

Ava DuVernay, Jada Pinkett Smith, Cicely Tyson, Erykah Badu, Dr. Helene D. Gayle and Nadia Lopez Honored as This Year's "Black Girls Rock!™" Celebrants

Ciara, Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, Faith Evans, Fantasia, Sheila E. and Lalah Hathaway Confirmed to Rock the Stage During ["Black Girls Rock!™" 2015](#)

Hosted by Tracee Ellis Ross and Regina King, ["Black Girls Rock!™"](#) Will Tape March 28, 2015 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center

#BLACKGIRLSROCK

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- BET Networks is excited to reveal this year's ["BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™" 2015](#) celebrants:

Cicely Tyson, Living Legend Award

Ava DuVernay, Shot Caller Award

Dr. Helene D. Gayle, Social Humanitarian Award

Erykah Badu, Rock Star Award

Nadia Lopez, Change Agent Award

Jada Pinkett Smith, Star Power Award

Additionally, Ciara, Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, Faith Evans, Fantasia, Sheila E. and Lalah Hathaway will be hitting the stage as performers for ["BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™" 2015](#) along with surprise musical performances. The televised special celebrates its fifth year honoring the triumphs of inspirational African-American women who are trailblazers in the areas of art, philanthropy, sports, and community service. As previously announced, **Tracee Ellis Ross** and **Regina King** will co-host the event at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center located in downtown Newark, New Jersey. Tune in to watch ["BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™"](#) on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015 at 7 pm/ET.

["BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™"](#) nationally broadcast its televised debut on BET Networks in 2010. Going into its fifth year on TV, the dynamic award show continues to represent a revolutionary landmark in media, diverging from traditional award shows by honoring powerful women through didactic, entertaining, and inspiring content. ["BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™"](#) will air on BET Networks this year for the first time since 2013 and will premiere on BET Networks in the UK on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 9pm BST (check local listings).

For updates or more information about ["BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™"](#) visit <http://www.BET.com/blackgirlsrock> and www.blackgirlsrock.org

Join the conversation on social media by logging on to BET's multiple social media platforms:

- On Twitter by using hashtag: #BlackGirlsRock; follow us @BET and @BLACKGIRLSROCK
- On Facebook by liking the fan pages at [facebook.com/BET](https://www.facebook.com/BET) and [facebook.com/BLACKGIRLSROCK](https://www.facebook.com/BLACKGIRLSROCK)
- On Instagram @betnetworks and @BLACKGIRLSROCK

ABOUT BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™:

Founded by celebrity DJ and philanthropist, Beverly Bond, BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™ is a multifaceted movement dedicated to shifting the culture of media images and empowering women and girls. BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™ Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, that has been committed to enriching girls through leadership, education, and positive identity development programs since 2006. BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™ Inc. builds the self-esteem and self-worth of young women of color by changing their outlook on life, broadening their horizons and providing tools for self-empowerment and efficacy. For additional information on BLACK GIRLS ROCK!™, visit <http://www.blackgirlsrock.org>

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 NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER:

New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), located in downtown Newark, New Jersey, is among the largest performing arts centers in the United States. It is the artistic, cultural, educational and civic center of New Jersey -- where great performances and events enhance and transform lives every day. As New Jersey's Town Square, NJPAC brings diverse communities together, providing access to all and showcasing the State's and the world's best artists, while acting as a leading catalyst in the revitalization of its home city. Through its extensive Arts Education programs, NJPAC is shaping the next generation of artists and arts enthusiasts. NJPAC has attracted over seven million visitors (including more than one million children) since opening its doors in 1997, and nurtures meaningful and lasting relationships with each of its constituents. Visit <http://www.njpac.org> or call 1-888-GO-NJPAC for more information.

Follow us @BET_PR

BET NETWORKS

Marcy Polanco, 212-975-3327

Marcy.Polanco@bet.net

or

LeToya Glenn-Bacon, 212-205-3158

Letoya.Glenn@bet.net

or

Byron Edwards, 212-975-5633

Byron.Edwards@bet.net

or

BLACK GIRLS ROCK™!

Lisa Sorensen, 646-330-5458

Lisa@ls-pr.com

Source: BET Networks

News Provided by Acquire Media