MINNESOTA GOVERNOR LIMITS CONVERSION THERAPY WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER P3

Daily Planet

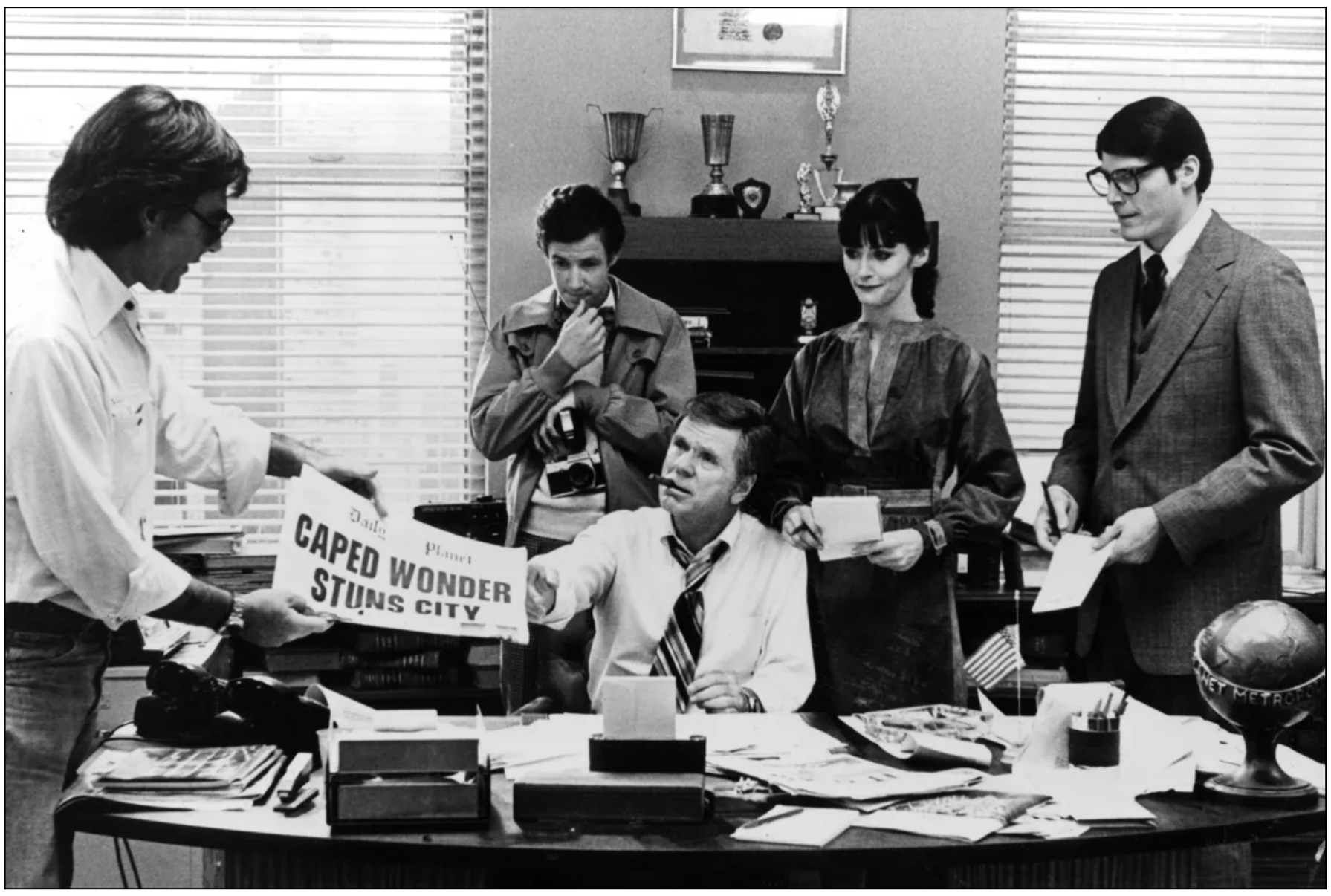
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RICHARD DONNER REMEMBERED

Entertainment figures pay tribute

By James Kent
Daily Planet Reporter



Director Richard Donner handing a Daily Planet newspaper to Perry White actor Jackie Cooper on the set of "Superman: The Movie" (1978). Also pictured (L-R) is Marc McClure as Jimmy Olsen, Margot Kidder as Lois Lane and Christopher Reeve as Clark Kent. Photo courtesy of Warner Media

When the somber news of Richard Donner's passing at age 91 broke on Monday July 5, 2021, social media was flooded with commiseration from fans, colleagues, comic writers and many of the fellow entertainers that the famed director had worked with and influenced over the decades including Kevin Feige, Zack Snyder, Steven Spielberg, Frank Miller, Tom Taylor and many more.

Born on April 24, 1930 in the Bronx, Richard Donald Schwartzberg grew up in Mount Vernon, New York. His father, a Russian Jewish immigrant, ran a furniture manufacturing company, and his mother, a daughter of Russian Jewish immigrants, was a homemaker. The filmmaker changed his name when he set out to become an actor, and then later was given advice by Marty Ritt that he should become a director instead of an actor since he had a problem with taking direction, according to Ritt.

Kevin Feige of Marvel Studios posted a heartfelt statement on Twitter, detailing how Richard Donner helped get him his first office job in Hollywood and nurtured him through his early years alongside Geoff Johns of DC Entertainment. Both comic figures are noted to hail "Superman" (1978) as the gold standard of superhero films.

"Richard Donner not only made me believe a man could fly, he made me believe that comic characters could be brought to life on the big screen with heart, humor, humanity and verisimilitude," Feige's Marvel Twitter tribute said. "Above all he taught me that it can and must be done with respect, caring, and kindness to everyone in front of and behind the camera. Dick and Lauren became mentors during my early career, and key supporters throughout the birth of the MCU. I owe my career to the way they took the time to nurture and teach a kid from New Jersey who didn't know how to use a fax machine or make coffee very well. I always thought Dick was immortal. I still do. My thoughts are with Lauren and the entire family."

Justice League director Zack Snyder simply posted the iconic Superman teaser poster art by Bob Peak, which bears the tagline "You'll Believe A Man Can Fly." Snyder captioned his post with "Thank you, Richard Donner. You made me believe."

Richard Donner made Hollywood history with his directing of "Superman" in 1978, starring Christopher Reeve, Marlon Brando, Gene Hackman, Margot Kidder, and others. At the time, "Superman: The Movie" was the most expensive film made up to that point, with a budget of $55 million, and went on to earn over $300 million worldwide, heralding a roaring era of superhero films on the big cinema screen. While working on the "Superman" project, the director famously mounted a sign in his office bearing the word "verisimilitude", which he defined as "Be truthful. Honor the source material. Believe it, and take it seriously." Richard Donner's slogan of "verisimilitude" -- pushing for realism in his depiction of Superman – was what paved the way to Christopher Nolan's The Dark Knight trilogy, Zack Snyder's Superman saga, and the modern wave of realism in comic book entertainment.



Christopher Reeve taking direction from Richard Donner on the set of "Superman: The Movie." Photo courtesy of Warner Media



Richard Donner (1930-2021)

35 years after 1978, Zack Snyder was drafted by Christopher Nolan to reboot the iconic American hero for the modern age. Henry Cavill became the next generation's Superman in "Man Of Steel" (2013), "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" (2016), and "Zack Snyder's Justice League" (2021). Zack Snyder, Bruce Timm, and Jay Oliva also developed a two-minute "Superman 75" short film, in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the character of Superman, which was created in 1938. The iconic music of John Williams, who scored the theme and soundtrack for the "Superman" film series with Christopher Reeve, can be heard in the "Superman 75" animated short film, which then transitions into the modern Superman theme music by Hans Zimmer, scored for "Man Of Steel" with Henry Cavill.

Hollywood has a surreal history that often repeats. Donner was fired while filming "Superman II" (1980). Donner had sparred with the father-son producers, Alexander and Ilya Salkind, and complained about the lack of a clear budget or schedule for the movies. The Salkinds replaced Richard Donner with Richard Lester, who reshot most of the Superman sequel. After a fan campaign, Donner's cut of "Superman II" was released on DVD in 2006, in conjunction with the "Superman Returns" (2006) movie which attempted to continue the story with Brandon Routh donning the tights. Famously and tragically, Zack Snyder was replaced by Marvel director Joss Whedon during the post-production of "Justice League" in 2017. Zack Snyder had left the project to deal with the grief of his daughter's passing, and after a grueling fan campaign, HBO Max greenlighted the "Snyder Cut" on May 20, 2020, with the director's cut titled "Zack Snyder's Justice League" being released on March 18, 2021 to critical and popular acclaim. It is unclear if Donner got to witness the Snyder Cut during his time.

Comic writer Tom Taylor posted his tribute: "Thank you for my heroes, Richard Donner. Thank you for Superman, for Lois, and for making us believe a man can fly."

Cartoonist Frank Miller wrote "Richard Donner showed us the mythological potential of the superhero. He convinced us of the impossible, and just like Superman did with Lois Lane, he swept us off our feet. Forever grateful for what he gave us and will miss him greatly."

Steven Spielberg reflected on the passing of Richard Donner, via his Amblin page: "Dick had such a powerful command of his movies and was so gifted across so many genres."

Kevin Smith wrote "Guy was a natural born storyteller. Thanks for all the flicks, Dick!"

The tremendous public outpouring of reverence and veneration for Richard Donner shows the success of the filmmaker's skill of exemplifying verisimilitude in live-action storytelling, and making us believe a man can indeed fly.

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'Titans' season 3 set to premiere August 12 on HBO Max

Jason Momoa, returning to England for 'Aquaman: The Lost Kingdom' shoot, says that his hair will be blonde in the sequel.

'Superman & Lois' returns July 17, 2021

About us

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Allison Mack sentenced to three years in sex cult case

By Jahlil Rush
Daily Planet Reporter

Actress Allison Mack, known for playing Chloe on "Smallville," will be sentenced to three years for her role in the sex cult case.

Mack pleaded guilty in 2019 on charges stating that she manipulated women into becoming sex slaves for the group, NXIVM, under spirtual leader, Keith Raniere. Ranieri was sentenced to 120 years in prison.

Mack wrote a letter filed with the court last week, where she stated that devoting herself to self-improvement guru "was the biggest mistake and greatest regret of my life,".

Due to advisory sentencing guidelines, Mack would have faced between 14 and 17.5 years behind bars. Mack's defense team argued in court papers that probation or a sentence to home confinement is more appropriate. Prosecutors have agreed that any prison term should be below the guidelines' range because of her cooperation.

"The NXIVM saga and the story of Ms. Mack's descent have been a tragedy for all involved. But that need not, and should not, be the end of the story for Allison Mack," Mack's lawyers wrote in court papers.

Mack was sentenced to 36 months for racketeering and conspiracy. Both sentences will be served concurrently. She will also have three years of post-release probation. Mack was also fined $20,000.

According to reports, Rainere fled to Mexico with Mack and other members to try to rebuild the cult there, He was arrested and sent to the United States in March 2018. Mack was arrested days later.

Mack aided in the investigation by providing information about how Raniere promoted "the use of demeaning and derogatory language, including racial slurs, to humiliate 'slaves,' government documentation said, She provided a recording of a conversation she had with Raniere about the branding, NBC4New York reports.

"I am sorry to those of you that I brought into NXIVM," Mack wrote. "I am sorry I ever exposed you to the nefarious and emotionally abusive schemes of a twisted man."

The Dailies

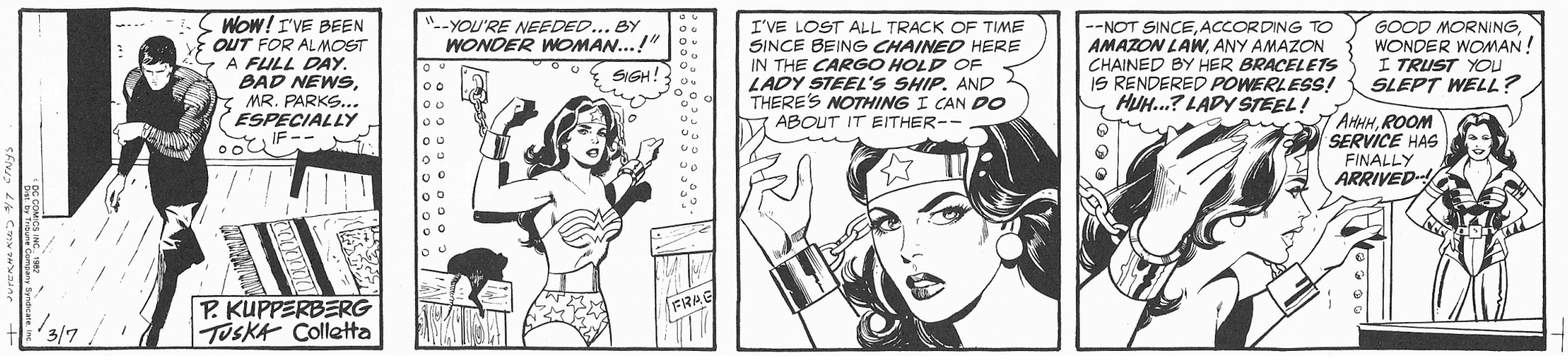


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Superman and the world's greatest heroes





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KORD INDUSTRIES

Governor Walz signs executive order restricting conversion therapy in Minnesota

By Lois Lane
Daily Planet Reporter



Photo courtesy of Governor Tim Walz

Governor Tim Walz signed Executive Order 21-25, protecting Minnesotans from conversion therapy, into law on July 15, 2021. Conversion therapy, also known as "reparative therapy," refers to a counseling practice that seeks to change a patient's gender or sexual orientation.

Every leading medical and scientific association including the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, and National Education Association have strongly and uniformly rejected conversion therapy for minors, citing its harmful effects on the long-term mental health of LGBTQ+ youth.

"Our kids deserve to grow up in a state that values them for who they are — not one that tries to change them," said Governor Walz. "This Executive Order aims to protect young and vulnerable Minnesotans from the cruel and discredited practice of conversion therapy and affirms that the LGBTQ+ community is an integral part of One Minnesota. This is not the end of our work to see this practice become a thing of the past. We will continue to fight for love over hate every single day."

"No one should ever be told that they need to change who they are to be deserving of love and acceptance, especially our children. It's our job to make sure our LGBTQ+ relatives, friends, and neighbors know they are valued and loved members of our community," said Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. "I'm tremendously grateful to the survivors who have shared their heartbreaking stories to inspire action, the advocates who never stopped pushing for this change, and the legislators who have authored and carried bills through the House and Senate over the years. We call on our partners in the Legislature to move a comprehensive ban on conversion therapy across the finish line — but we will not wait to do what's right."

The Executive Order restricts the practice of conversion therapy in Minnesota by directing state agencies to take the following actions:

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Department of Commerce will request attestations from health maintenance organizations (HMOs) and health plan companies that they do not cover conversion therapy and pursue administrative remedies against HMOs and health plan companies that engage in unfair business practices related to conversion therapy. MDH and Commerce will also engage in rulemaking as necessary to restrict coverage of conversion therapy.

MDH will prepare a report on the public health impacts of conversion therapy.

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) will not pay for conversion therapy services through Minnesota Health Care Programs such as Medicaid and will pursue recovery for payment for conversion therapy services.

The Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR) will investigate and pursue civil enforcement actions against health care providers who are engaged in discriminatory practices related to conversion therapy.

"Thank you so much, Governor Walz, for seeing our humanity, recognizing the harm that conversion therapy causes, and doing something about it," said Mara Glubka, Director of Transforming Families. " Thank you for doing the right thing."

"We at OutFront are incredibly grateful and excited to see Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan signing onto this Executive Order. This Executive Order will protect LGBTQ+ youth and their families from the harmful practice of conversion therapy," said James Darville, Policy and Organizing Director for OutFront Minnesota. "We also want to thank all of the survivors, organizers, and Minnesotans who have worked tirelessly to eradicate this harmful practice in our state. We look forward to continuing our work alongside legislators, Governor Walz, and his team to make Minnesota a more equitable place for all Minnesotans"

"Governor Walz's action to prohibit conversion therapy will save lives," said Jeremy Hanson Willis, CEO of Rainbow Health, an organization that advocates for LGBTQ+ and HIV health equity and provides mental health care. " This order recognizes the pain that too many LGBTQ+ Minnesotans and their families have gone through and will help heal the wounds caused by this damaging and dangerous practice,"

"Gender Justice is relieved that Governor Walz has decided to take executive action to do what the Minnesota legislature still refuses to do: Protect LGBTQ+ young people from abuse aimed at changing who they are. At the same time, we can't afford to let our guard down. The same legislators who have for years blocked the conversion therapy ban are the same ones now promising to reintroduce legislation attacking transgender kids next session. We will continue to work for a world where everyone can thrive, regardless of their gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Today is a step towards making that world a reality," said Gender Justice.

23 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have taken action against conversion therapy. Executive Order 21-25 goes into effect fifteen days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State.

73rd Emmy Awards nominations announced

By Car Grant
Daily Planet Reporter

The Emmys will be broadcast on Sunday, September 19 (8:00-11:00 PM, live ET/5:00-8:00 PM, live PT) on the CBS Television Network and will be available to stream live and on demand on Paramount+.

Nominations for the 73rd Emmy® Awards were announced today recognizing a wealth of innovative storytelling, exceptional new programs, and a robust and diverse group of talent nominees.

The live virtual ceremony was hosted by father-daughter duo Ron Cephas Jones ("This Is Us") from Los Angeles and Jasmine Cephas Jones ("Blindspotting") from New York along with Television Academy Chairman and CEO Frank Scherma.

"The Crown" and "The Mandalorian" have tied for the top spot for program nominations with 24 followed by "WandaVision" (23), "The Handmaid's Tale" (21), "Saturday Night Live" (21), "Ted Lasso" (20), "Lovecraft Country" (18), "The Queen's Gambit" (18) and "Mare of Easttown" (16).

HBO/HBO Max leads the nominations in totals by platform with 130. Netflix has the second-most nominations with 129, and rounding out the top four are Disney+ with 71 and NBC with 46.

"Television has provided a lifeline for so many around the globe this year, delivering a constant source of entertainment, information and inspiration during some of our most difficult days," said Scherma. "We are thrilled to honor the diversity of storytelling in television today by recognizing talented artists, programs, producers, directors and craftspeople throughout our industry and celebrating their commitment to this extraordinary medium."

"Bridgerton," "Lovecraft Country" and "The Boys" are newcomers to the Outstanding Drama Series category, joining returning nominees "Pose," "The Crown," "The Mandalorian," "This Is Us" and previous category winner "The Handmaid's Tale."

75 percent of this year's nominees for Outstanding Comedy Series are new to the category including "Cobra Kai," "Emily in Paris," "Hacks," "Pen15," "Ted Lasso" and "The Flight Attendant." Returning favorites include "black-ish" and "The Kominsky Method."

In total, there were 44 first-time performer nominations across the Lead, Supporting, Guest and Short Form categories this season.

Jonathan Majors, Josh O'Connor and Regé-Jean Page received their first-ever Emmy nominations for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series joining previous Emmy winners in this category Sterling K. Brown, Billy Porter and Matthew Rhys. Emma

Corrin, Jurnee Smollett and Mj Rodriguez received their first nominations for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series, while previous Emmy winner Uzo Aduba was nominated for the first time in this category. They are joined by returning nominee Olivia Colman and previous Emmy winner in this category Elisabeth Moss.

Kaley Cuoco received her first-ever Emmy nomination for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series, while previous Emmy winner Jean Smart and previous Emmy nominee Aidy Bryant were nominated for the first time in this category. They join previous Emmy nominee Tracee Ellis Ross and Emmy winner Allison Janney. Jason Sudeikis received his first-ever Emmy nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series, while previous Emmy winner Kenan Thompson was nominated for the first time in this category. They join six-time nominee in the category Anthony Anderson, along with previous Emmy winners Michael Douglas and William H. Macy.

Individuals with multiple nominations this year include David Attenborough, Sterling K. Brown, Aidy Bryant, Bo Burnham, Steven Canals, Dave Chapelle, Michaela Coel, Jon Favreau, Derek Hough, Brendan Hunt, Maya Rudolph, Jean Smart, Jason Sudeikis and Kenan Thompson.

The nominations rosters may be revised in cases where names or titles are incorrect or appeals for changes — including the addition or removal of names — are approved by the Television Academy's Emmy Awards Committee. Producer eligibility is based primarily on title; the producer nominees in certain program categories will be announced by mid-August. Final-round online voting begins Aug. 19, 2021.

As recently announced, the 73rd Emmy Awards will be hosted by Cedric the Entertainer. Executive Producers Reginald Hudlin and Ian Stewart and Director Hamish Hamilton have been selected to helm the show for production companies Done+Dusted and Hudlin Entertainment. The Emmys will be broadcast on Sunday, Sept. 19 (8:00-11:00 PM, live ET/5:00-8:00 PM, live PT) on the CBS Television Network and will be available to stream live and on demand on Paramount+. The 2021 Creative Arts Awards will be broadcast on Saturday, Sept. 18 (8:00 PM ET/PT) on FXX.

For a full list of nominees, visit https://dailyplanetdc.com/2021/07/13/73rd-emmy-awards-nominations-announced/

Reports mislead on Biden's vaccination door-knocking efforts

By Lois Lane
Daily Planet Reporter

Biden's door-to-door vaccination effort is an education initiative for community leaders to inform others on inoculation efforts, fact-checkers said.

On July 6, President Joe Biden said at a press briefing that "we need to go to community by community, neighborhood by neighborhood, and oftentimes, door to door — literally knocking on doors — to get help to the remaining people protected from the virus."

The proposed door-to-door outreach effort dispatches "local public health officials and volunteers" to speak with people about COVID-19 vaccines and how to access them, The Associated Press, Lead Stories and CNN report. The plan was initially mentioned in Biden's National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness, which was released in January and has been in operation since April.

Following Biden's remarks on July 6, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki confirmed on July 9 that this effort would be volunteer-led.

There is no evidence that those involved in the grassroots campaign are tracking people or asking for proof of vaccination, Lead Stories reported.

The grassroots component of the U.S. vaccination campaign has been in operation since April, when supplies of shots began outpacing demand. It was outlined and funded by Congress in the $1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill passed in March.

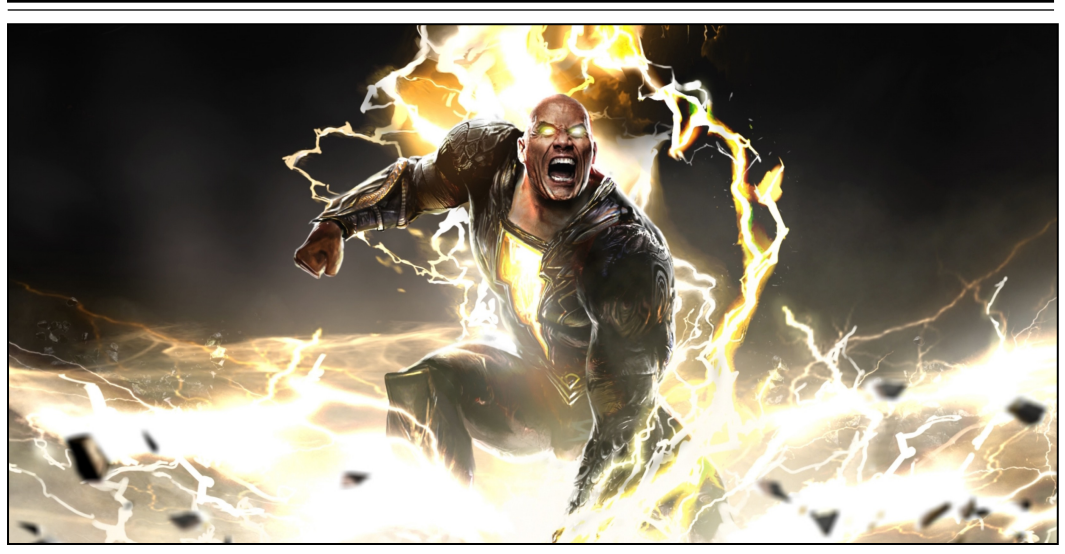
Volunteers help to explain the vaccine, how to get one and sometimes administer the shot in people's homes. There's no evidence they are collecting 'papers.' As Psaki pointed out, it's up to individuals whether they want to get the shot. The federal government does not maintain a database of who's been vaccinated.

In January the administration released a National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness, which outlined that 'the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will provide toolkits for local leaders and state and local organizations, empowering Americans to have one-on-one conversations with friends, family members, neighbors, and member of their communities.

On July 10, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Xavier Becerra responded to criticism of the initiative. Becerra said "it is absolutely the government's business" to know which Americans have been vaccinated before clarifying that there is "no database tracking who is vaccinated."

The Morning Consult poll found those attacks had landed with Republican voters, as 65 percent oppose Biden's "door-to-door" vaccination plan while 28 percent support it and six percent have no opinion.

A majority of respondents—54 percent —support the plan overall as well as 81 percent of Democrats, the poll found, which was conducted July 9-12 among 1,996 registered voters.


Dwayne Johnson as Black Adam. Photo courtesy of DC Entertainment

Black Adam wraps filming

By Brendan Rooney
Daily Planet Editor

Dwayne Johnson took to social media yesterday to confirm that filming has now wrapped on "Black Adam." The Instagram post made for fun viewing as the actor held a prize draw on set that saw a $10,000 split between three members of the movie's crew.

In addition to the light-hearted nature of this project coming to a conclusion. The post also revealed Johnson, suited up as Black Adam, but a cloak stops us from seeing what he looks like in costume. Along with a few other armored actors who could possibly be the first official look at Intergang. Sarah Shahi confirmed before the criminal syndicate would be part of the movie and the main target of Adrianna Tomaz's team of freedom fighters.

"Honored and proud to say that's an official wrap on Black Adam," Johnson said. "I knew many years ago, the opportunity for me to make Black Adam would be a once in a career event. It has been my true honor to go shoulder to shoulder with over 1,000 brilliant and hungry crew of filmmakers and storytellers to bring the antihero known as, Black Adam to life." This has been one for the ages and easily the hardest labor and toughest grind mentally and physically of my entire career. Worth. Every. Second."

With the conclusion of filming it seems that an official first look (maybe a Black Adam suit reveal) could be on the horizon. It's possible that WB and DC might wait till DC Fandome on October 16 later this year, due to no San Diego Comic-Con this month (at least not in the traditional sense).

Johnson will be joined in the film by Sarah Shahi ("Sex/Life") as Adrianna Tomaz, Aldis Hodge ("Underground," "The Invisible Man") as Hawkman, Noah Centineo ("To All the Boys I Love Before," "Charlie's Angels") as Atom Smasher, Quintessa Swindell ("Trinkets," "Euphoria") as Cyclone, Pierce Brosnan ("GoldenEye," "Mamma Mia!") as Doctor Fate, Marwan Kenzari ("The Old Guard," "Aladdin"), and Uli Latukefu ("Young Rock") has been cast in an unspecified role.

Jaume Collet-Serra ("Jungle Cruise") is directing "Black Adam," the most recent script of which was written by Rory Haines and Sohrab Noshirvani. Adam Sztykiel wrote the previous draft.

"Black Adam" is expected to hit theaters July 29, 2022.





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