WIF ANNOUNCES SALMA HAYEK PINAULT, ADRIA ARJONA, GEMMA CHAN, BETH DE ARAÚJO, AND PAMELA ABDY AS 2026 HONOREES

JANE FONDA TO PRESENT SALMA HAYEK PINAULT WITH THE JANE FONDA HUMANITARIAN AWARD

NANCY MEYERS TO PRESENT PAMELA ABDY WITH INAUGURAL VANGUARD AWARD

WIF Honors will be held on November 5 at The Beverly Hilton,
presented by Max Mara with additional support from
Delta Air Lines, STARZ #TakeTheLead, and Warner Bros. Discovery

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LOS ANGELES, CA – October 1, 2026 – WIF (Women In Film) announced today that **Pamela Abdy, Adria Arjona**, **Beth de Araújo** and **Gemma Chan,** and **Salma Hayek Pinault** will be honored at the 2026 WIF Honors on Thursday, November 5, at The Beverly Hilton. This year's WIF Honors will emphasize the power of expansive storytelling and its ability to ignite change, spark dialogue, drive economic growth, and reimagine what's possible when the people in front of and behind the camera truly reflect the world's population.

WIF Honors, a benefit gala hosted by Women In Film, is one of Hollywood's most anticipated evenings, celebrating today's leading voices who are driving gender equity across the industry. The event is WIF's largest fundraiser of the year, directly funding the organization's advocacy, research, and career programs. Tickets and tables are on sale today at WIF.org/Honors.

The 2026 WIF Honorees include:

- Vanguard Award: **Pamela Abdy** presented to her by **Nancy Meyers**
- WIF Max Mara Face of the Future® Award: **Adria Arjona** presented to her by **Maria Giulia Prezioso Maramotti**
- The Crystal Award for Advocacy in Film: **Gemma Chan** and **Beth de Araújo** for their collaboration on *Josephine*
- The Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award: **Salma Hayek Pinault** presented to her by **Jane Fonda**

"The 2026 honorees exemplify what WIF stands for: visionary work, fierce community, and lifting up the next generation. At a time when our Reframe research reveals a sobering backslide for women and nonbinary people in this industry, it is vital to celebrate leaders committed to transformation. Pamela Abdy, Beth de Araújo, Adria Arjona, Gemma Chan, and Salma Hayek

bring indelible stories to the screen, while actively building a more inclusive culture." - **WIF CEO Kirsten Schaffer**

"We are proud of this slate of honorees, especially Pam Abdy, whose fearless advocacy for storytellers has helped shape the films that define our industry. We're equally proud to honor Adria, Salma, Gemma, and Beth, women of color in an industry where they remain underrepresented both on and off screen. All of these women deserve recognition, and we can't wait to celebrate them this November." - **Victoria Alonso and Andrea Nelson Meigs, WIF Honors Co-Chairs**

Co-chair and CEO of Warner Bros. Motion Picture Group, **Pamela Abdy**, will be honored with the inaugural Vanguard Award, a recognition that celebrates a leader whose career embodies the qualities that move the entire industry forward. Since joining the studio in 2022, she has overseen a slate that includes *Sinners*, *One Battle After Another*, *Digger, Weapons*, *Dune: Part Two*, *Barbie*, *A Minecraft Movie, Beetlejuice Beetlejuice, Wonka*, *Practical Magic 2,* and *Wuthering Heights*, helping drive record-breaking box office success and industry-leading awards recognition. Under her leadership, Warner Bros. Motion Picture Group tied the all-time studio record with 11 Academy Awards in 2025 from an industry-leading 30 Academy Award nominations.

Previously announced, actor **Adria Arjona** will continue the legacy of the Max Mara Face of the Future® Award, which recognizes a rising star who embodies style and grace. As one of Hollywood's most sought-after talents, Arjona continues to build an impressive slate of projects. From her spectacular performance in the critically acclaimed Disney+ *Andor* series to serving as an executive producer for *Los Frikis* and *Splitsville,* Arjona is a creative force that is paving the way for all women. She most recently led the A24 action thriller "Onslaught" (2026) from Adam Wingard and will next be seen starring in Amazon MGM's reimagined "The Thomas Crown Affair" (2027) as the female lead opposite Michael B. Jordan.

Director, writer, and producer **Beth de Araújo** and actor and producer **Gemma Chan** *(in absentia)* will be honored for their film, *Josephine,* with the Crystal Award for Advocacy in Film, which recognizes outstanding individuals who are creating increased opportunities for the advancement of women in the screen industries. A Sundance 2026 hit, the film won the U.S. Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award. This recognition carries particular resonance for Women In Film as a nonprofit organization. WIF met both honorees early in their careers — Beth through WIF's 2018 Financing Intensive, and Gemma as the 2020 WIF Max Mara Face of the Future® honoree — at pivotal moments that helped shape their trajectories. This award stands as a testament to WIF's mission in action.

Academy Award® nominee and Emmy Award winner **Salma Hayek Pinault** will receive the Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award, named for its inaugural recipient, Jane Fonda, in 2021. Fonda and WIF selected Hayek Pinault for this honor in recognition of her historic filmography that spans multiple genres in both film and television and for her advocacy for the rights of women, children, and immigrants. Alongside her husband Francois-Henri Pinault, she founded The Kering Foundation, which leads initiatives aimed at liberating women around the world from sexual, physical, and emotional abuse. She has also played a key role in instrumental philanthropic efforts, including a number of Gucci's Chime For Change campaigns aimed at advancing education, health, and justice for girls, and combating domestic violence, along with taking part in the "Chime for Education" campaign for Syrian refugee support in partnership with

UNICEF. In 2017, after a series of natural disasters struck Mexico, Hayek Pinault spearheaded fundraising efforts and helped raise nearly $1 million for earthquake relief funds for victims. During the disaster relief effort, she also partnered with the PepsiCo Foundation and Habitat for Humanity to deliver 180 houses for displaced victims of the earthquake. Hayek remains actively engaged in a range of pressing social justice issues and is a longtime supporter of multiple leading nonprofit organizations including Baby2Baby, Girl Effect, and Fondo Semilla.

Alongside Alonso and Meigs, the WIF Honors Committee is comprised of WIF Board of Directors President Syrinthia Studer and WIF Board of Directors members Tara Duncan, Ivette Rodriguez, Rachel Rusch, and Jurnee Smollett. WIF Honors is presented by Max Mara with additional support from Delta Air Lines, STARZ #TakeTheLead, and Warner Bros. Discovery. The event is designed and produced by Anchor Street Collective.

Press Kit Available HERE
(Includes headshots and bios of honorees and presenters)

About WIF and the Awards
Founded in 1973 as Women in Film, WIF has championed gender equity in the screen industries for more than 50 years through strategic advocacy campaigns, career development programs, and industry-leading research. WIF drives meaningful change in the screen industries by building pathways for emerging talent across various disciplines, sustaining careers at every level, and dismantling systemic bias. The organization's initiatives have supported thousands of professionals across film, television, and streaming, creating lasting impact both in front of and behind the camera. Membership is open to everyone. Kirsten Schaffer is WIF's Chief Executive Officer and Syrinthia Studer is the President of the Board of Directors. Follow WIF on Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, X, and YouTube. Learn more at WIF.org.

Since 1977, WIF has annually honored outstanding women in the entertainment industry who have broken ground and excelled in their chosen fields. Outstanding individuals who have been honored in past WIF awards programs include Lucille Ball, Halle Berry, Cate Blanchett, Glenn Close, Viola Davis, Ava DuVernay, Nora Ephron, Jane Fonda, Audrey Hepburn, Nicole Kidman, Donna Langley, Jennifer Lopez, Marlee Matlin, Mira Nair, Shonda Rhimes, Meryl Streep, Zendaya, and many more iconic women. View the WIF Awards Retrospective here.

The Crystal Award for Advocacy celebrates those who, through their success, are creating increased opportunities for the advancement of women working throughout the screen industries: in front of and behind the camera. Established in 1977 to honor outstanding individuals who, through their endurance and the excellence of their work, have helped to expand the role of women within the entertainment industry.

The Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award honors women who have used their prominent entertainment industry profiles to effect radical change and shed light on issues using their powerful voices. Previously named the Norma Zarky Humanitarian Award, it was renamed for honoree Jane Fonda in 2021, in recognition of her fearlessness in speaking out and inspiring generations of activists. Jane Fonda presents this award each year at WIF Honors.

The WIF Max Mara Face of the Future Award® is presented to an actress who is experiencing a turning point in her career through her work in the film and television industries, through her contributions to the community at large, in recognition of her outstanding achievements, and

her embodiment of style and grace. Past recipients include Maude Apatow, Joey King, Yara Shahidi, Lili Reinhart, Zazie Beetz, Gemma Chan, Elizabeth Debicki, Alexandra Shipp, Zoey Deutch, Natalie Dormer, Kate Mara, Rose Byrne, Hailee Steinfeld, Chloë Grace Moretz, Katie Holmes, Zoë Saldana, Elizabeth Banks, Ginnifer Goodwin, Emily Blunt, and Maria Bello.

Vanguard Award is a new addition to WIF Honors, created to recognize a leader whose career embodies the qualities that move the entire industry forward — not just influence, but the courage to use it. It honors someone who has risen through the ranks by force of perseverance, who takes creative risks that pay off commercially and critically, and who treats the advancement of women in entertainment as central to leadership, not peripheral to it.

About Max Mara, Presenting Sponsor

Founded in 1951 by the late visionary Achille Maramotti, Max Mara is one of the highest expressions of Italian luxury and style. A contemporary collection of ready-to-wear and accessories for today's powerful women. Recognized for its timeless designs and its luxurious fabrics, Max Mara is revered for the classification of the absolute coat, sharp suiting, and modern accessories. Max Mara is distributed in 2,300 locations in more than 100 countries worldwide. The Max Mara Fashion Group counts nine different brands. The company remains privately held and managed by the Maramotti family.

About Delta Air Lines, Major Sponsor

Delta Air Lines connects people to more than 300 destinations across six continents, with 100,000 Delta people making those connections possible every day. But some of our greatest journeys start at home.

At Delta, we believe every story deserves the chance to be told. That's why we support Women in Film and the women shaping the future of screen storytelling. Through WIF's Film Finishing Fund, Delta helps provide a missing piece of the production: a plane ticket that can get a filmmaker to a festival, a shoot location or wherever she needs to go to get her film across the finish line and in front of an audience. Because when we have more stories from diverse voices, we have a fuller, truer picture of the world we all share.

That commitment carries through Delta's sponsorship of the 2026 WIF Honors, where we're proud to help fund the advocacy, research and career programs opening doors for the next generation of women in film.

About STARZ, Major Sponsor

STARZ (NASDAQ: STRZ) is the leading premium entertainment destination for women and underrepresented audiences, and home to some of the most popular franchises and series on television. STARZ offers a robust programming mix for discerning adult audiences, including boundary-breaking originals and an expansive lineup of blockbuster movies, and is embodied by its brand positioning "We're All Adults Here." Complementary to any platform or service, STARZ is available across a wide range of digital OTT platforms and multichannel video distributors and is a bundling partner of choice. STARZ is powered by an industry-leading advanced technology, data analytics and digital infrastructure and the highly rated and first-of-its-kind STARZ app.

About Warner Bros. Discovery, Major Sponsor

Warner Bros. Discovery is a leading global media and entertainment company that creates and distributes the world's most differentiated and complete portfolio of branded content across television, film, streaming and gaming. Warner Bros. Discovery inspires, informs and entertains audiences worldwide through its iconic brands and products including: Discovery Channel, HBO Max, discovery+, CNN, DC, TNT Sports, Eurosport, HBO, HGTV, Food Network, OWN, Investigation Discovery, TLC, Magnolia Network, TNT, TBS, truTV, Travel Channel, Animal Planet, Science Channel, Warner Bros. Motion Picture Group, Warner Bros. Television Group, Warner Bros. Pictures Animation, Warner Bros. Games, New Line Cinema, Cartoon Network, Adult Swim, Turner Classic Movies, Discovery en Español, Hogar de HGTV and others. For more information, please visit www.wbd.com.

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