scholarships and grants, and providing access to a supportive community of peers. NYWIFT brings together nearly 2,500 women and men working both above and below the line. NYWIFT is part of a network of 50 women in film chapters worldwide, representing more than 15,000 members. For further information about New York Women in Film & Television, please visit nywift.org and follow them on social media for additional event updates, news and photos. Follow on all social media platforms @NYWIFT.

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About the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment

The mission of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME) is to ensure New York City continues to be the creative capital of the world by supporting film, television, theatre, music, publishing, advertising and digital content, and ensuring those industries work for New Yorkers. In 2019, the creative industries accounted for more than 500,000 local jobs and annually, have an economic impact of \$150 billion. MOME comprises four divisions: The Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting; NYC Media; the Office of Nightlife; and educational and workforce development initiatives.

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