

African Americans Gain Recognition at the Oscars

Black actors break records for nominees



(Clockwise) Eddie Murphy, Jennifer Hudson, Forest Whitaker and Will Smith helped garner more Oscar nods than any other year in the award's history.

African Americans and Africans continue to kick in the door of exclusion with a record five nominations in major acting categories for the 79th Annual Academy Awards.

Last week at the Golden Globes, seven awards out of 25 categories were awarded to nominees of color — easily the most diverse list of winners ever witnessed at a mainstream

awards show.

This year's Oscars have five actors nominated in major categories (Forest Whitaker, Will Smith, Jennifer Hudson, Djimon Hounsou and Eddie Murphy) and three (Whitaker, Hudson and Murphy) with a solid chance to win. For those who are older than thirty, you'll remember it wasn't always this way:

From 1927 to 1959 there were a total of four African Americans nominated with one win, Hattie McDaniel for "Gone With the Wind."

The 1960s were notable for the obvious omissions of Sidney Poitier, keeping a status quo at the awards show despite sweeping changes across the country. Poitier became the first African American to win the Best Actor award in 1963 for "Lilies of the Field."

The 1970s five nominations were a decade high, but the only two Oscars won came in Best Song Category (Issac Hayes, "Shaft" and Donna Summer for "Last Dance.")

There were 12 nominations in the 1980s, but only two supporting performances merited an Oscar — Louis Gossett Jr. in "An Officer and a Gentleman" and Denzel Washington in "Glory."

In the 1990s there were 12 more nominations and once again only Whoopie Goldberg ("Ghost") and Cuba Gooding Jr. ("Jerry Maguire") netted wins.

Since 2000, African American actors have been respected by the industry by garnering a record 15 nominations, and for wins for Washington's rogue cop in "Training Day," Halle Berry's controversial role in "Monster's Ball," Jamie Foxx's electrifying turn in "Ray" and Morgan Freeman's sage trainer in "Million Dollar Baby."



"Dreamgirls" stars Jennifer Hudson, Anika Noni Rose, Beyonce Knowles and Jamie Foxx step out in style at the Cannes Film Festival. The musical story of the all-black singing group makes for a record-breaking year in African American nominations at the 79th Annual Academy Awards.

Obituaries

Barber 'Cash' had an Infectious Laugh

Elijah Garfield Cash

Services were held at Bethel AME Church on Monday for Elijah Garfield Cash, who died Jan. 14, 2007.

He was born Nov. 12, 1914, the fourth child of eight sons and three daughters parented by Christopher Columbus and Elnora Gardner Cash, in the rural community of Center Pointe, Texas.

He grew up playing hard and working even harder on his parents' farm. He was active in the Center Pointe Baptist Church and graduated from Center Pointe High School.

Foregoing his dream of college to become a teacher, he helped his family financially by barbering as a young boy. While barbering at a Conservation Corps Camp in Winsboro, Texas, he met Willa Stewart and they married on Feb. 1, 1941.

During World War II, Garfield was recruited by the military to barber and the newly weds moved to Camp Walters in Mineral Wells, Texas

where their only child Howard Earl was born May 26, 1942.

In 1946, the family moved to Vancouver, Wash. where Garfield labored in the shipyards and barbered at the Hathaway Army Base. After the war, Cash, as he was now known, moved across the river to Portland and teamed up with Charles Maxey to form a working relationship that would span almost 40 years.

Cash kept the air light with his infectious laugh, regaling customers with stories of country life, the latest updates on the soap operas and a joke repertoire that would shame many comedians. Whenever a person needed to have their spirits lifted, the barbershop was just the remedy. Sharing his pearls of wisdom and stories, Cash delighted all that came within range of his voice.

Cash and Willa joined Bethel A.M.E. Church and he became a bass in the choir where his booming voice could be heard throughout the church. He was also active on the church build-

ing committee and served as a principal cook for Men's Day activities. In 1986, Willa made her transition after succumbing to cancer.

A bachelor for over two years, Cash traveled often to Texas to visit his elderly parents and his beloved niece, Peggy Shivers in Denver, Colo. On one of those fateful trips, he met Peggy's next door neighbor, Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Laird, whom he married Oct. 13, 1988 in Portland. Shortly thereafter, he retired from barbering to pursue his hobbies of cooking, watching television and gardening.

He was preceded in death by his son Howard in 2006. He is survived by his wife, Betty; his brothers Dillard, George, and Arthuree Cash; a sister Lurlene Aderson; five grandchildren, Anthony Cash, Gretchen Matila, Tammy Johnson, Trevor Cash and Christie Cash, as well as eight great-grandchildren.

His love, devotion, service and unselfish support of his family and the community-at-large will be sorely missed.

She will be missed dearly, but never forgotten. She was preceded in death by her parents and her son Donald G. Smith Jr.; a brother Charles Dobson Sr.; and a sister Anna English.

She is survived by her daughters Natasha Harrison, Jazmyn Smith and Lillian Harrell; granddaughters Nataiya Rounds and Makiyla Rounds; and sister Virginia Harrell, all of Portland.

She also leaves to cherish her memory, long time companion Donald G. Smith Sr., a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

In Loving Memory

Janice Harrell-Stewart

Services were held last Friday at Antioch Church in north Portland for Janice Harrell-Stewart, who died Jan. 13, 2007.

She was born Janice Marie Stewart on Oct. 2, 1956 to Lillian Harrell and Otis Williams of Portland, the youngest of four children.

She attended Linnton Elementary School, John Adams' High School and Phagan's Cosmetology School of Beauty. She was a home-

maker and stay-at-home mom for her two young daughters.

Jan enjoyed her family and friends. She especially loved having her 7-month-old great niece, Jade come over and visit. She loved to listen to music and dance around the house as she cleaned or cooked. She enjoyed reading the Bible and reading novels; doing crossword puzzles and watching crime investigation shows.

She would write notes and goals for herself and would place them in her Bible or wallet to help her achieve these goals every day.

Karen & Darnell Taylor



Karen Taylor

Services will be held:

January 25, 2007
Thursday
10:00 a.m.

Emanuel Temple Church
1033 NE Sumner
Portland, Oregon

Arrangements Entrusted By:

Cox & Cox Funeral Chapel
2736 NE Rodney Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97212
(503) 281-4891



Darnell Taylor

Students Share Jefferson's Story

continued from Metro

said. "It became easy for me to help them use this medium, and they learned that their voices are powerful and can be heard."

The students have also been encouraged to spread the message by distributing the video. Another screening is planned for a Portland Public Schools celebration on Feb. 3. Plans for the Oprah and the Tyra Banks shows are next.

"We learned we shouldn't be

holding back inside," said Jefferson student Tiffany Stewart. "It's not right, and this can help us."

The message hit closer to home as Jefferson Principal Leon Dudley sat in the audience, taking notes throughout the film and during a question and answer session afterward. Dudley said he plans to hold formal conversations more often with his students, after hearing their opinions of the newly closed campus and dissatisfaction over a fence that surrounds the entire school.

"I saw how being encased with a fence impacted the students," he said. "I see the fence as a symbol of Jefferson's comparison to other schools."

Many of the students have younger siblings who attend Jefferson's feeder elementary and middle schools. Stewart's brothers, Demarcus and Jaqude, will arrive at Jefferson in just a few years, and she hopes the perceptions she must challenge will be gone by that time.



In Memory
of **Joyce
Washington**
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# 4 - 2 BBQ PORK RIBS 2-WINGS w/ FF & TOAST.....	\$6.50
# 5 - 1 HOT LINK, 2 BBQ PORK RIBS w/ FF & TOAST.....	\$5.50
# 6 - 2 PCS WHITTING, 1 PCS SNAPPER w/ FF & TOAST...	\$5.50
# 7 - 1 BBQ PORK RIB, 1 PCS CATFISH, 1 PCS SNAPPER, 1 WING w/ FF.....	\$6.50
# 8 - 2 PCS CATFISH, 3 SHRIMP w/ FF & TOAST.....	\$6.50
# 9 - 3 PCS WHITTING FISH w/ FF & TOAST.....	\$4.50

All side dishes \$2.50 with any above listed combination.

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Peninsula Little League 2007
(Serving the Youth of Inner North & Northeast Portland ages 5-14)
visit our website at: www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague
Registration available on-line beginning January 10, 2007

<p>Softball Program</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Ages</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor</td> <td>7 - 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>10 - 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior</td> <td>13 - 14</td> </tr> </table> <p>Questions contact Mark Washington -- 503-901-1722 markw@portlandobserver.com</p>	Level	Ages	Minor	7 - 9	Major	10 - 12	Junior	13 - 14	<p>Regular Sign-ups \$64/T-Ball, \$74 All other levels This fee includes the pepperoni fund raiser. Sell one bag of pepperoni and get \$24 off fee. Each bag contains 24 sticks</p> <p>Peninsula Park Community Center 700 N Portland Blvd January 27th February 3rd, 10th, and 17th 9:00 am to 1:00 pm</p> <p>Registration forms can be picked up Mon-Fri 9am-5pm at the Portland Observer, 4747 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.</p>	<p>Baseball Program</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Ages</th> </tr> <tr> <td>T-Ball</td> <td>5 - 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farm</td> <td>7 - 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor</td> <td>7 - 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>10 - 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior</td> <td>13 - 14</td> </tr> </table> <p>Question contact Jjay Lincoln ~ 503-810-8202</p>	Level	Ages	T-Ball	5 - 6	Farm	7 - 8	Minor	7 - 9	Major	10 - 12	Junior	13 - 14
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Little League Baseball, Incorporated does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference or religious preference.

Pick up registration from the Portland Observer
Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm, 4747 NE MLK Jr. Blvd, Portland OR