

Dear Transition Times Participant,

Once again, Phil has seen his shadow so it is 6 more weeks of winter! On a brighter note, the Steelers have won the Super Bowl, and we will be drawing the name of the lucky winner of the football signed by Jerome Bettis . . . stay tuned. Now that football is over, you might want to keep warm by staying inside and watching movies. We have provided you with some information about this year's current Oscar contenders as well as past Academy Award trivia.

This is the second year of the new study. Youth who are in their senior year of high school are participating this year, as well as youth who graduated last year. We are very fortunate to have been able to stay in touch with so many of you. The success of this study depends on you. Please take a moment to let us know if your contact information has changed. Our contact number is 412-268-2784.

Thank you for your dedication to and support of the *Transition Times Study*.

Vicki Helgeson

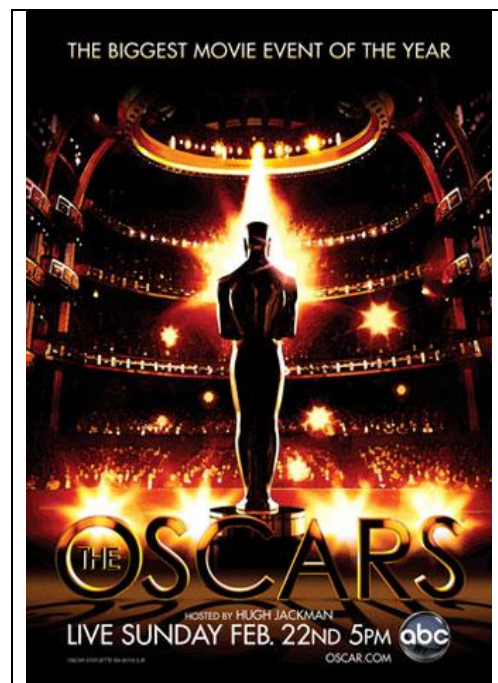
In 1953, the Oscar ceremony was first televised in the United States and Canada. Broadcasting in color began in 1966. Since 1969, the Oscar show has been broadcast internationally, now reaching movie fans in over 200 countries. On February 22, the 81<sup>st</sup> Academy Awards Ceremony will be televised live on ABC starting at 5:00 PM.

**And the nominees are...**

BEST PICTURE:     *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*  
                          *Frost/Nixon*  
                          *Milk*  
                          *The Reader*  
                          *Slumdog Millionaire*

BEST ACTOR:       Richard Jenkins for *The Visitor*  
                          Frank Langella for *Frost/Nixon*  
                          Sean Penn for *Milk*  
                          Brad Pitt for *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*  
                          Mickey Rourke for *The Wrestler*

BEST ACTRESS:     Anne Hathaway for *Rachel Getting Married*  
                          Angelina Jolie for *Changeling*  
                          Melissa Leo for *Frozen River*  
                          Meryl Streep for *Doubt*  
                          Kate Winslet for *The Reader*



BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: Josh Brolin for *Milk*  
 Robert Downey Jr. for *Tropic Thunder*  
 Philip Seymour Hoffman for *Doubt*  
 Heath Ledger for *The Dark Knight*  
 Michael Shannon for *Revolutionary Road*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS: Amy Adams for *Doubt*  
 Penelope Cruz for *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*  
 Viola Davis for *Doubt*  
 Taraji P. Henson for *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*  
 Marisa Tomei for *The Wrestler*

BEST DIRECTOR: David Fincher for *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*  
 Ron Howard for *Frost/Nixon*  
 Gus Van Sant for *Milk*  
 Stephen Daldry for *The Reader*  
 Danny Boyle for *Slumdog Millionaire*

BEST ANIMATED FEATURE: *Bolt*  
*Kung-Fu Panda*  
*WALL-E*

### **Oscar Trivia**

- Kate Winslet is the youngest actress to have received 6 Oscar nominations. She was previously nominated for her work in *Sense and Sensibility*, *Titanic*, *Iris*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, and *Little Children*.
- Spencer Tracy, Fredric March, Gary Cooper, Marlon Brando, Dustin Hoffman, Tom Hanks, Jack Nicholson, and Daniel Day-Lewis are the actors with the most awards. They each won the Best Actor award twice.
- Katharine Hepburn is the actress with the most awards. She won the Best Actress award four times.
- The Oscar statuette is officially called the *Academy Award of Merit*. Made of gold-plated britannium on a black metal base, it is 13.5 in tall, weighs 8.5 lb. It depicts a knight rendered in Art Deco style holding a crusader's sword standing on a reel of film with five spokes. The five spokes each represent the original branches of the Academy: Actors, Writers, Directors, Producers, and Technicians
- In 1939 *Gone with the Wind* was the first all-color film to win Best Picture.
- In 1969 *Midnight Cowboy* was the first and only X-rated film to win Best Picture.
- The *Godfather* trilogy and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy are the only trilogies to have all three films nominated for Best Picture
- *The Private Life of Henry VIII* was the first foreign film to be nominated for Best Picture in 1933.
- *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* is the first and only fantasy film to win Best Picture

- Ben-Hur, Titanic, and Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King have each won 11 Academy Awards
- Before becoming Richard Nixon in Frost/Nixon, Frank Langella played the parts of Dracula, Sherlock Holmes, and Skeletor on the big screen.
- Heath Ledger is the sixth actor, behind James Dean, Spencer Tracy, Peter Finch, Ralph Richardson and Massimo Troisi, to be nominated posthumously for an Oscar. Only Finch won, for his mad-as-hell newsman Howard Beale in 1976's "Network."

Below is a list of all the films that have won the Best Picture award from the beginning of the Oscars.

- 1927-1928 *Wings*
- 1928-1929 *The Broadway Melody*
- 1929-1930 *All Quiet on the Western Front*
- 1930-1931 *Cimarron*
- 1931-1932 *Grand Hotel*
- 1932-1933 *Cavalcade*
- 1934 *It Happened One Night*
- 1935 *Mutiny on the Bounty*
- 1936 *The Great Ziegfeld*
- 1937 *The Life of Emile Zola*
- 1938 *You Can't Take It with You*
- 1939 *Gone with the Wind*
- 1940 *Rebecca*
- 1941 *How Green Was My Valley*
- 1942 *Mrs. Miniver*
- 1943 *Casablanca*
- 1944 *Going My Way*
- 1945 *The Lost Weekend*
- 1946 *The Best Years of Our Lives*
- 1947 *Gentleman's Agreement*
- 1948 *Hamlet*
- 1949 *All the King's Men*
- 1950 *All About Eve*
- 1951 *An American in Paris*
- 1952 *The Greatest Show on Earth*
- 1953 *From Here to Eternity*
- 1954 *On the Waterfront*
- 1955 *Marty*
- 1956 *Around the World in Eighty Days*
- 1957 *The Bridge on the River Kwai*
- 1958 *Gigi*
- 1959 *Ben-Hur*
- 1960 *The Apartment*
- 1961 *West Side Story*
- 1962 *Lawrence of Arabia*



- 1963 *Tom Jones*
- 1964 *My Fair Lady*
- 1965 *The Sound of Music*
- 1966 *A Man for All Seasons*
- 1967 *In the Heat of the Night*
- 1968 *Oliver!*
- 1969 *Midnight Cowboy*
- 1970 *Patton*
- 1971 *The French Connection*
- 1972 *The Godfather*
- 1973 *The Sting*
- 1974 *The Godfather Part II*
- 1975 *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- 1976 *Rocky*
- 1977 *Annie Hall*
- 1978 *The Deer Hunter*
- 1979 *Kramer vs. Kramer*
- 1980 *Ordinary People*
- 1981 *Chariots of Fire*
- 1982 *Gandhi*
- 1983 *Terms of Endearment*
- 1984 *Amadeus*
- 1985 *Out of Africa*
- 1986 *Platoon*
- 1987 *The Last Emperor*
- 1988 *Rain Man*
- 1989 *Driving Miss Daisy*
- 1990 *Dances with Wolves*
- 1991 *The Silence of the Lambs*
- 1992 *Unforgiven*
- 1993 *Schindler's List*
- 1994 *Forrest Gump*
- 1995 *Braveheart*
- 1996 *The English Patient*
- 1997 *Titanic*
- 1998 *Shakespeare in Love*
- 1999 *American Beauty*
- 2000 *Gladiator*
- 2001 *A Beautiful Mind*
- 2002 *Chicago*
- 2003 *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*
- 2004 *Million Dollar Baby*
- 2005 *Crash*
- 2006 *The Departed*
- 2007 *No Country for Old Men*