

Jordan Peele wins Best Original Screenplay Oscar, Oscars' Recap

By Naomi Richard | VILLAGER Contributor

HOLLYWOOD, CA - Actor and director Jordan Peele made history during the 90th Oscar® Awards by becoming the first black winner of the Best Original Screenplay category. He is also the first black filmmaker ever nominated for directing, writing, and producing in the same year for his movie *Get Out*.

In a moving and motivational acceptance speech, the 39-year-old said, "This means so much to me. I stopped writing this movie about 20 times because I thought it was impossible. I thought it wasn't going to work. I thought no one would ever make this movie. But I kept coming back to it because I knew if someone let me make this movie, that people would hear it and people would see it. So I want to dedicate this to all the people who raised my voice and let me make this movie."

Peele took to Twitter writing, "When @WhoopiGoldberg won her Oscar for "Ghost" she practically reached through my TV screen and told young me to follow my dreams. I did, and it worked. Thanks Whoopi."

The *Shape of Water* was the big winner of the night taking home Best Picture, Best Director, Best Original Music Score and Best Production Design honors.

Five-time NBA Champion Kobe Bryant took home an Oscar® in the Best Animated Short Film category for his work as the executive producer of *Dear Basketball*. The piece journeys through Bryant's basketball career, starting when he was a child and venturing into his stardom with the Los Angeles Lakers. Bryant received an Oscar® for the work that he and Glen Keane Productions did to put it together. Bryant's bilingual eloquence in his acceptance speech, coupled with the evidence of his success in this entertainment venue, coming on the heels of a storied professional basketball career, prompted one observer to quip, "Is there anything he can't do?"

Gael García Bernal, Mary J. Blige, Andra Day, Natalia LaFourcade, Miguel, Keala Settle, Sufjan Stevens



[TOP LEFT] - Oscar® nominee Kobe Bryant and Vanessa Laine Bryant arrive on the red carpet of The 90th Oscars® at the Dolby® Theatre in Hollywood, CA on Sunday, March 4, 2018. Credit: Michael Baker / A.M.P.A.S. [TOP RIGHT] - Tiffany Haddish arrives on the red carpet of The 90th Oscars® at the Dolby® Theatre in Hollywood, CA on Sunday, March 4, 2018. Credit: Michael Baker / A.M.P.A.S. [LEFT] - Mary J. Blige, Oscar® nominee for actress in a supporting role and for music (original song), arrives on the red carpet of The 90th Oscars® at the Dolby® Theatre in Hollywood, CA on Sunday, March 4, 2018. Credit: Michael Baker / A.M.P.A.S.

and Oscar® winner Common performed this year's nominated songs at the 90th Oscars® ceremony.

A note on fashion is a must! On the red carpet, Oscar® Winner and star of *How To Get Away With Murder*, Viola Davis wore a stunning sleeveless bright pink gown by the Michael Kors Collection. Davis was also a presenter for the evening.

Comedian and actress Tiffany Haddish, star of box-office hit *Girls Trip*, was quite entertaining. The fun began on the red carpet as she jumped over the rope to meet her idol, Meryl Streep. Who does that while wearing an Eritrean dress known as Zuria? *Hilarious!* The cream-colored gown showcased black and gold

embroidery along with a matching black cape. Quite stunning!

Finally, R&B nine-time Grammy-Award-winning singer, Mary J. Blige arrived in an Atelier Versace gown with a Roger Vivier clutch. Adorned in her elegant attire, Blige made history while being nominated for Best Supporting Actress for her role in *Mudbound*, as well as Best Original Song for *Mighty River*. This makes her the first person to be nominated for an acting award and an award for best original song at the same Oscars®.

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