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AFI Contact

Leah Krantzler
The Lippin Group
323-965-1990, ext. 342
lkrantzler@lippingroup.com

CBS Contact

Susan Marks
CBS Publicity
(323) 575-2118
susan.marks@tvc.cbs.com

AFI ANNOUNCES NOMINATIONS FOR “AFI AWARDS 2001”

LOS ANGELES (Monday, December 17, 2001) – The American Film Institute (AFI) today announced nominations for the first annual *AFI Awards 2001*. The awards in 19 film and television categories will be presented on January 5, 2002 from the Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, California in a live, three-hour special on the CBS Television Network.

Two 13-member committees – one representing motion pictures and one representing television – made the nominations. The committees, which convened over the past two weekends in Los Angeles, were comprised of experts from across the film and television communities and each included three AFI Trustees, three scholars, three critics, three artists and a chair. The members of each committee were also announced today by AFI (a full list is attached). A 100-person AFI Jury representing experts from across the moving image community will now select the awards through ballots mailed today by AFI. Members of the AFI Jury will be announced by AFI two days prior to the telecast.

The nominations for *AFI Awards 2001* are:

AFI AWARDS FOR MOTION PICTURES -- NOMINATIONS

AFI Movie of the Year

*The AFI Nominating Committee for Motion Pictures provided a rationale for each film nominated as “AFI Movie of the Year” (please see attached document).

A BEAUTIFUL MIND

Producers: Brian Grazer, Ron Howard
Universal/DreamWorks

BLACK HAWK DOWN

Producers: Jerry Bruckheimer, Ridley Scott
Columbia

IN THE BEDROOM

Producers: Graham Leader, Ross Katz, Todd Field
Miramax

AFI Announces Nominations for "AFI Awards 2001"
2-2-2-2-2

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING
Producers: Barrie M. Osborne, Peter Jackson, Fran Walsh, Tim Sanders
New Line

THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE
Producer: Ethan Coen
USA Films

MEMENTO
Producers: Jennifer Todd, Suzanne Todd
Newmarket

MONSTER'S BALL
Producer: Lee Daniels
Lions Gate

MOULIN ROUGE
Producers: Martin Brown, Baz Luhrmann, Fred Baron
Twentieth Century Fox

MULHOLLAND DRIVE
Producers: Mary Sweeney, Alain Sarde, Neal Edelstein, Michael Polaire, Tony Krantz
Universal Focus

SHREK
Producers: Aron Warner, John H. Williams, Jeffrey Katzenberg
DreamWorks

AFI Actor of the Year – Male

Russell Crowe... as John Nash in A BEAUTIFUL MIND
Billy Bob Thornton... as Ed Crane in THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE
Denzel Washington... as Alonzo Harris in TRAINING DAY
Tom Wilkinson... as Matt Fowler in IN THE BEDROOM

AFI Actor of the Year – Female

Halle Berry... as Leticia Musgrove in MONSTER'S BALL
Stockard Channing... as Julie Styron in THE BUSINESS OF STRANGERS
Sissy Spacek... as Ruth Fowler in IN THE BEDROOM
Naomi Watts... as Betty Elms in MULHOLLAND DRIVE

AFI Featured Actor of the Year – Male

Steve Buscemi... as Seymour in GHOST WORLD
Brian Cox... as Big John Harrigan in L.I.E.
Gene Hackman... as Royal Tenenbaum in THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS
Tony Shalhoub... as Freddy Riedenschneider in THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE

AFI Featured Actor of the Year – Female

Cate Blanchett... as Kate Wheeler in BANDITS
Jennifer Connelly... as Alicia Nash in A BEAUTIFUL MIND
Cameron Diaz... as Julie Gianni in VANILLA SKY
Frances O'Connor... as Monica Swinton in A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

AFI Director of the Year

Robert Altman – GOSFORD PARK
Todd Field – IN THE BEDROOM
David Lynch – MULHOLLAND DRIVE
Ridley Scott – BLACK HAWK DOWN

AFI Screenwriter of the Year

Rob Festinger, Todd Field – IN THE BEDROOM
Christopher Nolan – MEMENTO
Akiva Goldsman – A BEAUTIFUL MIND
Daniel Clowes, Terry Zwigoff – GHOST WORLD

AFI Cinematographer of the Year

Ericson Core – THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS
Roger Deakins – THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE
Slawomir Idziak – BLACK HAWK DOWN
Janusz Kaminski – A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

AFI Editor of the Year

Jill Bilcock – MOULIN ROUGE
Dody Dorn – MEMENTO
Pietro Scalia – BLACK HAWK DOWN
Tim Squyres – GOSFORD PARK

AFI Announces Nominations for "AFI Awards 2001"
4-4-4-4-4

AFI Production Designer of the Year

Stephen Altman – GOSFORD PARK
Rick Carter – A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Grant Major – THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING
Arthur Max – BLACK HAWK DOWN

AFI Digital Artist of the Year

Robert Legato, Nick Davis, Roger Guyett –
HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE
Jim Rygiel – THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING
Scott Farrar, Dennis Muren – A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Bob Sabiston – WAKING LIFE

AFI Composer of the Year

Craig Armstrong – MOULIN ROUGE
Angelo Badalamenti – MULHOLLAND DRIVE
Patrick Doyle – GOSFORD PARK
Howard Shore – THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

AFI AWARDS FOR TELEVISION – NOMINATIONS

AFI Drama Series of the Year

"Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (UPN)
"Six Feet Under" (HBO)
"The Sopranos" (HBO)
"The West Wing" (NBC)

AFI Comedy Series of the Year

"Curb Your Enthusiasm" (HBO)
"Everybody Loves Raymond" (CBS)
"Malcolm in the Middle" (FOX)
"Sex and the City" (HBO)

AFI Movie or Mini-Series of the Year

"Anne Frank" (ABC)
"Band of Brothers" (HBO)
"Boycott" (HBO)
"Conspiracy" (HBO)

AFI Actor of the Year – Male – Series

James Gandolfini...as Tony Soprano in "The Sopranos" (HBO)
Michael C. Hall...as David Fisher in "Six Feet Under" (HBO)
Chi McBride...as principal Steven Harper in "Boston Public" (Fox)
Ray Romano...as Ray Barone in "Everybody Loves Raymond" (CBS)

AFI Actor of the Year – Female – Series

Edie Falco...as Carmela Soprano in "The Sopranos" (HBO)
Allison Janney...as C.J. Cregg in "The West Wing" (NBC)
Jane Kaczmarek...as Lois Wilkerson in "Malcolm in the Middle" (Fox)
Doris Roberts...as Marie Barone in "Everybody Loves Raymond" (CBS)

AFI Actor of the Year – Male – Movie or Mini-Series

Kenneth Branagh...as SS General Reinhard Heydrich in "Conspiracy" (HBO)
Ben Kingsley...as Otto Frank in "Anne Frank" (ABC)
Giovanni Ribisi...as Mikal Gilmore in "Shot in the Heart" (HBO)
Jeffrey Wright...as Martin Luther King, Jr. in "Boycott" (HBO)

AFI Actor of the Year – Female – Movie or Mini-Series

Tammy Blanchard...as young Judy Garland in "Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows" (ABC)
Judy Davis...as Judy Garland in "Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows" (ABC)
Hannah Taylor Gordon...as Anne Frank in "Anne Frank" (ABC)
Phylicia Rashad...as Elizabeth Borney in "The Old Settler" (PBS)

AFI Awards 2001 is the next chapter in AFI's national mandate – the creation of an annual almanac that records and preserves the evolution of the moving image arts in the 21st century. Each year, *AFI Awards* will add another volume to the history of American film and television by documenting the collective opinion of the moving image communities, recognizing the year's most significant moments and honoring the individuals and collaborative teams who have created the year's outstanding achievements.

AFI Awards 2001 will be executive produced by Gary Smith and executive produced for AFI by Frederick S. Pierce. Dann Netter and Bob Gazzale will produce *AFI Awards 2001*.

Last week, AFI announced that Target Stores, the nation's fourth largest retailer and sponsor of *AFI Awards 2001*, will fund 20 scholarships at the prestigious AFI Conservatory to be established in the names of all 19 presenters and the host of *AFI Awards 2001*. Founded in 1969, the AFI Conservatory has trained many of the most accomplished film and television artists working today in six behind-the-camera disciplines: directing, writing, producing, editing, cinematography and production design.

AFI Announces Nominations for "AFI Awards 2001"
6-6-6-6

Presenters for *AFI Awards 2001* – who will each have AFI-Target scholarships established in their name – include: Joan Allen, Alan Cumming, Dennis Franz, Rachel Griffiths, Steve Harris, Patricia Heaton, Samuel L. Jackson, Allison Janney, Eugene Levy, Joe Mantegna, Haley Joel Osment, Michelle Pfeiffer and James Woods. Additional presenters and the host for *AFI Awards 2001* will be announced shortly.

About AFI

AFI is the preeminent organization dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI trains the next generation of moving image artists, provides leadership in the nationwide film and television preservation effort and explores new technologies in the digital media arts. AFI also presents the best of film through the AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival and the AFI National Theater at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. More information about AFI can be found by visiting www.afionline.org.

AFI NOMINATING COMMITTEES

AFI AWARDS 2001

Two 13-member committees – one representing motion pictures and one representing television – selected the nominations for *AFI Awards 2001*. The committees were comprised of experts from across the film and television communities, including three AFI Trustees, three critics, three scholars, three artists and a chair on each.

Biographies for committee members are available upon request or can be found by visiting www.afionline.org.

AFI Motion Pictures Nominating Committee

Chair – Richard Schickel, *Time Magazine*
Jeanine Basinger, *Wesleyan University*
Todd Boyd, *USC School of Cinema-Television*
Edward Branigan, *University of California, Santa Barbara*
Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*/"Ebert & Roeper and the Movies"
Molly Haskell, *The New York Observer*
Mimi Leder, *Director*
Marsha Mason, *Actor/Director/Writer/AFI Trustee*
Michael Nesmith, *Musician/Writer/Producer/AFI Trustee*
Tom Pollock, *The Montecito Picture Company/AFI Trustee*
Andrew Sarris, *The New York Observer*
Vivian Sobchack, *UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television/AFI Trustee*
Steven Zaillian, *Screenwriter/Director*

AFI Television Nominating Committee

Chair – Richard Frank, *Former Chairman of Walt Disney Television/AFI Trustee*
David Bianculli, *New York Daily News/National Public Radio's "Fresh Air"*
Thomas Carter, *Producer/Director*
Suzanne de Passe, *Producer/AFI Trustee*
Diane English, *Producer/Writer*
Angela M.S. Nelson, *Bowling Green State University*
Horace Newcomb, *George Foster Peabody Awards/University of Georgia*
Daniel Petrie, Sr., *Director/AFI Trustee*
Marian Rees, *Producer*
Matt Roush, *TV Guide*
Lynn Spigel, *USC School of Cinema-Television*
Frank Spotnitz, *Producer*
Diane Werts, *Newsday*

AFI AWARDS 2001

The AFI Nominating Committee for Motion Pictures provided a rationale for each film nominated as “AFI Movie of the Year.”

A BEAUTIFUL MIND is one of the few films ever to suggest that the life of the mind can be as exciting and intriguing as any thriller. Based on the story of Nobel Prize-winning mathematician John Nash, the film's subtle, but masterful cinematic technique puts audiences inside the mind of a troubled genius when he begins to question reality.

BLACK HAWK DOWN is an unrelenting combat experience. Leaving behind the traditional rules of the genre, the film immerses its audience in the cold reality of war. It arrives in theaters at a moment in American history which could not be more timely.

IN THE BEDROOM is a rich, subtle examination of the American family. It's a movie in which the characters talk to one another, but never really say what's on their minds or in their hearts. The filmmakers trust the audience to watch, listen and understand the truth revealed by the film's outstanding performances.

LORD OF THE RINGS taps the magical forces of American film to bring life to J. R. R. Tolkien's rich literary legacy. Never losing sight of the “human” elements of this first book in his trilogy, the scope of the film sets the standard by which future motion picture epics should be judged.

THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE uses stunning black-and-white cinematography to evoke the memory of classic American film noir, but presents its story with a modern sensibility. By mixing dark humor with stark violence, the movie lays out a series of events where a man nobody notices changes the lives of everyone around him.

MEMENTO turns the traditional rules of movie narrative upside down, backwards, forwards and sideways. The film is like a complex jigsaw puzzle, but after all the pieces are assembled, it turns out not to be the picture on the box.

MONSTER'S BALL is a love story that resists the usual tradition of movie romances. When a white prison correction officer and a black single mother are drawn together by a series of tragic events, the result is an unsentimental, complex mixture of sex, race and family that provides no easy answers.

MOULIN ROUGE is a kaleidoscope of melodrama, soap opera and opera, which updates the traditional American musical genre. The film tells the story of a passionate but doomed love affair in dynamic images that explode with color, energy and humor.

MULHOLLAND DRIVE is a classic example of the poetry of personal cinema. The film takes the audience to an erotic world - a dreamlike Los Angeles landscape where things are not always what they seem, but where the images never lose their beauty and power.

SHREK is an animated film that takes an eraser to traditional fairy tale characters and situations. Moving at a fast pace with wit and intelligence, SHREK delivers solid family entertainment that is sheer pleasure for young and old.