

BET Networks Announces Official Nominees for The "BET Awards" 2015

Chris Brown and Nicki Minaj Lead with Six Nominations Followed by Beyoncé and Lil Wayne with Four

Sam Smith Receives Two Nods, and Newcomer FKA Twigs is Nominated for Best International Artist: UK

"BET Awards" to Air Live on Sunday, June 28 from Nokia Theatre L.A. Live in Los Angeles, CA at 8 P.M. ET

#BETAWARDS

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- BET Networks, a unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ:VIAB, VIA), today announced the nominations for the ["BET Awards"](#) 2015. **Chris Brown** and **Nicki Minaj** lead with an impressive six nominations. **Chris Brown** is nominated for 'Best Male R&B/Pop Artist,' two separate nods in the 'Best Collaboration' category, two nominations in the 'Video of the Year' category and the 'Coca-Cola® Viewers' Choice Award.' **Nicki Minaj** is nominated 'Best Collaboration,' 'Best Female Hip Hop Artist,' 'Video of the Year,' two nominations for 'Coca-Cola® Viewers' Choice Award' and 'Best Group' as a member of Young Money. **Beyoncé** and **Lil Wayne** round it out with four nominations each. **Beyoncé** is nominated for 'Best Female R&B / Pop Artist,' 'Video of the Year,' 'Video Director of the Year,' and the coveted 'Coca-Cola® Viewers' Choice Award.' **Lil Wayne** is nominated for 'Best Collaboration,' 'Video of the Year,' 'Coca-Cola® Viewers' Choice Award,' and 'Best Group' as a member of Young Money. This year also marks a special milestone for the ["BET Awards"](#) as it celebrates its 15th anniversary live from the Nokia Theatre, Sunday, June 28, 2015.

BET Networks recognizes artists, entertainers, and athletes across 20 categories with the ["BET Awards"](#) 2015 nominations. The nominations are selected by BET's Voting Academy, which is comprised of fans and an esteemed group of entertainment professionals in the fields of television, film, music, social media, digital marketing, sports journalism, public relations, and the creative arts.

"This year's nominees showcase a diverse group of talent that includes longstanding entertainers, breakout performers, and outstanding athletes," said **Stephen Hill, BET's President of Programming**. "We congratulate all of the talent on their remarkable contributions to the world of entertainment and look forward to them joining us in celebrating 15 years of the BET Awards."

The complete list of nominees for the ["BET Awards"](#) 2015 are:

BEST FEMALE R&B/POP ARTIST

BEYONCÉ
CIARA
JANELLE MONÁE
JHENÉ AIKO
K. MICHELLE
RIHANNA

BEST MALE R&B/POP ARTIST

AUGUST ALSINA
CHRIS BROWN
JOHN LEGEND
THE WEEKND
TREY SONGZ
USHER

BEST GROUP

A\$AP MOB
JODECI
MIGOS
RAE SREMMURD
RICH GANG
YOUNG MONEY

BEST COLLABORATION

AUGUST ALSINA F/ NICKI MINAJ - NO LOVE (REMIX)
BIG SEAN F/ E-40 - IDFWU
CHRIS BROWN F/ LIL WAYNE & TYGA - LOYAL
CHRIS BROWN F/ USHER & RICK ROSS - NEW FLAME
COMMON & JOHN LEGEND - GLORY (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE "SELMA")
MARK RONSON F/ BRUNO MARS - UPTOWN FUNK

BEST MALE HIP HOP ARTIST

BIG SEAN
COMMON
DRAKE
J. COLE
KENDRICK LAMAR
WALE

BEST FEMALE HIP HOP ARTIST

AZEALIA BANKS
DEJ LOAF
IGGY AZALEA
NICKI MINAJ
TINK
TRINA

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

BEYONCÉ - 7/11
BIG SEAN F/ E-40 - IDFWU
CHRIS BROWN F/ LIL WAYNE & TYGA - LOYAL
CHRIS BROWN F/ USHER & RICK ROSS - NEW FLAME
COMMON & JOHN LEGEND - GLORY (FROM THE MOTION PICTURE "SELMA")
NICKI MINAJ - ANACONDA

VIDEO DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

BENNY BOOM
BEYONCÉ, ED BURKE & TODD TOURSO
CHRIS ROBINSON
FATIMA ROBINSON
HYPE WILLIAMS

BEST NEW ARTIST

BOBBY SHMURDA
DEJ LOAF
FETTY WAP
RAE SREMMURD
SAM SMITH
TINASHE

BEST GOSPEL ARTIST

DEITRICK HADDON
ERICA CAMPBELL
FRED HAMMOND
LECRAE
MALI MUSIC
MICHELLE WILLIAMS

BEST ACTRESS

GABRIELLE UNION
KERRY WASHINGTON
TARAJI P. HENSON
TRACEE ELLIS ROSS
VIOLA DAVIS

BEST ACTOR

ANTHONY ANDERSON
IDRIS ELBA
JUSSIE SMOLLETT
KEVIN HART
TERRENCE HOWARD

YOUNGSTARS AWARD

JACOB LATIMORE
JADEN SMITH
MO'NE DAVIS
QUVENZHANÉ WALLIS
ZENDAYA

BEST MOVIE

ANNIE
BEYOND THE LIGHTS
SELMA
THINK LIKE A MAN TOO
TOP FIVE

SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

BRITTNEY GRINER
CANDACE PARKER
SERENA WILLIAMS
SKYLAR DIGGINS
VENUS WILLIAMS

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR

CHRIS PAUL
FLOYD MAYWEATHER, JR.
LEBRON JAMES
MARSHAWN LYNCH
STEPHEN CURRY

COCA-COLA VIEWERS' CHOICE AWARD

BEYONCÉ - 7/11
DEJ LOAF - TRY ME
KENDRICK LAMAR - i
NICKI MINAJ F/ DRAKE, LIL WAYNE & CHRIS BROWN - ONLY
RAE SREMMURD F/ NICKI MINAJ & YOUNG THUG - THROW SUM MO
THE WEEKND - EARNED IT (FROM THE "FIFTY SHADES OF GREY" SOUNDTRACK)

CENTRIC AWARD

AVERY SUNSHINE - CALL MY NAME
JAZMINE SULLIVAN F/ MEEK MILL - DUMB
MARK RONSON F/ BRUNO MARS - UPTOWN FUNK
SAM SMITH F/ MARY J. BLIGE - STAY WITH ME
THE WEEKND - EARNED IT (FROM THE "FIFTY SHADES OF GREY" SOUNDTRACK)

BEST INTERNATIONAL ACT: AFRICA

AKA (SOUTH AFRICA)
FALLY IPUPA (DR CONGO)
SARKODIE (GHANA)
SAUTI SOL (KENYA)
STONEBWOY (GHANA)
THE SOIL (SOUTH AFRICA)
WIZKID (NIGERIA)
YEMI ALADE (NIGERIA)

BEST INTERNATIONAL ACT: UK

FKA TWIGS
FUSE ODG
LETHAL BIZZLE
LITTLE SIMZ
MNEK
STORMZY

The "BET Awards" 2015 will premiere around the world on BET's international network at 8:00pm GMT (check local listings).

Stephen G. Hill, BET's President of Programming, Connie Orlando, BET's Senior Vice President of Music and Specials, Lynne Harris Taylor, BET's Vice President of Specials, will serve as Executive Producers for the "BET Awards" along with Jesse Collins, CEO of Jesse Collins Entertainment.

The "BET Awards" will take place along with the BET Experience at L.A. Live in Los Angeles from June 25-28, 2015. BET.com/Awards is the official site for the "BET Awards" and will have all the latest news and updates about this year's show. All information about the BET Experience at L.A. LIVE presented by Coca-Cola® can be found at BETExperience.com. The BET Experience VIP Package offers the only way to purchase a "BET Awards" ticket, great seats to 3-nights of concerts at the Staples Center, and exclusive access to events at the free Fan Fest. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to BET.com/BETX.Follow the Experience on Twitter @betexperience.

To apply for media credentials for the "BET Awards" 2015 please visit:

<https://betawards2015.iworldreg.com/public/apply/media>

ABOUT BET NETWORKS

BET Networks, a subsidiary of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIA, VIA.B), is the nation's leading provider of quality entertainment, music, news and public affairs television programming for the African-American audience. The primary BET channel reaches more than 90 million households and can be seen in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, the United Kingdom and sub-Saharan Africa. BET is the dominant African-American consumer brand with a diverse group of business extensions: BET.com, a leading Internet destination for Black entertainment, music, culture, and news; CENTRIC, a 24-hour entertainment network targeting the 25- to 54-year-old African-American audience; BET Digital Networks - BET Gospel and BET Hip Hop, attractive alternatives for cutting-edge entertainment tastes; BET Home Entertainment, a collection of BET-branded offerings for the home environment including DVDs and video-on-demand; BET Event Productions, a full-scale event management and production company with festivals and live events spanning the globe; BET Mobile, which provides ringtones, games and video content for wireless devices; and BET International, which operates BET in the United Kingdom and oversees the extension of BET network programming for global distribution.

ABOUT "BET AWARDS"

The "BET Awards" is one of the most watched award shows on cable television according to the Nielsen Company. The "BET Awards" franchise remains as the #1 program in cable TV history among African-Americans, and it is BET's #1 telecast every year. It recognizes the triumphs and successes of artists, entertainers, and athletes in a variety of categories.

ABOUT JESSE COLLINS ENTERTAINMENT

Jesse Collins Entertainment is a full service television and film production company founded by entertainment industry veteran Jesse Collins. For more than a decade, Collins, the company's CEO, has played an integral role in producing some of television's most memorable moments in music entertainment. Formerly Executive Producer/EVP of Cossette Productions, Collins has produced ground-breaking and award winning television programming including the BET Awards, the GRAMMY Awards, BET Honors, UNCF An Evening of Stars and the BET Hip Hop Awards. Collins is an executive producer of Real

Husbands of Hollywood, (now going into its 4th hit season) alongside industry icons Stan Lathan and Ralph Farquhar; and has worked with superstar talent such as Will Smith, Chris Rock, Jay-Z, Rihanna, Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar, Drake, Prince, Mariah Carey and many more.

BET EXPERIENCE AT L.A. LIVE PRESENTED BY COCA-COLA®

BET Networks, an entertainment powerhouse, and AEG, one of the leading entertainment companies in the world and developer/ operator of L.A. LIVE, have teamed up once again to create the BET EXPERIENCE AT L.A. LIVE (BETX), June 25 - 28, 2015 presented by Coca-Cola®. This three-day festival will be filled with music and comedy concerts taking place at Club Nokia and STAPLES Center; "106 & PARK"; FREE BET Fan Fest at the Los Angeles Convention Center including seminars, celebrity basketball games, celebrity meet & greets; and other special appearances. The weekend will be capped off with the "BET Awards" on Sunday, June 28, 2015 at Nokia Theatre L.A. LIVE.

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