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Used on red carpet panels that were used to display the category names, winners' names, or images from the nominated films.[34] Notably, the arrivals area along Hollywood Boulevard outside the Dolby Theatre was lined with a champagne-colored carpet, marking the first time since the 32nd ceremony in 1960 that a non-red colored carpet was utilized for the gala. According to red carpet consultant Lisa Lowe, the production team chose a lighter shade of carpet color in order to not clash with a sienna-colored tent erected to shield attendees from the sun or potential rain. She also added that the shades of color for both the carpet and tent were inspired by "watching the sunset on a white-sand beach at the 'golden hour' with a glass of champagne in hand, evoking calm and peacefulness".[35] Lady Gaga was initially not scheduled to perform her nominated song "Hold My Hand" from Top Gun: Maverick due to prior commitments involving her role in *Joker: Folie à Deux*. On the morning of the ceremony, however, it was reported that Gaga would perform at the ceremony.[36] Meanwhile, actress Glenn Close, who was originally scheduled as a presenter during the gala, canceled her appearance due to a positive COVID-19 test.[37] When the nominations were announced, nine of the ten films nominated for Best Picture had earned a combined gross of \$1.57 billion at the American and Canadian box offices at the time. Top Gun: Maverick was the highest-grossing film among the Best Picture nominees with \$718.7 million in domestic box office receipts.[38] *Avatar: The Way of Water* came in second with \$598.4 million; this was followed by *Elvis* (\$151 million). Everything Everywhere All at Once (\$70 million), The Fabelmans (\$15 million), The Banshees of Inisherin (\$9 million), *Tar* (\$5.6 million), *Triangle of Sadness* (\$4.2 million), and *Women Talking* (\$1.1 million). The box office figures for All Quiet on the Western Front were unavailable due to their distributor Netflix's policy of refusing to release such figures.[39] Furthermore, by virtue of *Avatar: The Way of Water* and Top Gun: Maverick's Best Picture nominations, it marked the first time since the 55th ceremony in 1983 that the two highest grossing films of the year were both nominated in the aforementioned category.[40] Andrea Riseborough's Best Actress nomination for *To Leslie* was controversial amongst critics and pundits, as Momentum Pictures, the film's distributor, did not fund a conventional advertising-driven awards campaign for the film. Instead, director Michael Morris and his wife, actress Mary McCormack, organized a "celeb-backed campaign" to get Riseborough nominated.[41][42] They contacted friends and colleagues in the entertainment industry, asking them to view the film and share it with others if they enjoyed it.[43] Morris and Riseborough also hired publicists to coordinate the efforts. While not initially regarded as a serious contender, the campaign raised Riseborough's profile; dozens of celebrities praised her performance on social media, and some hosted screenings of the film during voting for the Academy Award nominations in January 2023.[44][45] Riseborough's nomination was announced on January 24, which the *Los Angeles Times* called "one of the most shocking nominations in Oscar history".[43] After her nomination was announced, speculation arose that the tactics might have violated AMPAS rules against directly lobbying voters.[46] A post on the film's Instagram account was noted by several AMPAS members for possibly violating a rule prohibiting "singling out 'the competition' by name" by featuring a quote from film critic Richard Roeper, who praised Riseborough's performance as better than Cate Blanchett's in *Tár*, a fellow nominee for Best Actress.[47] On January 27, the Academy announced a review of the year's campaigns "to ensure that no guidelines were violated, and to inform us whether changes to the guidelines may be needed in a new era of social media and digital communication".[48] The Academy has rescinded nominations for nominees who participated in unsanctioned campaigning. However, there were no reports that Riseborough had been involved in such, or that any Academy members had lodged formal complaints about the campaign's behavior.[48] On January 31, the Academy concluded its review by pledging to address "social media and outreach campaigning tactics" which they said caused "concern", but confirming that Riseborough's nomination would be retained.[49] Following the controversy, the Academy introduced new campaigning rules and clarifications in May 2023.[50] Variety columnist Owen Gleiberman wrote: "It didn't rock the boat, it didn't overstay its welcome, and it left you feeling that the world's preeminent awards show, all doom-saying punditry to the contrary, is still, on balance, a very good thing." He also added that the wins received by Everything Everywhere All at Once "lent the evening a rare emotional unity".[51] Television critic Daniel Fienberg of The Hollywood Reporter similarly praised the show's emotional beats and found its flaws "were mitigated more gracefully than just about any Oscars telecast" he could recall.[52] Mick LaSalle of the San Francisco Chronicle commended Kimmel's stint as host stating: "He was establishing that 2023 would not be a repeat of 2022 — and it wasn't. It was such a relief to see something, anything, actually get better."[53] Mike Hale of The New York Times remarked on "the ordinariness and sameness of the ABC broadcast" compared to the prior year.[54] While USA Today's Kelly Lawler criticized it as "terribly fake" and felt that Kimmel's role "felt phoned in, or at least maybe monitored by corporate overlords looking to avoid controversy" despite some of his jokes tackling controversial subjects such as the January 6 United States Capitol attack and Tom Cruise's Scientology advocacy.[55] Hale added that "the modern Oscars have become something more to be endured than enjoyed".[54] The American telecast on ABC drew in an average of 18.75 million people over its length, which was a 13% increase from the previous year's ceremony and marked the first time that the Academy Awards experienced consecutive years of viewership increase since the 86th Academy Awards in 2014.[3] The show also earned higher Nielsen ratings compared to the previous ceremony with 9.9% of households watching the ceremony.[56] In addition, it garnered a higher 18–49 demo rating with a 4.03 rating among viewers in that demographic.[57] It was the most-watched prime time entertainment broadcast of 2023 in the United States.[58] In July 2023, the broadcast was nominated for three awards at the 75th Primetime Creative Arts Emmys but failed to win in any of the categories for which it was nominated.[59][60] The annual "In Memoriam" segment was introduced by John Travolta. Singer Lenny Kravitz performed his song "Calling All Angels" during the tribute.[61][62] Olivia Newton-John – singer, actress John Korty – director, producer Mary Routh – costume designer Louise Fletcher – actress John Zaritsky – cinematographer Albert Brenner – production designer Irene Pappas – actress Mitchell Goldman – executive Bob Rafelson – director, writer, producer Albert Salki – design engineer Ian Whittaker – set decorator Robbie Coltrane – actor Kirstie Alley – actress Ray Liotta – actor Vicky Eguia – publicity executive Angelo Badalamenti – composer Greg Jein – visual effects artist, model maker Neal Jimenez – writer, director Mike Hill – film editor Tom Luddy – producer, film festival co-founder Marina Goldovskaya – director, cinematographer, educator Christopher Tucker – special effects makeup artist Irene Cara – actress, singer, songwriter Gregory Allen Howard – writer, producer Owen Roizman – cinematographer Luster Bayless – costume designer Gray Frederickson – producer Robert Dalva – film editor Michelle Nichols – actress Edward R. Pressman – producer Douglas McGrath – writer, director, actor Julia Reichert – producer, director Edie Landau – producer, executive Mike Moder – assistant director, producer Jean-Luc Godard – director, writer Ralph Eggleston – animator, production designer Marvin March – set decorator Burt Bacharach – composer Nick Bosustow – producer Clayton Pinney – special effects artist Simone Bär – casting director Donn Cambern – film editor Tom Whitlock – songwriter Amanda Mackey – casting director Angela Lansbury – actress Wolfgang Petersen – director, writer, producer John Dartigue – publicity executive Burny Mattinson – animator Maurizio Silvi – makeup artist Jacques Perrin – actor, producer, director Mary Alice – actress Gina Lollobrigida – actress Carl Bell – animator Douglas Kirkland – photographer Vangelis – composer, musician James Caan – actor, producer Raquel Welch – actress Walter Mirisch – producer, former President of the Academy List of submissions to the 95th Academy Awards for Best International Feature Film ^ Jerome Robbins and Robert Wise first achieved this distinction for co-directing West Side Story (1961). Brothers Joel Coen and Ethan Coen later earned this same feat for their direction of No Country for Old Men (2007).[12] ^ Many consider Merle Oberon, who was nominated for her role in The Dark Angel (1935), to be the first Asian nominee in this category, but she hid her mixed-race heritage due to fears regarding discrimination and the impact it would have on her career.[14] ^ Flam, Charna (March 3, 2023). "Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Graham, Lilly Singh to Host ABC's Countdown to the Oscars Pre-Show". Variety. Archived from the original on March 6, 2023. Retrieved March 8, 2023. ^ Santilli, Tom (March 13, 2023). "Oscars 2023 Aftermath: A Safe and Focused Show Gets the Awards Show Back on Track". WXYZ-TV. Archived from the original on March 13, 2023. Retrieved April 25, 2023. ^ a b c "With Viewership Up 12% from Last Year, Oscars Win the Ratings Week". Los Angeles Times. March 15, 2023. Archived from the original on March 15, 2023. 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