Beat: Entertainment

Oscars History

The Academy Awards 2023

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USPA NEWS - The Academy Awards, also known as the Oscars, is an annual awards ceremony honoring outstanding achievements in the film industry. The awards are presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), and winners are selected by the Academy's voting membership. The first Oscars ceremony was held on May 16, 1929, at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel in Los Angeles, California. Since then, the Oscars have become one of the most prestigious and widely-watched events in the entertainment industry.

The first Oscar ceremony was a small, informal event attended by around 270 people. There were 15 categories, and the awards were handed out in a sealed envelope. The first Best Picture winner was the silent film "Wings." Throughout the 1930s and 1940s, the Oscars were primarily awarded to films that were considered "worthy" rather than popular. This changed in the 1950s, when the Academy began to recognize more popular films, such as "All About Eve" and "An American in Paris."

In the 1960s, the Oscars began to recognize more diverse films, such as "West Side Story," "Lawrence of Arabia," and "Tom Jones." The 1970s saw the rise of independent and foreign films, with "The Godfather," "The French Connection," and "The Sting" winning Best Picture. The 1980s saw a resurgence of big-budget Hollywood films, with "Platoon," "Rain Man," and "The Last Emperor" winning Best Picture.

The 1990s saw a shift towards smaller, more independent films, with "The Silence of the Lambs," "Unforgiven," and "The English Patient" winning Best Picture. The 2000s saw a return to big-budget Hollywood films, with "Gladiator," "A Beautiful Mind," and "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" winning Best Picture.

In recent years, the Oscars have come under criticism for a lack of diversity among its nominees and winners. In 2016, the #OscarsSoWhite hashtag trended on social media, and the Academy responded by increasing its efforts to diversify its voting membership.
In 2020, the Academy announced a new set of inclusion standards for films to be considered for the Best Picture category,

which require films to meet certain criteria in relation to on-screen representation, creative leadership, and industry access and opportunities.

Throughout its history, the Oscars have grown in popularity and prestige, and continue to be one of the most highly-anticipated and widely-watched events in the entertainment industry. While the ceremony may have evolved over the years, the goal of the Oscars remains the same: to recognize and celebrate outstanding achievements in the film industry.

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