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CINEMA CON SIGGRAPH SMPTE

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## 'Dawn of the Planet of the Apes' Tops Visual Effects Society Awards



Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation



'Big Hero 6' sweeps the animated feature competition.

*Dawn of the Planet of the Apes* topped the live action feature competition at the 13th annual Visual Effects Awards, earned three trophies including the top award for outstanding VFX in a VFX-driven feature.

Wednesday at the Beverly Hilton, Oscar nominee Apes additionally won trophies for animated character (Caesar) and compositing. Also in the feature competitions, Oscar nominees X-Men: Days of Future Past won two awards, for effects simulation and virtual cinematography; and *Interstellar* won one, for created environment.

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*Big Hero 6* swept the animated feature categories, winning trophies for outstanding VFX, animated character, created environment, effects simulation and models.

Since the first VES Awards were handed out in 2002, the winner of the top category has gone on to win the visual effects Oscar nine of the past 12 times.

The VFX on *Apes* were created by Weta Digital, led by **Joe Letteri**, a four-time Oscar winner and Weta's senior VFX supervisor.

*Game of Thrones* was the big winner in the television competition, collecting two awards including in the category for outstanding VFX in television.

During the ceremony, Zoe Saldana presented J.J. Abrams with the VES Visionary Award. Receiving a standing ovation, the director told the VFX community that working on *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* is "an actual childhood dream come true, and has only given me more appreciation for what you do."

A complete list of nominees follows:

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects-Driven Photoreal/Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

**Dawn of the Planet of the Apes**

Joe Letteri, Ryan Stafford, Matt Kutcher, Dan Lemmon, Hannah Bianchini

**Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Photoreal/Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

**Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)**

Ara Khanikian Ivy Agregan Sebastien Moreau Isabelle Langlois

**Outstanding Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

**Big Hero 6**

Don Hall Chris Williams Roy Conli Zach Parrish

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects-Driven Photoreal/Live Action Broadcast Program**

**Game of Thrones; The Children**

Joe Bauer, Steve Kullback, Stuart Brisdon, Thomas Schelesny, Sven Martin

**Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Visual Effects-Driven  
Photoreal/Live Action Broadcast Program**

**American Horror Story; Freak Show; Edward Mordrake, Part 2**

Jason Piccioni, Jason Spratt, Mike Kirylo, Justin Ball, Eric Roberts

**Outstanding Real-Time Visuals in a Video Game**

**Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare**

Yi-chao Sandy Lin-Chiang, Joseph Salud, Demetrius Leal, Dave Blizzard

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Commercial**

**SSE; Maya**

Neil Davies, Alex Hammond, Jorge Montiel, Beth Vander

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Special Venue Project**

**Ratatouille: L'Aventure Totalement Torquee de Remy**

Tony Apodaca, Marianne McLean, Gilles Martin, Edwin Chang, Mark Mine

**Outstanding Performance of an Animated Character in a Photoreal/Live Action  
Feature Motion Picture**

**Dawn of the Planet of the Apes; Caesar**

Paul Story, Eteuati Tema, Andrea Merlo, Emiliano Padovani

**Outstanding Animated Character in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

**Big Hero 6; Baymax**

Colin Eckart, John Kahwaty, Zach Parrish, Zack Petroc

**Outstanding Performance of an Animated Character in a Commercial, Broadcast Program, or Video Game**

**SSE; Maya**

Jorge Montiel, Alex Hammond, Daniel Kmet, Philippe Moine

**Outstanding Created Environment in a Photoreal/Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

**Interstellar; Tesseract**

Tom Bracht, Graham Page, Thomas Døhlen, Kirsty Clark

**Outstanding Created Environment in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

**Big Hero 6; Into the Portal**

Ralf Habel, David Hutchins, Michael Kaschalk, Olun Riley

**Outstanding Created Environment in a Commercial, Broadcast Program, or Video Game**

**Game of Thrones; Braavos Establisher**

Rene Borst, Christian Zilliken, Jan Burda, Steffen Metzner

**Outstanding Virtual Cinematography in a Photoreal/Live Action Motion Media Project**

**X-Men: Days of Future Past; Kitchen Scene**

Austin Bonang, Casey Schatz, Dennis Jones, Newton Thomas Sigel

**Outstanding Models in any Motion Media Project**

**Big Hero 6; City of San Fransokyo**

Brett Achorn, Minh Duong, Scott Watanabe, Larry Wu

**Outstanding Effects Simulations in a Photoreal/Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

**X-Men: Days of Future Past; Quicksilver Pentagon Kitchen**

Adam Paschke, Premamurti Paetsch, Sam Hancock, Timmy Lundin

**Outstanding Effects Simulations in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

**Big Hero 6**

Henrik Falt, David Hutchins, Michael Kaschalk, John Kosnik

**Outstanding Effects Simulations in a Commercial, Broadcast Program, or Video Game**

**Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey**

Dominique Vidal, Isabelle Perin-Leduc, Sandrine Lurde, Alexandre Lerouge

**Outstanding Compositing in a Photoreal/Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

**Dawn of the Planet of the Apes**

Christoph Salzmann, Florian Schroeder, Quentin Hema, Simone Riginelli

**Outstanding Compositing in a Photoreal/Live Action Broadcast Program**

**Game of Thrones; The Watchers on the Wall**

Dan Breckwoldt, Martin Furman, Sophie Marfleet, Eric Andrusyszyn

**Outstanding Compositing in a in a Photoreal/Live Action Commercial**

**SSE**

Neil Davies, Leonardo Costa, Gianluca DiMarco

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Student Project**

**Wrapped**

Roman Kaelin, Falko Paeper, Florian Wittmann, Paolo Tamburrino