

The 27th Annual

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24TH ANNUAL NAACP THEATRE AWARDS ANNOUNCES NOMINATIONS

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Beverly Hills, California (September 10, 2014) – The NAACP Beverly Hills/Hollywood Branch’s Theatre Viewing Committee announced nominations in 32 competitive categories for the 24th Annual NAACP Theatre Awards. This year’s show will be hosted by **Kym Whitley**, star of the humorous and poignant docu-series “**Raising Whitley**” on **Oprah Winfrey’s The OWN Network**. The awards show will take place on **Monday, November 17, 2014 at 6:00P.M.** at the historical **Saban Theatre** in Beverly Hills, California.

This year’s Equity Theatre nominations include an array of phenomenal productions including the August Wilson classic, “*Joe Turner’s Come and Gone*”, securing several nominations counting **Phylicia Rashad** in the category of “Best Director of a Play”. Tony Award nominee, **Sheldon Epps**, is nominated for “Best Director”, for “12 Angry Men”, which is also receiving a nomination for “Best Playwright ” for the late **Reginald Rose**. **Shirley Jo Finney** rounds out the “Best Director” category for “*The Road Weeps, The Well Runs Dry*”. Leading the equity nominations with seven is

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“Breath and Imagination”, receiving a “Best Director of a Musical” nomination for **Sandra McClain** and “Best Lead Female” and “Best Lead Male” nominations for **Karan Kendrick** and **Elijah Rock**. **Vanessa Bell Calloway**, *“Letters from Zora: In Her Own Words”* and **Demetrius Groose**, *“The Road Weeps, The Well Runs Dry”* are also nominated in their respective best actor categories. Award winning musical favorite, *“Smokey Joe’s Cafe”* receives several nominations, including **Jeffrey Polk** for “Best Director of a Musical” and “Best Choreography”. Veteran actors **David St. Louis**, **Robert Gossett**, and **Desean Terry** pull in 3 of the 5 nominations for the musical, *“Royale”*. Another leader is *“One Night with Janis Joplin”*, which garners 4 nominations, including **Sabrina Elayne Carten** for “Best Supporting Female”.

In the category of Local Theatre nominations *“Dream Girls”* directed by “Best Director of a Musical” nominee **Marco Gomez**, takes the lead with 7 nominations including “Best Ensemble Cast” and “Best Producer”. *“Blood Knot”* brings in a “Best Director” nomination for **Louis Gossett, Jr.** and a “Best Lead Male” nomination for **Oscar Best**. *“One Night in Miami”* receives four nominations including a “Best Director” to **Carl Cofield** and a “Best Ensemble Cast”. Local productions of the Broadway smash hits *“Ragtime”* and *“Rent”* bring in nominations as well.

The Theatre Viewing Committee considers all candidates who submit their production from January 2013 through December 2013 for possible nomination. All productions must have a five consecutive week production run in Southern California (San Diego to Bakersfield included) to be considered. Productions who meet all eligibility requirements before the deadline are considered eligible for a 2014 NAACP Theatre Award. For more information on the NAACP Theatre Awards, please visit www.naacptheatreawards.com or call Image Is Everything PR for full nominee list at (310) 977-2502.

About The NAACP Theatre Awards

The NAACP Theatre Awards is presented by the Beverly Hills/Hollywood NAACP Branch. Ron Hasson is Branch President and Tia Boyd is the Executive Producer for the NAACP Theatre Awards Show. The prestigious star-studded gala is produced for the purpose of honoring thespians among the best in the field of entertainment. The branch also celebrates a three-day theatre festival, which provides a platform for thespians to express their craft and share their contributions with an audience of

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their peers, the community and other individuals who celebrate live theatre in Los Angeles.

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Best Choreography – Equity

The Royale – Ameenah Kaplan

Smoking Joe’s Café: The Rent – Kristen Boule
Songs of Lieber and Stoller – Jeffrey Polk

Sister Act – Anthony Van Laast

Best Choreography – Local

Dreamgirls – Rae Toledo

Rent – Alli Miller

Heart Song – Maria Bermudez

Best Costumes – Equity

Joe Turner’s Come and Gone – Karen Perry

One Night with Janis Joplin – Jeff Cone

Breath and Imagination – Dianne K. Graebner

Best Costumes – Local

Best Director of a Musical – Local

Dreamgirls – Marco Gomez

Sick and Tired – Carla DuPree Clark

Best Ensemble Cast – Equity

12 Angry Men

The Brothers Size

Joe Turner’s Come and Joplin – Len Rhodes
Gone

Best Ensemble Cast – Local

One Night In Miami

Steel Magnolias

Dreamgirls

Best Lead Female – Equity

Letters from Zora: In Her Own Words –

Vanessa Bell Calloway

Best Lighting – Local

Steel Magnolias – David Carreno

Someone Who’ll Watch Over Me – Kim Smith

The Old Settler – Carol Doehring

Best Music Director – Equity

Breath and Imagination – Rahn Coleman

One Night With Janis Joplin – Len Rhodes

Smokey Joe’s Café: The Songs of Lieber and Stoller – Abdul Hamid Royal

Best Music Director – Local

I Wanna Be Loved – John Stephens

Dreamgirls – Chris Raymond

Rent – Morgan Fitch

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Dreamgirls – Michael Mullen	Breath and Imagination – Karan Kendricks	Best One Person Show – Equity
I Wanna Be Loved – Barbara Morrison	Best Lead Female – Local	Best One Person Show – Local
Ragtime – Maria Cohen, Sheridan Cole Crawford & Jayne Hamil	Cassiopeia – Angela Bullock	Beautiful – Joanne Marie Take Me To The Poor House – Liz Femi
Best Director – Equity	Shades – Toni Lewis	Runt – Michael Phillip Edwards
Joe Turner’s Come and Gone – Phylicia Rashad	Sick and Tired – Keturah Baker	Best Playwright – Equity
12 Angry Men – Sheldon Epps	Best Lead Male – Equity	Breath and Imagination – Daniel Beaty
The Road Weeps, the Well Runs Dry – Shirley Jo Finney	Breath and Imagination – Elijah Rock	12 Angry Men – Reginald Rose
Best Director – Local	The Royale – David St. Louis	Letters from Zora: In Her Own Words – Gabrielle Pina
Blood Knot – Louis Gossett, Jr.	The Road Weeps, The Well Runs Dry – Demetrius Groose	Best Playwright – Local
One Night In Miami – Carl Cofield	Best Lead Male – Local	One Night In Miami – Kemp Powers
Steele Magnolias – Dino Shorte	Blood Knot – Oscar Best	I’m Not Rappaport – Herb Gardner
Best Director of a Musical – Equity	I’m not Rappaport – Carl Crudup	The Kipling Hotel: The 80’s – Don Reed
One Night with Janis Joplin – Randy Johnson	Food, Sex and Consequences – Kim Estes	Best Producer – Equity
Smokey Joe’s Café: The Songs of Leiber and		12 Angry Men – The Pasadena Playhouse

Stoller – Jeffrey Polk **Best Lighting – Equity** Breath and Imagination –
 Barbara Beckley

Breath and Imagination 12 Angry Men – Brian
 – Sandra McClain L. Gale Joe Turner’s Come and
 Gone – Center Theatre

Best Producer – Local Joe Turner’s Come and Group
 Gone – Allen Lee

I Wanna Be Loved – Hughes
 Mara & Ron New and
 Harold Garrison Breath and
 Imagination – Jared A.
 Sayeg

One Night In Miami –
 John Perrin Flynn &
 Roxanne Hart **Best Supporting
 Female – Local**

Dreamgirls – Marco
 Gomez, Dolf Ramos &
 Michael Abramson The Good Negro –
 Yetide Badaki

**Best Set Design –
 Equity** Pieces – Tiffany Snow

One Night with Janis Heart Song – Juanita
 Joplin – Justin Jennings

Townsend **Best Supporting Male
 – Equity**

Joe Turner’s Come and
 Gone – John Iacovelli The Road Weeps, the
 Well Runs Dry –
 Darryl Alan Reed

The Road Weeps, The
 Wells Run Dry –
 Frederica Nascimento The Royale – Robert
 Gossett

Best Set Design – Local
 The Royale – Desean

One Night In Miami – Terry
 Stephanie Kerley

Schwartz **Best Supporting Male
 – Local**

Rent – Anderson
 William The Good Negro –

Steel Magnolias – Joel Stephen Grove Malloy
Daavid

Best Sound – Equity The Good Negro –
Phrederic Semaj

Breath and Imagination The Last Days of
– Dave Mickey Judas Iscariot –
Keedar Whittle

One Night with Janis
Joplin – Carl Cassella

Sister Act – Ken Travis

Best Sound – Local

Dreamgirls – David
Crawford

Museum of Living Art
(MOLA) – Andrew Korda

Driving Miss Daisy –
Jonathan Beard & Barry
Schwam

**Best Supporting
Female – Equity**

One Night with Janis
Joplin – Sebrina Elayne
Carter

The Road Weeps, The
Well Runs Dry – Simone
Missick

The Royale – Diarra Oni
Kilpatrick

November 2017

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