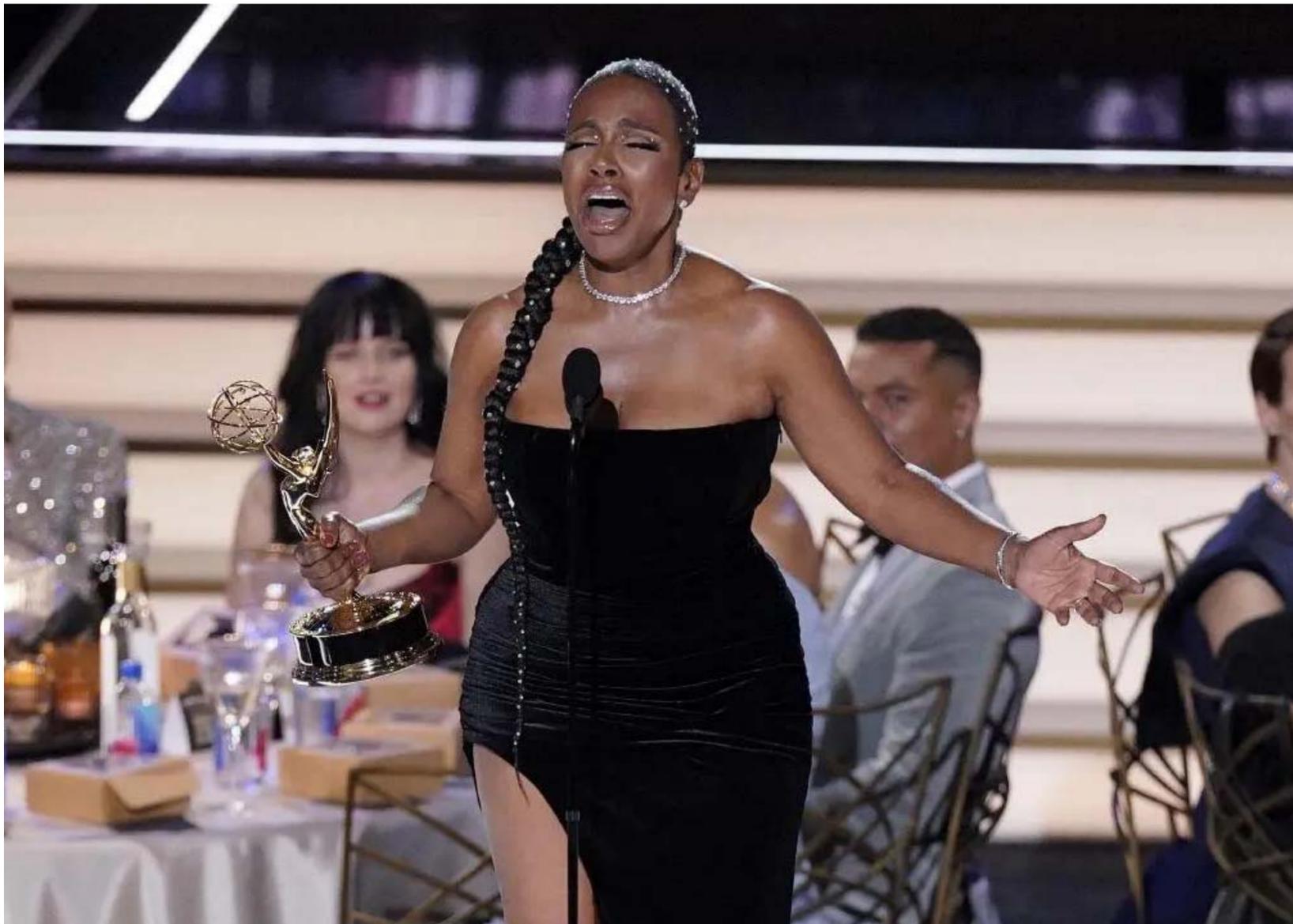


# Sheryl Lee Ralph brings crowd to tears at Emmys



Sheryl Lee Ralph sings as she accepts the Emmy for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy series for "Abbott Elementary" at the 74th Primetime Emmy Awards on Monday, Sept. 12, 2022, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. Photo by Mark Terrill/AP.

by Defender News Service

**(ENTERTAINMENT)** - As a kindergarten teacher on "Abbott Elementary," she can get an unruly class to sit up and listen. And that's exactly what Sheryl Lee Ralph did at the Emmys — capturing the attention of a packed theater and a global TV audience with a stirring acceptance speech for the ages.

It was the first Emmy (and nomination) for stage and screen veteran Ralph, at 65, and she made the most of it, delivering the ultimate feel-good moment of the Emmys.

"Abbott Elementary," from writer, producer and star Quinta Brunson, has been a smash hit for ABC, earning critical acclaim and breaking ratings records. With seven nominations, the series has

been a favorite to win in many of the categories. Ralph plays veteran teacher Barbara Howard at the fictional school.

Tearfully accepting the award, Ralph began her speech with a moving rendition of "Endangered Species" by Dianne Reeves that had the entire crowd on its feet. The actress belted out, "I am an endangered species but I sing no victim's song. I am a woman, I am an artist, and I know where my voice belongs."

Continued Ralph, "Anyone who has ever, ever had a dream and thought your dream ... couldn't come true. I am here to tell you that this is what believing looks like. This is what striving looks like. And don't you ever, ever give up on you." She went on to specifically shout out Brunson, her husband

and children in the speech.

The speech immediately got the actress trending on Twitter where viewers called it one of the best Emmys speeches of the night and of all time. One user wrote, "Give Sheryl Lee Ralph a Tony for her Emmy acceptance speech, please and thank you."

Ralph's win is also a historic one at the Emmys, as she is only the second Black actress to ever win in the category. Thirty-five years ago, Jackée Harry won for her role of Sandra Clark on "227." Harry herself celebrated Ralph's win on Twitter, congratulating the fellow actress on her new trophy, while also disclosing that Ralph was actually supposed to play Sandra all those years ago.

## Poll: Majority of Texas voters support busing migrants out of state

By Sergio Martínez-Beltrán  
The Texas Newsroom

**(TX NEWSROOM)** - Gov. Greg Abbott's controversial program of busing migrants waiting for their asylum hearings out of state has the support of a majority of Texas voters, a new poll released Wednesday found.

The Texas Politics Project surveyed 1,200 self-declared registered voters from Aug. 28 to Sept. 6.

According to the

poll, 52% of Texas voters supported Abbott's policy of busing migrants. Thirty-five percent expressed their opposition, while 14% said they were unsure.

Poll results show it is Texas Republicans who overwhelmingly support Abbott's policy, while most Democrats in the state are against it.

"As much as critics in Texas and beyond have skewered Abbott's busing of migrants to Democratically-led cities beyond Texas as election-year trolling, his combative promotion of



Washington, D.C., mayor Muriel Bowser declares public health emergency over Texas' migrant busing

the busing activates Texas Republicans' intense sense of urgency about the border, and the widespread desire among them, persistently evident in polling over the last decade, to limit the number of immigrants of all types who come to Texas," Jim Henson, executive director of the Texas Politics Project, said in a statement.

This is the first time the Texas Politics Project asked voters about Abbott's policy, which was announced in April.

The Republican initially started sending unauthorized migrants — released by the federal government while pending a court hearing — out of Texas to Washington, D.C. Since then, buses from Texas have also arrived in Chicago and New York City.

But officials in other states have also reported migrants disembarking in other cities along the way, including Chattanooga, Tennessee, creating an impact on smaller local governments.

In terms of the Texas gubernatorial race, Gov. Abbott, a Republican running for a third term, continues to lead Democrat Beto O'Rourke, by five points.

According to the poll, 45% of Texas voters surveyed signaled an intention to vote for Abbott, while 40% said they'd vote for O'Rourke.

In June, when the Texas Politics Project asked voters about the two candidates, Abbott was leading O'Rourke by six points.

"The poll illuminates an election environment in which the

Abbott and O'Rourke match-up is the most competitive race for the office Texas has seen in decades," Henson said.

He added that there's not much evidence showing the candidates being able to attract crossover voters.

Among independent voters, Abbott leads 40% to 22% — an eight-point increase for Abbott since the Texas Politics Project's last poll in June.

Meanwhile, in two other statewide races, Republicans continue to hold the lead over the Democratic candidates.

In the lieutenant governor race, Republican Dan Patrick leads Democrat Mike Collier by seven points. In the attorney general race, Republican Ken Paxton leads Democrat Rochelle Garza by five points.




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