

Television

Sinclair says it won't air Fauci 'segment'

Fresh comedy faces, 'Modern' farewell seek Emmy nods

LOS ANGELES, July 28, (AP) — “The Morning Show” and “Ramy” are among the series vying for Emmy nominations as TV’s top honors strive to keep Hollywood’s awards tradition going despite the pandemic.

The 72nd prime-time Emmys are the first major entertainment honors to unfold amid the coronavirus’ disruption, and Tuesday’s virtual announcement makes clear how much improvising is required.

The nominations, typically unveiled with fanfare at the TV academy’s Los Angeles headquarters, will be announced online Tuesday by host Leslie Jones (“Saturday Night Live”) and presenters Laverne Cox (“Orange Is the New Black”), Josh Gad (“Frozen”) and Tatiana Maslany (“Orphan Black”).

Last year’s best series winners “Game of Thrones” and “Fleabag” called it a wrap, clearing the path for others to prevail. With the downtime forced on academy TV voters by the virus, the field could include underdogs that benefited from more attention.

Something else to look for: Whether recent social justice tumult affects the Emmys’ up-and-down record of ethnic and gender inclusivity in nominations and awards.

On the drama side, “The Morning Show” is aiming for best series and actress bids for Jennifer Aniston and Reese Witherspoon. It’s the flagship entry from Apple TV+, one of the new kids on the increasingly competitive streaming block.

“The Handmaid’s Tale,” which took the best drama trophy in 2017,

is vying for its third nomination in the category. “Big Little Lies,” last year’s winner for best limited series, is hunting for a drama series nod for its second season.

Among the previously nominated drama contenders asking for more: “Succession”; “Better Call Saul”; “The Crown”; “Ozark”; “Stranger Things”; “Westworld”; “This Is Us”; “Pose,” and the eighth and final season of past winner “Homeland.”

The comedy categories hold the promise of fresh faces, including the Muslim American series “Ramy.” Its star and co-creator, Ramy Youssef, earned a Golden Globe in January for his performance.

Others seeking their first top comedy nod include the female-led comedies “Insecure”; “Dead to Me”; “Better Things” and “The Great,” with past winner “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel” also in the running.

Previous nominees “Schitt’s Creek,” “The Good Place” and “Silicon Valley” are pursuing recognition for their farewell seasons, as is “Modern Family” — which aired for 11 seasons and has five wins to date in the category, a record it shares with “Frasier.”

The Emmy Awards, hosted by Jimmy Kimmel, will be presented Sept. 20 on ABC.

Also:

NEW YORK: The Sinclair Broadcast Group says it will not air a segment on its “America This Week” program in which a conspiracy theorist

speculates about Dr. Anthony Fauci and the coronavirus.

Over the weekend, Sinclair said it was delaying the story for a week after it attracted media attention.

But in a tweet late Monday, Sinclair said that given the nature of Judy Mikovits’ claims to correspondent Eric Bolling, the segment was “not appropriate” to air.

“We also reiterate our appreciation for all that Dr Fauci and his team have accomplished for the health and well-being of Americans and people worldwide,” said Sinclair. The company owns local television stations in 81 markets across the country.

Mikovits, maker of the widely debunked “Plandemic” video, had told Bolling that she believed Fauci, the nation’s top infectious-disease expert, had manufactured the virus that causes COVID-19 and shipped it to China.

She presented no evidence to back up her theory because there is none.

Despite Sinclair telling its stations on Saturday not to air the interview, the lobbying group Media Matters for America said that it was shown on WCHS-TV, a Sinclair-owned ABC affiliate in Charleston, West Virginia. Media Matters first uncovered the segment last week.

Sinclair offered an “open invite” to Fauci to appear on any of its stations.

The broadcast group is known for pushing a conservative viewpoint through editorials and reports that it compels its stations to run.

Variety



This image released by Searchlight Pictures shows Frances McDormand in a scene from the film ‘Nomadland.’ Chloe Zhao’s film will premiere across the major fall film festivals in an alliance forged by the Venice, Toronto, New York and Telluride festivals. (AP)

Film

‘Tenet’ to open internationally first

‘Nomadland’ to debut across fall fests

LOS ANGELES: Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas have had their first child.

The 24-year-old “Game of Thrones” star Turner and the 30-year-old singer Jonas announced the birth Monday. “Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas are delighted to announce the birth of their baby,” they said in a statement released through his label Republic Records.

The couple was quiet about the pregnancy and gave no further details on the baby.

Turner, the England-born actor who played Sansa Stark on “Game of Thrones” for eight seasons, and Jonas, the Arizona-born musician who came to fame in a band with his brothers on the Disney Channel, began dating in 2016 and married last year. In March 2017, she announced she had become patron of Women for Women, an organization that supports female war survivors. In November 2017, Turner was cast to play Juliane Koepecke in the movie “Girl Who Fell From the Sky.” She will also produce the movie. In March and April 2018, she filmed the independent film “Heavy” in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Turner reprised her role as Jean Grey in the X-Men film “Dark Phoenix,” which takes place in 1992 and follows the events of “Apocalypse.” The film was released in June 2019. She has been featured in print work for the luxury designer brand Louis Vuitton. In September 2019, Turner was cast in the thriller television show “Survive.”

They live in Los Angeles, and the baby is the first for both. (Agencies)

LOS ANGELES: Rapper Megan Thee Stallion said Monday that she had gunshot wounds in both feet and gave new details about the shooting earlier this month that she called “the worst experience of my life” in an emotional online video.

“I was shot in both of my feet, and I had to get surgery to ... get the bullets taken out, and it was super scary,” said the 25-year-old hip-hop star whose real name is Megan Pete, as she wiped away tears in the Instagram Live video.

She did not name the person who shot her, as she also declined to do when she first said publicly that she was shot in a July 15 Instagram post.

Rapper Tory Lanez, who was with Pete, was arrested on suspicion of carrying a concealed weapon on the morning of the July 12 incident

NEW YORK, July 28, (AP) — Chloe Zhao’s “Nomadland,” starring Frances McDormand, will premiere across the major fall film festivals in an alliance forged by the Venice, Toronto, New York and Telluride festivals.

“Nomadland,” Zhao’s follow-up to her acclaimed 2018 film “The Rider,” is the first movie announced in the new partnership that has brought together the fall’s biggest movie launch pads, which typically compete against each other for world premiere rights.

Toronto and New York are prepping primarily virtual editions. Telluride was forced to cancel entirely, but it will carry on in drive-in screenings in Los Angeles.

“Nomadland” will debut across Venice, Toronto and at “Telluride from Los Angeles” on Sept. 11. New York, which named the film its centerpiece, will premiere Zhao’s film on a later date.

Adapted from Jessica Bruder’s non-fiction book “Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century,” the film is about a woman, Fern, who after her Nevada business collapses, joins with other older American workers laid off in the Great Recession to travel the country in campers.

“The American road fascinates me,” said Zhao. “It’s heartbreakingly beautiful and deeply complicated. I’ve traveled it for many years and always hoped to capture a glimpse of it. I’m thankful to be able to make ‘Nomadland’ and excited for audiences to join Fern on her adventure.”

Fox Searchlight is planning to release “Nomadland” theatrically in the fall.

“It is a film that acquires particular meaning in a moment of pandemic induced seclusion, proving that values like mutual support and a strong sense of community can save us from solitude, failure, and despair,” said Alberto Barbera, director of the Venice International Film Festival. “I am also happy to share the opportunity to support this beautiful film with our fellow festivals of Telluride, Toronto, and New York: a concrete sign of solidarity and collaboration in this unprecedented and difficult time.”

In the latest plan for Hollywood’s hopeful return to moviegoing during the pandemic, Warner Bros. will re-

lease Christopher Nolan’s “Tenet” in an unprecedented fashion, opening it internationally first on Aug. 26, with a US release in select cities to follow over Labor Day weekend.

Warner Bros. on Monday said “Tenet” will arrive in more than 70 countries on Wednesday, Aug. 26, including Japan, Russia, much of Europe, Australia and Canada. The \$200 million thriller will open in the US about a week later on Thursday, Sept. 3.

The staggered release will be tailored to outbreaks of COVID-19. Instead of the usual global launch of a summer blockbuster, “Tenet” will make its way through theaters as they are open. The film, originally set for release July 17, has already had its premiere postponed several times. Each time, spikes in cases through the US has forced the studio to remake its plans.

Blockbuster

Now, Warner Bros has upended the usual launch of a would-be blockbuster. When “Tenet” lands in the US, it will be piecemeal throughout the country and dependent on areas where cinemas are allowed open. They are currently shuttered in California and New York (each home to one of the country’s top two markets), among other states. But that could change in the next month.

Warner Bros will also deliberately spread out its opening weekend, debuting the film mid-week to space out eager moviegoers. The major theater chains are expecting to operate with heightened cleaning measures and at reduced capacities of 25-50% to facilitate social distancing. AMC Theaters, the world’s largest chain, last week postponed its US reopening to mid-to-late August.

While the release of other tentpoles have been further delayed, Nolan and Warner Bros. have sought to lead the charge back into theaters. Exhibitors, the wide majority of which have been closed for more than four months, are desperate for new films and have implored distributors to accept atypical release patterns.

Walt Disney Co last week indefinitely delayed its “Mulan” remake. Paramount Pictures put off “A Quiet Place Part II” to April 2021.

Last week, cinemas reopened in China, the world’s second largest market, although “Tenet” doesn’t yet

have a release date there. In Europe, about a third of AMC’s locations have resumed operating. In the meantime, movie theaters have mostly been showing older films.

Also:

LOS ANGELES: Written, directed and executive produced by Beyoncé, the pop star’s “Black Is King” audiovisual album arrives Friday on Disney+. Given that the last time Beyoncé made something similar she crafted the dazzling film “Lemonade,” “Black Is King” — like most things involving Beyoncé — is a major event. This one, a fantasia celebrating black identity, comes as a companion piece to last year’s Beyoncé-curated album “The Lion King: The Gift.” She has described it as “a story of how the people left most broken have an extraordinary gift and a purposeful future.”

LOS ANGELES: Mark Levin’s documentary “Stockton on My Mind,” debuting Tuesday on HBO, charts the journey of Michael Tubbs, who became the youngest mayor of a major American city by the age of 26 and the first African-American mayor of his hometown, Stockton, California. Tubbs has helped make the low-income working-class community in Central California an incubator for new ideas in combating institutionalized racism, gun violence and economic hardship.

LOS ANGELES: Elyse Steinberg, Josh Kriegman and Eli Despres’ documentary “The Fight,” honored for social impact filmmaking at this year’s Sundance Film Festival, follows the work of the American Civil Liberties Union during the presidency of Donald Trump. It’s multi-front battle that, in this riveting account, encompasses conflicts over immigration, abortion and voting rights. As the directors showed in the exorcisingly entertaining 2016 Anthony Weiner documentary “Weiner,” they have talent for colorful fly-on-the-wall filmmaking of politics in action. Here, they focus on four tireless ACLU attorneys. Magnolia Pictures releases “The Fight” on-demand Friday.

in the Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles police said, and was released later that day after posting bail. Megan and Lanez had been in a car together after leaving a party.

Lanez, a 27-year-old Canadian rapper and singer whose legal name is Daystar Peterson, has not been charged in relation to the shooting. His representatives have not responded to requests for comment.



Turner



Megan

Police have said only that officers responded to a report of gunfire and a woman was treated for foot injuries. They say they are aware of Pete’s Stallion’s subsequent remarks on her gunshot injuries, and say detectives are investigating.

Pete said in the Monday video that she was lucky that the bullets did not hit any bones or break any tendons, and thanked her late par-

ents and grandmother. She expects to fully recover.

“I know my mama and my daddy, my granny had to be looking out for me with that one cause where the bullets hit at, it missed everything,” she said.

She lashed out at those she says have spread misinformation about the shooting, downplayed it or mocked her for it.

“It was nothing for y’all to start going and making up fake stories about,” she said. “I didn’t put my hands on nobody. I didn’t deserve to get shot.”

Megan Thee Stallion has seen a major recent rise on the rap and pop music scene, topping the all-genre Billboard Hot 100 chart this year with her remix of “Savage” featuring Beyoncé. (AP)