



**RON FUNCHES SET AS HOST —
ART DIRECTORS GUILD TO INDUCT THOMAS E. SANDERS
INTO THE ADG HALL OF FAME**



LOS ANGELES, CA (January 20, 2026) — The Art Directors Guild (ADG, IATSE Local 800) is pleased to announce that celebrated production designer **Thomas E. Sanders** will be inducted into the **ADG Hall of Fame** at the **30th Annual Excellence in Production Design Awards**. Actor, comedian, and writer **Ron Funches** will serve as host of the ceremony.

“I am honored to host the ADG Awards this year,” said **Ron Funches**. “Production designers and their teams are the unsung heroes of film and television, creating the worlds we get to live in on screen. Their imagination, artistry and craftsmanship inspire me, and I’m thrilled to help celebrate their incredible work.”

“Thomas E. Sanders’ legacy is etched into the very fabric of production design history,” said **Dina Lipton, President of the Art Directors Guild**. “His visionary work created worlds that elevated storytelling and set a standard of excellence that continues to inspire generations of designers, artists and filmmakers. We are deeply honored to induct him into the ADG Hall of Fame and celebrate the lasting impact of his extraordinary career.”

2026 Host: Ron Funches

Ron Funches is a nationally beloved stand-up comedian, actor and writer. He has appeared in numerous memorable television roles, including *The Goldbergs*, *Black-ish*, *New Girl*, *Transparent*, *Single Drunk Female*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Powerless* and *Undateable*. He currently stars on *Loot* on Apple TV+, and will appear in Season 4 of *The Traitors* on Peacock in 2026.

Funches has co-starred in feature films including *Get Hard* (alongside Will Ferrell), *Lexi*, *Noelle*, *6 Underground* and *80 for Brady*.

He is also a prolific voice actor, with credits that include DreamWorks' *Trolls*, Pixar's *Inside Out 2*, Nickelodeon's *Rock Paper Scissors*, *Ivan the Great*, *Harley Quinn*, *Bob's Burgers*, *Adventure Time*, *Final Space* and *The Great North*, among many others.

His personal television appearances include *Conan*, *The Tonight Show*, *Hollywood Squares*, *Match Game*, *To Tell the Truth*, *Chopped*, *Cupcake Wars*, *Celebrity Family Feud*, *Celebrity Wheel of Fortune*, *Celebrity Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*, *Nailed It*, *Are You Smarter Than a Celebrity* and more.

In addition to his on-screen work, Funches is an accomplished writer who has written for *The Eric Andre Show*, *Kroll Show* and several television pilots.

He is also deeply involved in philanthropic work, volunteering regularly with School on Wheels and Hilarity for Charity, and designing special-edition sneakers for Puma/Foot Locker, with proceeds benefiting Next for Autism.

ADG Hall of Fame Inductee: Thomas E. Sanders

The Art Directors Guild will bestow its prestigious **Hall of Fame Honor** on acclaimed production designer **Thomas E. Sanders**. From the 1990s through the 2010s, Sanders was celebrated for his visionary work on films including *Braveheart*, *Saving Private Ryan*, and *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, earning Academy Award® nominations for the latter two.

One of his proudest achievements was his work with Guillermo del Toro on the period horror-thriller *Crimson Peak*, whose gothic, richly textured and haunting production design defined the film's tone and atmosphere. For this work, Sanders received the 2016 Saturn Award from the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films.

His final project was Justin Lin's *Star Trek Beyond*. Other landmark credits include *Mission: Impossible II*, directed by John Woo, and a career-long legacy of elevating cinematic storytelling through immersive, emotionally resonant visual worlds. Sanders passed away in 2017, and this honor celebrates his enduring influence on the art of production design.

Sanders will be inducted by long-time collaborator **Kevin de la Noy**.

Event Information

Previously announced honorees for the **30th Annual Excellence in Production Design Awards** include **Bo Welch, Jann Engel, Tom Southwell,** and **Stephen McNally**, who will receive the **ADG's Lifetime Achievement Awards**. **Jon M. Chu** is also set to receive the ADG's **Cinematic Imagery Award**.

The ceremony will take place on **February 28, 2026**, at the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown.

The Art Directors Guild Awards are proud to be sponsored by ***PRESENTING LEVEL***: Sweetwater/NEP Live Events; ***PREMIER LEVEL***: Creative Artists Agency, Cush Light, Dazian, OnAir / Astek; ***DIAMOND LEVEL***: Goodnight and Company, Universal Prop House; ***PLATINUM LEVEL***: Interior Design Solutions and Worldwide Production Agency (WPA) ***SILVER LEVEL***: ShotDeck

About The Art Directors Guild

The Art Directors Guild (ADG, IATSE Local 800) members design the worlds where stories live. From enchanted kingdoms to the streets of today, our members craft the environments that bring film, television, and theater to life. Representing over 3,000 artists, including Production Designers and Art Directors, Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists, Set Designers and Model Makers, Illustrators, Storyboard and Matte Artists. The ADG is dedicated to fostering creativity, promoting education, ensuring safety, and advancing the future of our crafts.

Originally established in 1937, the ADG's ongoing activities include a Film Society screening series, the annual "Excellence in Production Design Awards" gala, a bimonthly magazine PERSPECTIVE, as well as a robust education program. For the Art Director Guild's online directory and resources, please visit www.adg.org