

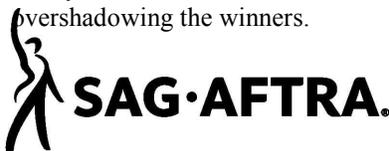
pittsburgh
applause!
arts & entertainment newsletter

Washington & Davis Win SAG Awards But Trump Dominates Ceremony

Denzel Washington was named Best Actor for his performance in the Pittsburgh-made film “Fences” at this year’s politically-charged SAG Awards. His co-star, Viola Davis also won the award for Best Supporting Actress.

The SAG Awards are awarded annually by **SAG-AFTRA**, the nation’s union for film, radio and television performers. The union has hundreds of members in the Pittsburgh area and maintains an office downtown.

Gregg Kilday, writing for the *Hollywood Reporter*, called the January 29 ceremony “played like a rally of the resistance” almost overshadowing the winners.



That resistance was part of the world-wide response to President Donald J. Trump’s controversial ban on people coming to the United States from seven Muslim-majority countries. Many people, liberal and conservative alike, see this as the “Muslim ban” Mr. Trump proposed on the campaign trail.

“I am a citizen of the world,” actor Ashton Kutcher announced, explaining that to “everyone in airports that belong in my America . . . you are part of the fabric of who we are and we love you and we welcome you.” Upon accepting her award, actress Julia Louis-Dreyfos reminded the audience that she is descended from Jews who fled the Nazis and added the the “immigrant ban is a blemish and it is un-American.”

Actor William H. Macy, who won for his role as the disgruntled, drunken patriarch Frank Gallagher on TV’s “Shameless” decided to make a joke of the controversy. “I would like to go against the stream this evening and thank President Trump for

making Frank Gallagher seem so normal.”

Read Kilday’s full article (which includes a video clip) at <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/sag-awards-hidden-figures-claims-top-prize-at-a-politically-charged-ceremony-970041>

Honoring Quinto

Pittsburgh actor Zachary Quinto is to be honored later this month at the annual Oscar Wiled Awards, reports Mike Barnes for the *Hollywood Reporter*.

The award program was created by the **US-Ireland Alliance** to honor Americans of Irish descent who have distinguished themselves in television, film and music. It’s named after Irish author Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) who career was cut short after an infamous scandal between the married Wilde and his make lover. Quinto is half-Irish on his mother’s side and is openly gay.

The actor is best known for playing Spock in the recent reboot of “Star Trek” by producer J.J. Abrams, who will be serving as emcee for the February 23 event.

Inside This Issue

GPAC issues plea to save NEA from Donald Trump	Page 2
Anti-Flag plans Anti-Trump songs in album	Page 2
The selling of PA film credits raises eyebrows	Page 4
Wiz Khalifa and Rostrum Records reach a deal	Page 4
The Carnegie gets tech grant from NEH	Page 4

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GPAC Gears Up To Defend NEA

An email was sent out by the **Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council** (GPAC) urging supporters to defend the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) from what



many believe will be an effort by the Trump Administration to cut or even eliminate the endowment.

In the sidebar at your right is information iGPAC's Mitch Swain included in his email plea:

Local Band Expects To Go After Trump In Next Album

Pittsburgh punk band Anti-Flag is speaking out against President Donald J. Trump, reports Gary Graff in *Billboard*.

Their music is often protest-oriented, regarding of political affiliation (President Obama was a common target). But co-founder and lead singer Justin Sane told Graff just before the January 20 inauguration that "now that it's going to be Donald Trump, it takes it to another level."

"A lot of the people he's bringing in are diametrically opposed to workers' rights, and of course that's a disaster for poor and

Call your Senators and Congressperson. Tell them the value of the arts to you and your community. Find their contact info, here.

(<http://pittsburgharts.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=ANHDnDMCrAABAAAF8wAJ68g>)

Sign the Americans for the Arts official petition (<http://pittsburgharts.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=ANHDnDMCrAABAAAHSwAJ68g>)

to support the NEA, NEH, and CPB. Bob Lynch, CEO and President of Americans for the Arts, plans on taking another letter to President Trump with the signatures of 100,000 Americans - let your name be counted.

Sign up to receive Action Alerts (<http://pittsburgharts.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=ANHDnDMCrAABAAAJwAJ68g>) from the Arts Action Fund (it's free), and follow them on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. This is the source for the latest information and to know what actions to take. They have created a Response Team ready to send you the latest information and action steps to take.

Locally, on Thursday, March 2 at 3pm the public is invited to join Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council for a briefing on federal policy issues concerning the arts in Pittsburgh at the event -Federal Arts Policy: a Time for Action!- Registration, here. (<http://pittsburgharts.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=ANHDnDMCrAABAAAM7gAJ68g>)

The Americans' for the Arts' National Arts Advocacy Day, March 20-21 in Washington, D.C., is a further opportunity to strategize and meet directly with elected officials, we are an active part of this convening, too. Early Bird registration ends on Tuesday, here, and please contact David Pankratz should you have any questions. Registration and information, here (<http://pittsburgharts.pmailus.com/pmailweb/ct?d=ANHDnDMCrAABAAAPpQAJ68g>).

Inform Americans for the Arts of any specific actions impacting the arts in your community as a result of the President's new executive order on sanctuary cities. Please send an e-mail to Ruby Harper at rharper@artsusa.org.

working people. There are a lot of people thinking he was going to be on their side, and I definitely understand that. He very effectively campaigned that way. But unfortunately, I think he's a con man, and they got taken."

Sane expects the band's next album will be "more angry" than originally planned. Read Graff's

full article at <http://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/rock/7655214/anti-flag-trump-con-man>



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CMNH Gets NEH Grant

One of the four **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh** has received a modest grant that offers big potential.

CARNEGIE | MUSEUMS
OF PITTSBURGH

The Natural History Museum has received a grant of just under \$30,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to help develop “an immersive virtual experience centered on the museum’s ancient Egyptian funerary boat.”

That boat was discovered outside Cairo and is currently on display in the museum’s Walton Hall of Ancient Egypt. This and other such craft was probably used to transport the body of a dead pharaoh across the Nile River to his final resting place.

NEH’s grant will be used to finance the initial research and planning for a virtual reality simulation of the boat in use for the royal funeral of Senwosret III (1887BCE – 1848BCE).

Wiz, Rostrum Settle Suits

A settlement has been reached between Pittsburgh rapper Cameron “Wiz Khalifa” Thomaz and his former manager, reports Marc Schneider in *Billboard*.

**ROSTRUM
RECORDS**

In May of 2016, Khalifa filed a \$1 million lawsuit against Bengy Greenberg and his company, **Rostrum Records** claiming that Greenberg’s firm has made deals

that benefited Rostrum rather than himself. Rostrum countersued a month later seeking what they called “unpaid royalties” from Khalifa’s tours and merchandise.

Schneider quotes a joint statement that was released: “This agreement includes the dismissal of lawsuits that each party had previously filed against each other earlier this year . . . both parties are pleased with the outcome and look forward to putting this matter behind them.”

No details of the settlement have been released.

Film Credits Controversy

The selling of unused film tax credits in Pennsylvania appears to have become an industry itself, writes Public Source’s J. Dale Shoemaker.

The program offers up to 25% off their state taxes to film and television projects who spend at least 60% of their budget in Pennsylvania. Instead, many production companies have sold some credits to companies that have little or nothing to do with entertainment.

“Those sales have created a nearly \$300 million cottage industry for unused tax credits” Shoemaker explains, “meaning tens of millions of dollars that the state earmarks for TV and movie projects each year end up allowing non-film companies, like **Duquesne Light Company** and **Apple**, to benefit.”

Some argue that the ability to transfer credits is a vital part of the program. For full coverage of this story, read Shoemaker’s article at <http://publicsource.org/nearly-all-film-tax-credits-in-pennsylvania-are-sold-to-corporations-that-have-nothing-to-do-with-the-film-industry/>





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Marcel's Singer Dies

Ronald "Bingo" Mundy of the legendary Pittsburgh-based 1960s doo wop group the Marcel's died on January 20 at Allegheny General Hospital. He was 76.

The news was first reported by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and quickly picked up by national media including the Associated Press and *Billboard*.

The Marcel's were formed in Pittsburgh in 1959 and was comprised of Mundy along with Cornelius Harp, Fred Johnson, Gene Bricker and Richard Knauss. The group took its name from what was then a popular hair style, called the marcel wave.

Although the Marcel's were extremely popular throughout the 1960s, the then-unusual racially mixed membership routinely raised issues when touring the segregated United States South. Eventually the two white members, Harp and Johnson, left the Marcel's.

Mundy is the second Marcel to die; Harp passed away in 2013 at the age of 73. In 2002, the Marcel's were inducted into the **Vocal Group Hall of Fame**.



WPXI & DirectTV

Cox Media Group, part of Cox Enterprises, has announced a deal with **AT&T's** Direct TV for continued carriage of Pittsburgh's WPXI and 12 other company owned stations.



The agreement was announced early on January 2. It came after a difficult period when the satellite provider dropped all 13 stations in a dispute over carriage fees.

No details have been released.

Beware of hot dudes bearing gifts.



www.farawayhill.net

Images

Celebrate Pittsburgh's
arts & entertainment
history and community.



Gretchen Egolf is part of the hot cast in the Public Theater's riotous production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."

To have an image considered contact Jim Richards at jim@james-richards.com

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH



WED 1



FRI 3



SAT 4



SAT 4



THU 9



THU 9



FRI 10



FRI 10



FRI 10



SAT 11

Happy Valentine's Day

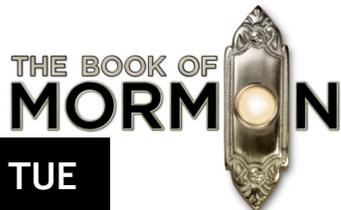
TUE 14



FRI 17



SAT 18



TUE 21



SUN 26

Local Arts & Entertainment Opportunities

Please remember that Pittsburgh Applause, the Pittsburgh A&E Group and James A. Richards are simply providing this information; no endorsement should be inferred.

NEW POSITION AT HEINZ

The **Heinz Endowments** is seeking to fill a new position, that of Strategic Communications Officer. According to the posting, “the broad focus of activity is to help manage the activities and processes required to sustain the Endowments’ communications and public relations functions and to help create and implement effective communications that support and promote the organization’s strategic objectives.” Click <http://www.heinz.org/Interior.aspx?id=423&n=604> for details.

VARIOUS @ CBS

Both on-air and production positions are now available at **CBS Corporation’s** Pittsburgh radio stations. These also include an account executive and a promotion assistant. Learn more at <http://cbscorporation.jobs/pittsburgh/pennsylvania/usa/jobs/>

SALES & PROMOTION

Local radio station WISH-FM, owned by **Renda Broadcasting Corporation** is looking for a sales and promotions coordinator. The successful candidate must have strong communication and computer skills (especially social media). Details at <http://pittsburgh.craigslist.org/med/5966543580.html>

TEACHING ARTISTS SOUGHT

The non-profit arts & technology group **Assemble** is now accepting proposals for 2017 artist and maker residencies in partnership with their youth program and monthly artist showcase. The organization will select 4 local artists and makers for participation in month-long residencies that engage elementary school-aged youth and neighborhood partners in a collaborative process of creative place-making. For more information, click <http://assemblepgh.org>

ON-AIR & OFF-AIR OPENINGS

Four new job openings at WTAE-TV have been posted online by owner **Hearst Corporation**. These positions are meteorologist, digital producer, client service specialist and maintenance engineer. To learn more, or to apply, visit <http://careers.hearsttelevision.com/ListJobs/ByCustom/HTV-Business-Unit-Location/Keyword-WTAE--Pittsburgh,-PA/>

VIDEOGRAPHER WANTED

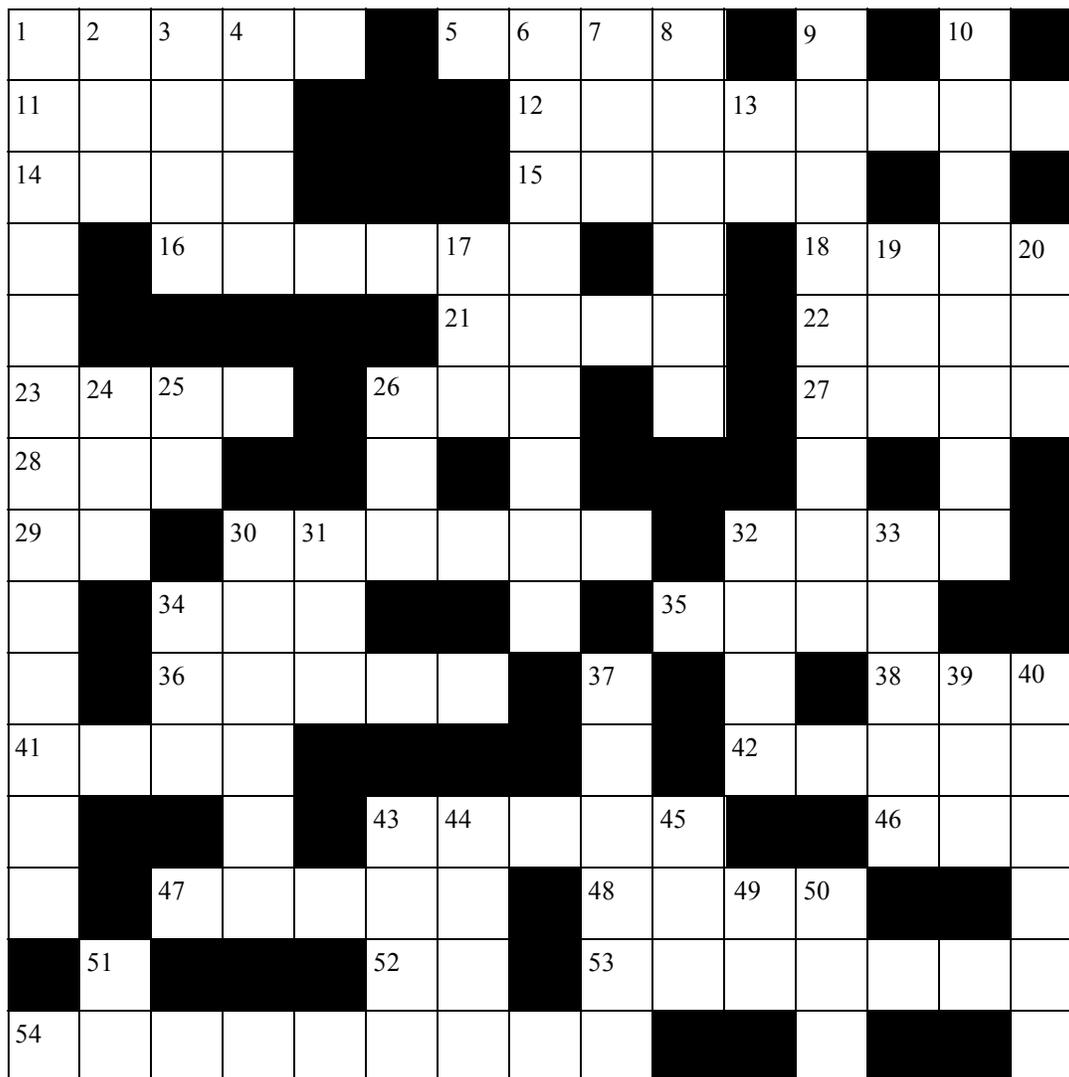
Local wedding company **Platinum Fire** is seeking an experienced videographer. Specifics can be found at <http://pittsburgh.craigslist.org/tfr/5978861180.html>

SOCIAL MEDIA PRO NEEDED

A new social media manager is among the job openings recently announced by **Cox Enterprise’s** WPXI-TV. They are also seeking a design director, on-air reporters and a part-time production assistant. See <https://jobs.coxmediagroup.com/search-jobs/Pittsburgh%2C%20PA/1646/4/6252001-6254927-5178040-5206379/40x44062/-79x99589/50/2> for details.

THE APPLAUSE PUZZLE

“Great Loves”



ACROSS

1. Half of a famed Shakespearean couple
5. A small lovers' fight
11. Persia, once
12. Famed fighter in the Trojan War
14. Mr. Grant, to pals
15. “Great Loves,” for example
16. See 30-Across
18. Palindromic royal name
21. A type of mic
22. Lead-in to trooper orlympics
23. Actor's part
26. Body (organ) bag
27. Deity interpreter
28. Rapping Dr.
29. Word used twice in

- a famous Shakespearean line
30. One of 9-Down's famous lovers (with 16-Across)
32. Unencumbered
34. Turkish lake
35. “Y&R” or “GH”
36. Lover of 10-Down (with 37-Down)
38. Stately poem
41. Picard's TV counselor
42. Mexican dish
43. Supports
46. Possesses
47. See 10-Down
48. Stolen funds
52. Dr.'s associate
53. See 3-Down
54. Second US President

DOWN

1. Elizabeth Taylor's Welsh husband (twice)
2. Lead-in to Quick or flex
3. One of 9-Down's lovers (with 53-Across)
4. Irish singer
6. 12-Across' lover
7. Famous wrestler
8. Lead-in to nuclear or dynamics
9. Elizabeth Taylor famously played her in a movie
10. Controversial author from Pittsburgh (with 47-Across)
13. Quick note, online

17. Lawyers' grp.
19. It has the price
20. Boat need, often
24. Mine find
25. Korean rapper
26. Mr. Mineo, to pals
30. Half of a famed Shakespearean couple
31. Famous Israeli gun
32. Pitt or Duquesne
33. Pinnacle
34. Chinese “way”
37. See 36-Across
39. 1950 noir film
40. School writings
43. Robin or parrot
44. Paquin, to pals
45. Dad's boy
49. Part before NT
50. Poetic contraction
51. Obama pooch

Last Month's Solution

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Jim Richards does many things for Pittsburgh arts community --- most for free --- despite limiting health issues. So show your support in one or more of the following ways:

- * Purchase an ad in *Pittsburgh Applause*
- * Sponsor a project
- * Hire Jim to do your marketing
- * Give him free tickets to your show
- * Make a monetary donation

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Keep the Applause Coming

Everyone in our line of work loves receiving applause, but to keep *Pittsburgh Applause* coming your way, its important to support the newsletter through ad buys and monetary gifts to Jim Richards.

Full-page (8" wide x 10" high): \$100
Half-page (8" wide x 5" high): \$75

All ads need to be built-to-size and provided in a low-res JPG file format. All ads must be pre-paid with the check made payable to the Pittsburgh A&E Group.

For more information, contact Jim at jim@james-richards.com



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