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THE ART DIRECTORS GUILD ANNOUNCES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR THE 28th ANNUAL EXCELLENCE IN PRODUCTION DESIGN AWARDS



(From left to right: David Lowery, Greg Papalia, Wynn P. Thomas, Francine West)

LOS ANGELES – The [Art Directors Guild](#), IATSE Local 800 (ADG 800) is honored to extend Lifetime Achievement Awards to guild members **David Lowery**, **Greg Papalia**, **Wynn P. Thomas** and **Francine West**. The Lifetime Achievement Award recipients will be celebrated at the **28th Annual Excellence in Production Design Awards**, on Feb. 10, 2024.

“It’s our honor and privilege to recognize and award these trailblazers in our guild,” says award show producers Michael Allen Glover, ADG and Megan Elizabeth Bell, ADG in a joint statement.

The Illustrators and Matte Artists (IMA) Council are bestowing their lifetime achievement award on Lowery, who has worked on more than 100 award-winning blockbuster films, with many of Hollywood’s greatest directors, including: *Jurassic Park*, *The Lion King* and all three Sam Raimi *Spiderman* films. He was the Co-Head of Story on *Shrek*, as well as Head of Storyboards and Associate Producer on every episode of *The Mandalorian*.

“David’s 36-year career as a storyboard artist is full of blockbuster movies and beloved franchises with every A-List Director in Hollywood. From *Willow* to every episode of *The Mandalorian*, including the Jurassic franchise, *The Rocketeer*, *True Lies*, and *Iron Man*, to name just a few, David’s work has spanned over 100 shows and counting. His contributions to the cinematic art of storytelling through his storyboards are a testament to his great talent. We are very proud to honor him and his work with this year’s Lifetime Achievement Award” said Tim Wilcox, ADG Illustrators and Matte Artists Council Chair.

Papalia will receive his Lifetime Achievement Award from the Set Designers & Model Makers (SDMM)

Council. He began his career designing sets for now-classic films including *Coming to America*, *Die Hard 2*, *Father of the Bride* and *The Patriot*. As his skill and reputation grew, Papalia added the title of Art Director to his resume, but combined that new role with his previous one. He has served as both Art Director and Set Designer on projects including *Air*, *Godzilla vs. Kong*, *Hail, Caesar!* and *Those Who Wish Me Dead*.

Kristen Davis, Chair of the Set Designers and Model Makers Craft of the Art Directors Guild says: "We are proud to honor Greg Papalia with our Lifetime Achievement Award. Greg's work and dedication to his craft have been an inspiration to us all. He has served the members, inspired future Set Designers, and created beautiful drawings and sets on many productions, throughout a long career."

The Art Directors (AD) Council is also set to honor Wynn P. Thomas, the first African American Production Designer to join the ADG. Thomas has won two ADG Awards for his production design on *Hidden Figures* and *Da 5 Bloods*. His additional credits include classic films such as *A Beautiful Mind* and *A Bronx Tale*, as well as the 2023 Academy Award Best Picture nominee *King Richard*. During his long-standing creative relationship with Spike Lee, Thomas has designed the director's major films including *Malcolm X* and *Do The Right Thing*. Thomas recently completed a six-year term as one of three Governors of the Designers Branch of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

"Wynn P. Thomas has significantly shaped the landscape of filmmaking, and his diverse body of work reflects his innovative approach and commitment to storytelling. Beyond his artistic achievements, Thomas is dedicated to mentoring the next generation of designers. Thomas has not only broken barriers but also paved the way for future generations," says Evan Rohde, AD Council Chair.

West will receive Lifetime Achievement Award recognition through the Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists (STG) Council. She was the first female scenic artist ever hired to work on film and television by both MGM and the NBC Television Network, as well as the first woman to be a Charge Artist at Grosh Scenic Studios in Hollywood. During her career, she worked at the ABC, NBC and CBS scenic shops, on television shows including *Frank Sinatra: A Man and His Music*, *The Carol Burnett Show* and *Three's Company*. She also worked on live event programs such as *The Academy Awards*, *The Emmy Awards* and *Super Bowl XVII*.

"Francine West stands out as a trailblazer and pioneer for women in the Scenic Arts. Francine embodies the qualities of a hard worker, team player, mentor, and teacher. Her influence continues as she imparts these qualities to the upcoming generation of Scenic Artists," says Clint Schultz, STG Council Chair.

As previously announced, during the ADG Awards ceremony legendary production designer Lawrence G. Paull will be inducted into the ADG Hall of Fame and director, producer and showrunner Mimi Leder will receive the 2024 Cinematic Imagery Award.

ABOUT THE ART DIRECTORS GUILD:

Established in 1937, the Art Directors Guild (ADG, IATSE Local 800) represents 3,300 members who work throughout the world in film, television and theater as: Production Designers and Art Directors; Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists; Set Designers and Model Makers; Illustrators and Matte Artists. ADG 800's ongoing activities include a Film Society screening series, the annual "Excellence in Production Design Awards" gala, a bimonthly craft magazine (*PERSPECTIVE*), figure drawing and other creative workshops, as well as extensive technology and craft training programs. For the Art Director Guild's online directory and resources, please visit www.adg.org.

<p><u>FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ADG AWARDS:</u></p> <p>Debbie Patton, ADG Awards & Events Director Debbie@adg.org 818.762.9995</p>	<p><u>MEDIA & PRESS CONTACT:</u></p> <p>EBComs, LLC Public Relations Mackinley Sullivan, mackinley@ebcoms.com Ranjinder Hans, ranjinder@ebcoms.com</p> <p>For the Red Carpet Media Credential application, please click HERE. For the Publicists Credential application, please click HERE.</p>
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