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Inside the 2013 Emmy Awards

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By [Adrienne Papp](#)

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This being Hollywood, you can count on awards shows delivering both the routinely predictable and surprising upsets as they celebrate the best and brightest in the entertainment industry. The 2013 Primetime [Emmy Awards](#) was definitely a memorable showcase, as we rooted for our favorite shows and hoped to see something funny, unpredictable or moving. Sunday night's broadcast had a lot of those moments, which is what makes these shows worth watching.

[Tina Fey](#) and [Amy Poehler](#) kicked off the show with a comic bit before presenting the first Emmy of the evening, sitting in the front row as they munched on popcorn and heckled host [Neil Patrick Harris](#), daring him to "take your pants off, and twerk it!"

[Will Ferrell](#) always brings his deadpan sense of humor to any show, and brought his children with him onstage as a presenter, explaining to the audience that "I couldn't find childcare, OK?"

In accepting his award best Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie for [Behind the Candelabra](#), [Michael Douglas](#) definitely livened up the Emmys with a funny and sometimes off-color acceptance speech. Directing a few suggestive jokes towards co-star Matt Damon, who sat giggling in response, he accepted his award for best Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie for [Behind the Candelabra](#). Douglas also was a gentleman in thanking his still-wife [Catherine Zeta-Jones](#) and his son Cameron, who's currently in jail.



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In what many industry insiders thought might have been the best Emmy acceptance speech ever, [Merritt Wever](#) surprised the audience with maybe the shortest speech ever. Accepting an award for best Supporting

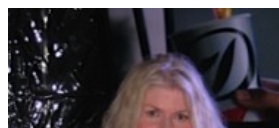
Actress for her work on [Nurse Jackie](#), Wever proved that sometimes less is really more, saying "thank you so much, thank you so much. I have to go now, goodbye."



In a more

serious vein, [Edie Falco](#) touched the audience with a heartfelt In Memoriam Tribute to her long-time Sopranos co-star [James Gandolfini](#). "You all knew James Gandolfini the actor. I was lucky enough to know Jim the man," she said, holding back tears.

In terms of the actual awards themselves, the night's big winners included AMC's [Breaking Bad](#) for best drama, the show's first win in the category. [Anna Gunn](#) also won a supporting actress award for the series. As for the upsets, it was a surprise to industry pundits that Jeff Daniels took home the best actor prize for HBO's [The Newsroom](#). An even bigger upset was scored by [Bobby Cannavale](#), who won as supporting actor on



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HBO's Prohibition drama [Boardwalk Empire](#).



In the comedy races, [Tony Hale](#) of [Veep](#) won for best supporting actor over a trio of nominees from ABC's [Modern Family](#), which won for outstanding comedy series and had produced a winner in the supporting actor category for the past three years.



Adrienne Papp, red carpet arrival

As for surprises in the TV movie or miniseries categories, [Laura Linney](#) won for best actress for her work on [The Big C: Hereafter](#). [Ellen Burstyn](#), a star of USA's [Political Animals](#), won the best supporting actress Emmy that most predicted would go to [Sarah Paulson](#) of [American Horror Story](#). And [Abi Morgan](#) ([The Hours](#)) took the award for best writing over favored [Richard LaGravenese](#) ([Behind the Candelabra](#)).

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In a night of upsets, the only solid favorites to win included [Julia Louis-Dreyfus](#) in [Veep](#) for best actress in a comedy series and [Behind the Candelabra](#) for best TV movie or miniseries, with [Steven Soderbergh](#) and Michael Douglas winning for directing and acting in the best TV movie or miniseries director and actor.

All in all, in addition to the red carpet glamour, the 2013 Emmy Awards Show was fun and unpredictable, with several touching tributes to stars that had passed. It was a fitting celebration of a medium that is now in a fully-fledged golden age of creativity.



Key

winners:

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series:

Jeff Daniels, *The Newsroom*

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series

Claire Danes, *Homeland*

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie

Michael Douglas, *Behind the Candelabra*

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series

Jim Parsons, *The Big Bang Theory*

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series

Julia Louis-Dreyfus, *Veep*

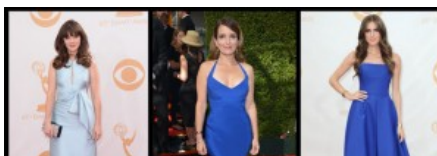
Outstanding Reality-Competition Series

The Voice

Outstanding Variety Series

The Colbert Report

Outstanding Drama Series



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Breaking Bad

Outstanding Comedy Series



Modern Family

Outstanding Miniseries or Movie

Behind the Candelabra

Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series

Bobby Cannavale, Boardwalk Empire

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series

Anna Gunn, Breaking Bad

Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series

Tony Hale, Veep

Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series

Merritt Wever, Nurse Jackie



About the Author of This Article: Lady Adrienne Papp is a recognized journalist, economist and feature writer who has written for many publications including Savoir, Beverly Hills 90210, Malibu Beach, Santa Monica Sun, The Beverly Hills Times, Brentwood News, Bel-Air View, Celebrity Society, Celeb Staff, It Magazine, Chic Today, LA2DAY, West Side Today among many others. She is the President and CEO of Los Angeles / New York-based publicity company, Atlantic Publicity and publishing house, Atlantic Publisher. Adrienne writes about world trends, Quantum Physics, entertainment and interviews celebrities, world leaders, inventors, philanthropists and entrepreneurs. She also owns Atlantic United Films that produces and finances true stories made for theatrical release or the silver screen. Spotlight News Magazine is owned by Atlantic United, Inc. Dame Adrienne Papp is a member of the International Press Academy.



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Stephanie

Sep 26, 2013, 10:53

This is a very good summary of the Emmys. I am sooo happy for Michael Douglas! Not only he overcame a terrible health problem but he has won the Emmy Award. This shows how good, tough work and not giving up really brings fruition. You get rewarded by life!

Sandy

Sep 26, 2013, 10:54

I LOVE how the writer points out the unexpected events. It almost looks like the events even in Hollywood reflect the unexpectedness in the World right now.

Klaus
Sep 26, 2013, 10:55

I wonder when Hollywood will finally do something about what is going on in this country. It is almost as if they were still too surprised or scared? Or??? I am looking for a movie or something about the current chaos.

Shira
Sep 26, 2013, 10:56

An easy and smooth read. I missed watching the Emmys and this article was easy to read and get the picture.

Era
Sep 26, 2013, 11:03

Thank you for the article, very, very nice and precise...easy to understand.

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