

# Beyoncé, Chris Brown, Kendrick Lamar and Nicki Minaj Win Big at the Annual "BET AWARDS" 2015

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**Janet Jackson Receives Inaugural Ultimate Icon: Music Dance Visual Award**

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**Epic Evening Featured Performances by Puff Daddy & The Family, Kendrick Lamar, Alicia Keys, Chris Brown, Big Sean, Meek Mill, Ne-Yo, Nicki Minaj, The Weeknd, Tinashe, Tyga and More**

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## #BETAWARDS

LOS ANGELES--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- From **JANET JACKSON** and **PUFF DADDY & THE FAMILY** to **SMOKEY ROBINSON** and **KENDRICK LAMAR**, it was a night full of electrifying performances, heartfelt speeches and unforgettable moments at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual "**BET AWARDS**" hosted by **ANTHONY ANDERSON** and **TRACEE ELLIS ROSS**, which aired live from the Microsoft Theatre at L.A. LIVE on Sunday, June 28, 2015.

Hosts **ANTHONY ANDERSON** and **TRACEE ELLIS ROSS** surprised the audience with a hilarious original opening song complete with Tracee flying over the stage in a money suit. The two captivated the crowd the entire night, thanks to their riffs on a range of hot topics, from Rachel Dolezal to Tyler Perry and impersonating celebrities from Sam Smith to Cookie and Lucius from "Empire."

**KENDRICK LAMAR** kicked off the show with an explosive performance of his latest single "Alright" and graced the stage again after winning Best Male Hip Hop Artist. **BEYONCÉ** and **CHRIS BROWN** tied with 3 awards, followed by Oscar-winning film "**Selma**" and FOX's "**Empire**," which each took home two awards.

One of the most attention-grabbing moments of the evening was **JANET JACKSON** taking the stage to receive the inaugural Ultimate Icon: Music Dance Visual Award, presented by Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. The pop icon was honored with a tantalizing, high-energy dance tribute highlighting a mix of some of the most memorable and successful performances of her storied career, as told by a star-studded roster of a few of the hottest names in the 2015 class of pop music. It included a pulsating rendition of "Pleasure Principle" by **TINASHE**, followed by "All for You" by **JASON DERULO** and **CIARA**'s hard-hitting delivery of "If." All three stars joined forces for an unforgettable dance-off to "Rhythm Nation," which had the entire crowd on their feet and cheering. A humbled Jackson shyly thanked God and her fans for her 25 plus year career, along with BET for the honor, all while smiling brightly and clutching her trophy in hand.

**ALICIA KEYS** made a surprise appearance joining **THE WEEKND** on the "**BET AWARDS**" stage for a stunning performance of "Earned It" that drew a standing ovation. The ultra-talented **JANELLE MONAE** delivered an incredible performance of "Yoga," which was amped up even more with an appearance by **JIDENNA**, who took over the stage to perform his own hit "Classic Man."

Always one to keep the party going, **NICKI MINAJ** got the crowd popping when she joined **MEEK MILL** on stage with **CHRIS BROWN** to perform their brand new single "All Eyes on Us." Then, today's hottest rising stars, **EVERY WILSON** and **ANDRA DAY** both had impressive performances during the evening as a part of Music Matters presented by Nissan.

Earlier in the night **CHRIS BROWN** had the audience moving to his latest hit with **TYGA** "Ayo," then the crowd got on their feet when **OMARION** joined the stage to jump on "Post To Be" for a hot dance routine with Brown.

**YAZZ**, **JUSSIE SMOLLETT** and **SERAYAH** from the cast of "Empire" had the entire room dancing to "No Apologies," "You're So Beautiful," and "Drip Drop," which **JUICY J** joined for on stage.

**BIG SEAN** got the crowd on its feet to "One Man Can Change the World," "Blessings," and "IDFWU" with special guest **E-40**.

Presenter **LAVERNE COX** got in on the night's fun with co-presenter **GABRIELLE UNION**, who played a round of "hip-hop trivia" to determine who would have to change after wearing matching dresses.

One of the nights top highlights was a surprise reunion performance from **PUFF DADDY & THE FAMILY** who brought out

original members of Bad Boy Records including **LIL' KIM, MA\$E, FAITH EVANS, THE LOX, 112** and a projection of **NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** as well as special guests **FRENCH MONTANA** and **PHARRELL** to perform classic records including "Peaches & Cream," "Feel So Good," "Hypnotize," and "All About The Benjamins" as well as Diddy and Pharrell's newest collaboration "Finna Get Loose."

Following the performance, Diddy presented legendary recording artist and Motown executive **SMOKEY ROBINSON** with the Lifetime Achievement Award. **TORI KELLY** blew the audience away during the tribute performance for Robinson with her powerful vocals to a rendition of "Who's Loving You," followed by soulful performances from **ROBIN THICKE** and **NE-YO**, before Smokey himself took the stage to perform "Tracks of My Tears," "Cruisin'," and a crowd sing-along to "My Girl," for which Kelly, Thicke and Ne-Yo returned to the stage.

**PATTI LABELLE** proved she hasn't missed a beat joining **TAMAR BRAXTON** and **K.MICHELLE** who put their differences aside as they performed "If Only You Knew."

**FETTY WAP** capped the epic night with smash hit "Trap Queen", which delivered on its promise to be the hottest ticket in town. The **"BET AWARDS" 2015** drew the biggest names in music, entertainment and sports, with appearances by **Rihanna, Kevin Hart, Janet Jackson, Brandy, DeSean Jackson, Donald Glover, Gabrielle Union, Kelly Rowland, Laverne Cox, Michael B Jordan, Michael Ealy, Nicole Ari Parker, Sanaa Lathan, Terrence Howard, Tia Mowry-Hardict and Zendaya.**

**NICOLE ARI PARKER** and **BORIS KODJOE** presented **Bivian "Sonny" Lee III** (Founder and President of Son of a Saint) as a recipient of the 2015 Shine-A-Light. Michael B. Jordan also presented the honor to the #BLACKLIVESMATTER movement.

**RIHANNA** made an appearance to give BET the first look at her music video for "Bitch Better Have My Money" before its Thursday, July 2 release, which had the audience yelling "give her her money."

In addition to all of these incredible moments, the complete list of **"BET AWARDS" 2015** winners is:

**Best Female R&B/Pop Artist**

Beyoncé

**Best Male R&B/Pop Artist**

Chris Brown

**Best Group**

Rae Sremmurd

**Best Collaboration**

Common & John Legend, "Glory" from the Motion Picture *Selma*

**Best Male Hip Hop Artist**

Kendrick Lamar

**Best Female Hip Hop Artist**

Nicki Minaj

**Video of the Year**

Beyoncé, "7/11"

**Video Director of the Year**

Beyoncé, Ed Burke & Todd Tourso

**Best New Artist**

Sam Smith

**Best Gospel Artist**

Lecrae

**Best Actress**

Taraji P. Henson, "No Good Deed/Think Like a Man Too/From the Rough"

**Best Actor**

Terrence Howard, "St. Vincent/Lullaby/Sabotage"

**YoungStars Award**

Mo'ne Davis

**Best Movie**

Selma

**Subway Sportswoman of the Year**

Serena Williams

**Subway Sportsman of the Year**

Stephen Curry

**Coca-Cola Viewers' Choice Award**

Nicki Minaj ft. Drake, Lil Wayne, Chris Brown "Only"

**McDonald's I'm Lovin' It Award**

Nicki Minaj

**Fandemonium Award**

Chris Brown

**Centric Award**

The Weeknd

**Best International Act: Africa**

Stonebwoy (Ghana)

**Best International Act: UK**

Stormzy

For performance clips of the **"BET AWARDS" 2015**, please visit: <http://www.epklink.com/2015BETAwards>

For photos of the red carpet, backstage and performances go to the BET dedicated press room at [www.BETpressroom.com](http://www.BETpressroom.com).

[BET.com/Awards](http://BET.com/Awards) is the official site for the **"BET AWARDS" 2015**, and features all the incredible content from this year's show. Join the conversation on social media by following BET's multiple social media platforms dedicated to the BET Awards:

- On Twitter & Instagram: @BETAwards, Use hashtag: #BETAwards
- On Facebook: [facebook.com/TheBETAwards](https://facebook.com/TheBETAwards)
- On Tumblr: [betawards.tumblr.com](http://betawards.tumblr.com)

The "BET Awards" 2015 will premiere around the world on BET's international network on Tuesday, June 30 at 9:00pm BST / 10:00pm CAT and will air live on MTV Australia for the very first time (check local listings).

Encore viewings of the show will air on BET on:

- Sunday, June 28 at 12:30 a.m.\* (immediately following LIVE post show)
- Monday, June 29 at 8:00 p.m.\*
- Tuesday, June 30 at 4:30 p.m.\*

\*ALL TIMES ARE EST

Stephen 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, served as Executive Producers for the "BET Awards" along with Jesse Collins, CEO of Jesse Collins Entertainment.

**"BET AWARDS" 2015 SHOW FOOTAGE USAGE RULES**

The following stipulations govern usage of all direct telecast footage from the BET AWARDS '15 telecast, which premieres on

Sunday, June 28 at 8 P.M.\* ET/7 P.M.\* CT (telecast is tape-delayed to Pacific and Mountain Time Zones):

- Maximum of 90 seconds within the first 24 hours of the premiere telecast
- Maximum of 60 seconds 24 to 36 hours after the premiere telecast
- Maximum of 30 seconds 36 to 72 hours after the premiere

Outside of the first 72-hour window of the premiere telecast, please contact BET Corporate Communications at 310-481-3737.

**SATELLITE VIDEO FEED: "BET AWARDS"2015 HIGHLIGHTS**  
**DATE: JUNE 29, 2015**

**TIME: Window 1**

**0400 - 0415 ET 1:00am - 1:15am PT**

**Window 2**

**0600 - 0615 ET 3:00am - 3:15am PT**

**UPLINK:**

**Pacific Television**

**TOC - 310-287-3800**

**CBAND SATELLITE:**

**GALAXY 19 TR 14C - 36 meg**

**Orbital Location - 97 West**

**UPLINK FREQ 6250 Mhz Vertical**

**DOWNLINK FREQ 3980 Mhz Horizontal**

**KU SATELLITE:**

**GALAXY 17 TR 18K - 36 meg**

**Orbital location - 91 West**

**UPLINK FREQ 14360 Mhz Horizontal**

**DOWNLINK FREQ 12060 Mhz Vertical**

Intelsat access and goodnight - 800-321-3959      888-442-4887

Intelsat order window 1 Cband - 1478467 KU 1478470

window 2 Cband - 1478468, KU 1478471

**DIGITAL PARAMETERS:**

**MPEG 2 4:2:2**

**DVBS/QPSK**

**1080i 59.94**

**Data Rate: 40.6258**

**FEC: 5/6**

**Symbol Rate: 26.45**

**AUDIO:**

**STEREO**

## **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 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](http://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 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.

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