--MEDIA ALERT—

30th Annual Art Directors Guild Excellence in Production Design Awards
Taking Place Saturday, February 28, 2026

Rep. Laura Friedman to Receive ADG President's Award

Samba Schutte, Atsuko Okatsuka, Frank Grillo, Christopher Gorham, and Awkwafina More Set To Present

WHAT: Today, **Dina Lipton**, President of the Art Directors Guild, announced **Rep. Laura Friedman to receive the ADG President's Award**:

"We are deeply honored to present the Art Directors Guild, President's Award to California Congresswoman Laura Friedman, in recognition of her steadfast support of good union jobs with healthcare and retirement protections for entertainment industry workers. She is a champion of the industry and its importance to the culture and economy of the entire country. Congresswoman Friedman's advocacy has been resolute, securing California Tax Incentives and recently co-authoring a bill with Senator Adam Schiff for a much-needed Federal Tax Incentive. Her support of working artists and craftspeople reflects her unwavering commitment to protecting and strengthening our creative workforce, ensuring California and the United States remain the film capital of the world. This recognition reflects our gratitude for her partnership with union artists and craftspeople who shape the visual storytelling that defines film and television."

"I'm deeply honored to receive the ADG President's Award in recognition of my work to support Hollywood's film and television industry workers," said Congresswoman Laura Friedman (CA-30). "I look forward to continuing to collaborate with the ADG and our union partners, as well as my colleagues in Congress, to pursue a national film tax credit that brings production and jobs back for every one of the below-the-line production workers that carry this industry on their backs."

The 30th Annual ADG Awards to be held on Saturday, February 28, at the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown. Scheduled to attend, present, and/or appear:

Ron Funches (*Loot*, *The Traitors*) – Host
Jon M. Chu (*Wicked*, *Wicked: For Good, Crazy Rich Asians*) – Cinematic Imagery Award Honoree
Awkwafina (*Crazy Rich Asians*, *The Farewell*) –Cinematic Imagery Award Presenter
Rep. Laura Friedman – ADG President's Award Recipient
Michael F. Miller – ADG President's Award Presenter
Bo Welch (Production Designer, Director) – AD Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree
Barry Sonnenfeld – AD Lifetime Achievement Award Presenter
Tom Southwell (Illustrator, Storyboard Artist, Production Designer) – IMA Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree
Ron Underwood – IMA Lifetime Achievement Award Presenter
Jann Engel (Set Designer, Art Director) – SDMM Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree
Randy Wilkins – SDMM Lifetime Achievement Award Presenter
Stephen McNally (Scenic Artist) – STG Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree
James Shefik – STG Lifetime Achievement Award Presenter
Randall Wallace – Hall of Fame Presenter
Samba Schutte (*Pluribus)* – Presenter
Atsuko Okatsuka (Comedian) – Presenter
Frank Grillo (*Superman)* – Presenter
Christopher Gorham (*Sheriff Country)* – Presenter
Poppy Liu (*Love Boosters)* – Presenter
Gabriel Luna (*The Last of Us)* – Presenter
Charithra Chandran (*Bridgerton)* – Presenter
Ryan Guzman (*9-1-1)* – Presenter
Brett Cullen (*Joker)* – Presenter
Krys Marshall (*Paradise)* – Presenter

Produced by the Art Directors Guild (ADG, IATSE Local 800), the ceremony honors the artists who design the environments where stories come to life. The evening will include red carpet arrivals, awards presentations, and special tributes to industry legends.

HOST: **Ron Funches**
(*Loot*, *The Traitors*, *Trolls*, *Inside Out 2*, *Harley Quinn*, *Bob's Burgers*)

SPECIAL HONORS:	**<u>ADG Hall of Fame Inductee</u>**: **Thomas E. Sanders** (*Braveheart*, *Saving Private Ryan*, Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, *Crimson Peak*, *Star Trek Beyond*) Inducted by **Kevin de la Noy** **<u>Lifetime Achievement Award Honorees</u>**: **Bo Welch** **Jann Engel** **Tom Southwell** **Stephen McNally** **<u>Cinematic Imagery Award</u>**: **Jon M. Chu** (*Wicked*, *Wicked: For Good*, *In the Heights*, *Crazy Rich Asians*) **<u>ADG President's Award</u>**: **Rep. Laura Friedman**
PRODUCERS:	**Megan Elizabeth Bell, Michael Allen Glover, and Tom Wilkins**
WHERE:	**InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown** 900 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017
WHEN:	**Saturday, February 28, 2026** 3:30 p.m. – Press Check-In Opens 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Red Carpet Arrivals
PRESS CONTACT:	Jenny Tuell (jtuell@lippingroup.com) (818) 433-0848
MEDIA CREDENTIALS:	Apply for red carpet media credentials **HERE**.

PARKING DISCLAIMER

Confirmed press will receive an email with further instructions regarding parking.

PLEASE NOTE FOR PRESS:

- All media positions will be marked – NO red carpet access until **4:30 p.m**.
- Credentials are for Red Carpet Arrivals/Press Area ONLY
- B-roll will be available after the event, please request
- Select images from Shutterstock will be given for use to news outlets following the event.

<u>ABOUT THE ART DIRECTORS GUILD:</u>

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

SPONSORS:

***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

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