



May 16, 2018

## BET Networks Announces Official Nominees for the "BET Awards" 2018

**DJ Khaled Tops with Six Nominations While Kendrick Lamar Takes Five, Followed by Migos and SZA with Four**

**"BET Awards" 2018 to Air Live on Sunday, June 24 from Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles at 8 P.M. ET**

**@BETAWARDS #BETAWARDS**

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- BET Networks, a unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIA, VIA.B listed NYSE: VIA, VIA.B), today announced the nominations for the "**BET Awards**" 2018 taking place at Microsoft Theater on **Sunday, June 24**.

The culturally-charged, performance-driven, thought-provoking show returns for its 18th year and as with previous years is expected to turn out a show like no other. **DJ Khaled** dominates this year's nominations with a total of 6 including 'Video of the Year,' two for 'Best Collaboration,' with **Rihanna and Bryson Tiller** for 'Wild Thoughts,' and with **Jay-Z, Future** and **Beyoncé** for 'Top Off,' 'Album of the Year,' and 'Coca-Cola Viewer's Choice.' **Kendrick Lamar** follows with five nods including 'Best Collaboration,' with **Rihanna** for 'Loyalty.,' 'Video of the Year,' 'Album of the Year,' and 'Coca-Cola Viewer's Choice.' Other leading nominees include **Migos**, nominated for four awards including 'Best Group,' and 'Album of the Year,' and **SZA**, also nominated for four awards, including 'Best Female R&B/Pop Artist' and 'Best New Artist.'

The iconic broadcast continues to tackle culturally relevant topics and conversations, delivering some of the most memorable moments in Award show history. In 2017, **Bruno Mars** opened the show with a funky, energetic performance of his hit "Perm," then returned to the stage moments later to accept his first-ever BET Awards win for Best Male R&B/Pop Artist, **XSCAPE** reunited for the first time in eighteen years to perform a medley of hits, "Understanding," "Who Can I Run to," and, "Just Kickin' It," **Yara Shahidi** voiced the importance of supporting blackness and thanked BET for celebrating black culture so beautifully while accepting the YoungStars Award, and **Michelle Obama** and BET Chairman **Debra Lee** introduced **Chance the Rapper** who gave an impassioned speech after receiving the evening's Humanitarian Award. The "BET Awards" raises the standard, year over year, for one of the most intently unconventional, news-provoking and talked-about broadcasts.

BET Networks recognizes artists, entertainers, and athletes across over 19 categories with the "**BET Awards**" 2018 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.

The complete list of nominees for the "**BET Awards**" 2018 are:

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

BEYONCÉ  
SZA  
H.E.R.  
RIHANNA  
KEHLANI

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

BRUNO MARS  
CHRIS BROWN  
THE WEEKND  
KHALID  
DANIEL CAESAR

### **Best Group Award**

MIGOS  
A TRIBE CALLED QUEST  
N.E.R.D.  
RAE SREMMURD

CHLOE X HALLE

**Best Collaboration Award**

BRUNO MARS FEAT. CARDI B	FINESSE (REMIX)
DJ KHALED FEAT. RIHANNA & BRYSON TILLER	WILD THOUGHTS
DJ KHALED FEAT. JAY-Z, FUTURE & BEYONCÉ	TOP OFF
CARDI B FEAT. 21 SAVAGE	BARTIER CARDI
FRENCH MONTANA FEAT. SWAE LEE	UNFORGETTABLE
KENDRICK LAMAR FEAT. RIHANNA	LOYALTY.

**Best Male Hip Hop Artist Award**

DRAKE  
KENDRICK LAMAR  
DJ KHALED  
JAY-Z  
J. COLE

**Best Female Hip Hop Artist Award**

CARDI B  
NICKI MINAJ  
REMY MA  
DEJ LOAF  
RAP SODY

**Video of the Year Award**

DRAKE	GOD'S PLAN
CARDI B	BODAK YELLOW
BRUNO MARS FEAT. CARDI B	FINESSE (REMIX)
DJ KHALED FEAT. RIHANNA & BRYSON TILLER	WILD THOUGHTS
KENDRICK LAMAR	HUMBLE.
MIGOS FEAT. DRAKE	WALK IT TALK IT

**Video Director of the Year Award**

BENNY BOOM  
DIRECTOR X  
AVA DUVERNAY  
CHRIS BROWN  
DAVE MEYERS

**Best New Artist Award**

SZA  
H.E.R.  
DANIEL CAESAR  
GOLDLINK  
A BOOGIE WIT DA HOODIE

**Dr. Bobby Jones Best Gospel/Inspirational Award**

LECRAE FEAT. TORI KELLY	I'LL FIND YOU
SNOOP DOGG FEAT. B SLADE	WORDS ARE FEW
LEDISI & KIRK FRANKLIN	IF YOU DON'T MIND
MARVIN SAPP	CLOSE
TASHA COBBS LEONARD FEAT. NICKI MINAJ	I'M GETTING READY

**The Best International Act Award**

BOOBA (FRANCE)  
CASSPER NYOVEST (SA)  
DADJU (FRANCE)  
DAVIDO (NIGERIA)  
DISTRUCTION BOYZ (SA)  
FALLY IPUPA (DR CONGO)  
J HUS (UK)

NISKA (FRANCE)  
TIWA SAVAGE (NIGERIA)  
STEFFLON DON (UK)  
STORMZY (UK)

**Best Actress Award**

TIFFANY HADDISH  
LUPITA NYONG'O  
ISSA RAE  
ANGELA BASSETT  
LETITIA WRIGHT  
TARAJI P. HENSON

**Best Actor Award**

CHADWICK BOSEMAN  
MICHAEL B. JORDAN  
DONALD GLOVER  
STERLING K. BROWN  
DENZEL WASHINGTON  
DANIEL KALUJYA

**Young Stars Award**

YARA SHAHIDI  
ASHTON TYLER  
CALEB MCLAUGHLIN  
LONNIE CHAVIS  
MARSAI MARTIN  
MILES BROWN

**Best Movie Award**

BLACK PANTHER  
GIRLS TRIP  
A WRINKLE IN TIME  
DETROIT  
MUDBOUND

**Sportswoman of the Year Award**

SERENA WILLIAMS  
VENUS WILLIAMS  
SKYLAR DIGGINS-SMITH  
CANDACE PARKER  
ELANA MEYERS TAYLOR

**Sportsman of the Year Award**

STEPHEN CURRY  
LEBRON JAMES  
KEVIN DURANT  
DWAYNE WADE  
ODELL BECKHAM JR.

**Album of the Year Award**

DAMN.	KENDRICK LAMAR
CTRL	SZA
4:44	JAY-Z
CULTURE II	MIGOS
BLACK PANTHER: THE ALBUM	KENDRICK LAMAR & VARIOUS ARTISTS
GRATEFUL	DJ KHALED

**BET Her Award**

JANELLE MONAÉ	DJANGO JANE
LIZZO	WATER ME
MARY J. BLIGE	STRENGTH OF A WOMAN
REMY MA FEAT. CHRIS BROWN	MELANIN MAGIC (PRETTY BROWN)

CHLOE X HALLE  
LEIKELI47

THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT  
2ND FIDDLE

### **Coca-Cola Viewers' Choice Award**

SZA FEAT. TRAVIS SCOTT	LOVE GALORE
CARDI B	BODAK YELLOW
KENDRICK LAMAR	HUMBLE.
DRAKE	GOD'S PLAN
MIGOS FEAT. CARDI B & NICKI MINAJ	MOTORSPORT
DJ KHALED FEAT. RIHANNA & BRYSON TILLER	WILD THOUGHTS

The "**BET Awards**" 2018 will premiere around the world on BET's international networks. It will air in the UK on June 26th at 9:00PM BST, in Africa on June 26th at 8:00PM CAT, in France on June 26th at 9:00PM CEST and in South Korea on June 26th at 9:00PM KST. Internationally, fans in 100 countries can also stream the "BET Awards" 2018 live with BET Play, BET International's subscription video on demand application. The iOS and Android app, which also features current and classic BET television series, documentaries, stand-up comedy and legendary musical performances, will carry a live feed of the red carpet and the Awards, and is available for download now in the iTunes and Google Play stores for \$3.99 a month following a seven-day free trial.

Connie Orlando, Executive Vice-President, Head of Programming at BET will serve as Executive Producer for the "BET Awards 2018" along with Jesse Collins, CEO of Jesse Collins Entertainment.

To apply for media credentials for the "**BET Awards**" 2018 please head to [www.betpressroom.com](http://www.betpressroom.com)

The "**BET Awards**" 2018 will take place along with the BET Experience at L.A. LIVE in Los Angeles from June 21-24, 2018. [BET.com/betawards](http://BET.com/betawards) is the official site for the "BET Awards" and will have all the latest news and updates about this year's show. VIP Packages for the 6<sup>th</sup> year of the BET Experience weekend are better than ever and now on-sale. In addition to VIP amenities throughout the weekend and incredible seats for STAPLES Center shows, all levels of BETX VIP Packages offer guests the only opportunity to purchase tickets to the highly-anticipated BET Awards, broadcast live from Microsoft Theater. Full package amenities and pricing for the Diamond, Platinum, Gold Plus and Gold VIP Packages can be found by visiting [BETExperience.com](http://BETExperience.com) or by calling (877) 234-8425.

General tickets for the BET Experience at L.A. LIVE presented by Coca-Cola® are on sale now at <http://www.axs.com/betexperience>.

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### **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 African-American Woman; BET Music Networks - BET Jams, BET Soul and BET Gospel; BET Home Entertainment; BET Live, BET's growing festival business; BET Mobile, which provides ringtones, games and video content for wireless devices; and BET International, which operates BET around the globe.

### **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 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, Soul Train Awards, BET Honors, UNCF An Evening of Stars, ABFF Awards and the BET Hip Hop Awards. Collins is an executive producer of the hit TV series, Real Husbands of Hollywood starring Kevin Hart and the upcoming original miniseries based on the iconic music group New Edition that will debut on BET in 2017. He has worked with a myriad of superstar talent including Will Smith, Chris Rock, Jay-Z, Rihanna, Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar, Drake, Prince and Mariah Carey. Follow Jesse Collins Entertainment @JesseCollinsEnt on Twitter and Instagram and go to

<http://www.jessecollinsent.com/> for more information on the company.

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