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## “We Rise”

12th & Chicon mural back in full effect!

by **Nefertitti Jackmon** | Six Square Executive Director



**AUSTIN, TX** - Thank you to everyone who came out to support and celebrate the 12th and Chicon mural “We Rise” unveiling. It is humbling and inspiring to see how the community has embraced and taken ownership of this mural. Chris Rogers has poured himself into this piece and has given a gift to the African American cultural legacy of East Austin.

Special thanks to Dream Out Loud Experience, Mission Possible, and the 12th Street Merchants Association. Your support made the event possible and an overwhelming success.

Six Square is committed to continuing to bring work like this, and other culturally relevant programming and experiences to the District, but we can't do it without your financial support. Please make a donation today; all donations large and small make a difference. That's what happened at 12th & Chicon, everyone supported the work and that's why it was a beautiful experience.



CHRIS ROGERS

## 90th Oscars Dance Between Honoring and Correcting the Past

by: The **Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES, CA** - Held one year ago, the 90th Academy Awards would have very likely been a rose-colored nostalgia fest.

But this year, with a culture-wide reckoning over decades of sexual misconduct, a film business in decline, a volatile political climate and the fact that last year the esteemed show couldn't even manage to present its biggest award correctly, the film academy and host Jimmy Kimmel on Sunday staged a complex and sometimes incongruous dance of attempting to both honor and atone for the past.

In many ways, the show inside the Dolby Theatre went exactly as planned — scripted, tight, full of past-looking montages, forward-thinking speeches and produced to appeal to all. Presenters Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty got a best picture redo, (“What happened last year is Waterhouse under the bridge,” Kimmel quipped) and 86-year-old Rita Moreno got to wear her dress from the 1962 ceremony again.

The Walt Disney Co. sneaked a fair amount of promos (“A Wrinkle in Time,” and “Mary Poppins Returns”) and self-congratulations (for “Black Panther”) into its ABC broadcast and the production did its best to appeal to the “regular moviegoer” by trotting out Gal Gadot and other stars to literally give candy to a theater full of people.

The awards also effectively skirted the awkwardness of having an accused man in the spotlight by shifting around long-held presenter traditions and having Jodie Foster and Jennifer Lawrence present the best actress award instead of Casey Affleck. Emma Stone got her Natalie Portman moment, presenting the directing award to “four men and Greta Gerwig.” Activists like #MeToo creator Tarana Burke were included in a song segment. And three Harvey Weinstein accusers, Ashley Judd, Salma Hayek and Annabella Sciorra, were given a moment to themselves on stage for noth-



**Jordan Peele** accepts the award for best original screenplay for “Get Out” at the Oscars on Sunday, March 4, 2018, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. (Photo by Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP)

ing more than the fact that they were brave enough to speak up before a hopeful video played highlighting a changing industry, post #MeToo and more diverse.

The video highlighted Greta Gerwig, the fifth woman to ever be nominated for best director, Yance Ford, the first transgender nominee for “Strong Island,” Dee Rees, whose “Mudbound” scored a historic cinematographer nomination and the Pakistan-born Kumail Nanjiani, nominated for “The Big Sick.”

The nominees signaled a renaissance. The winners told a slightly different story.

With a more diverse, more international and younger infusion of voting members into the film academy, the movie in love with movies still won the top awards. Guillermo del Toro's fantasy romance “The Shape of Water,” won best picture, director, score and production design.

“Growing up in Mexico, I thought this could never happen,” del Toro said. “It happens.”

The acting awards, which have been locked for See **ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY**, page 2

### INSIDE



UT Austin launches new personalized career program. See **WORLD** Page 3



Up Season empowers culture through creative arts. See **SZN** Page 6



Former U.S. Commissioner receives Lifetime Achievement honors. See **PROFILES** Page 7

### Trump Blames Obama for Russia Investigation, ...Again

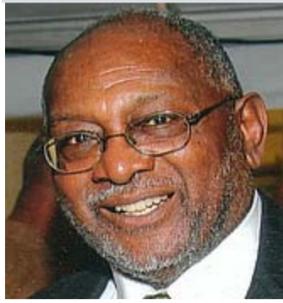


by: **Micha Gree**  
**AFRO** Washington, D.C. Editor

**AFRO** - A year ago, Sunday, the current President and Tweeter-in-Chief, took to Twitter to accuse his predecessor, Barack Obama, of wiretapping Trump Tower. While the accusations were unfounded, one year later, on Monday, March 5, Trump went back on Twitter to, again, point the finger at the former president for meddling in the investigation between his 2016 campaign and Russia, in order to increase the chances of the election of Hillary Clinton.

“Why did the Obama Administration start an investigation into the Trump Campaign (with zero proof of wrongdoing) long before the Election in November? Wanted to dis-

See **WATERGATE!**, pg 7



RAPPIN'

**Tommy Wyatt**  
State Representative District 46 is still undecided.

One of the most talked about political races this season was State Representative District 46. That is the seat that is currently held by Rep. Dawanna Dukes. She has held the position for more than two decades. She is also the only African American in the Austin delegation. However, she came in third in a six person race in the March 6 Primary election.

There will be a run off between Sheryl Cole and Jose “Chito” Vela who were top vote-getters in the race. Vela received 39.57% of the vote and Cole was a close second with 38.24% of the vote and Dukes received 10.17% of the vote.

We can look for a very heated race in District 46, because the district is still heavily populated by African Americans and Hispanics. Both candidates will have to appeal to the new residents who have moved into the area who will have a lot of influence in this race.

As East Austin is being redeveloped, both African Americans and Hispanics are moving from this district to other parts of the area. As a result, their influence is being reduced. However, African Americans have more to lose.

This election saw a record number of voters going to the polls. It appears that the Democratic Party will make a greater effort to get more democrats in office, both at the local and national level. Some are beginning to believe that the Democrats will have a chance to gain control of either the House of Representatives or the Senate during the November General election. But to do that, the Democrats need to keep up the momentum that they showed during **THIS** election.