



**WOMEN IN FILM, LOS ANGELES CELEBRATES
2015 CRYSTAL + LUCY AWARDS® HONOREES:**

**NICOLE KIDMAN, JILL SOLOWAY, AVA DuVERNAY,
KATE MARA, SUE KROLL and TONI HOWARD**

The Annual Benefit Gala will take place on Tuesday, June 16 at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza

Los Angeles, CA, (March 31, 2015) - Since 1977, Women In Film, Los Angeles has annually honored outstanding women in the entertainment industry – women who lead by example, who are creative, groundbreaking, and who excel at their chosen fields. This year’s Crystal + Lucy Awards® fundraising dinner, in support of WIF LA’s educational and philanthropic programs and its advocacy for gender parity for women throughout the industry, is being held on **Tuesday, June 16** in the Los Angeles Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza in Century City.

This year’s Crystal + Lucy Award honorees are:

- **2015 Crystal Award for Excellence in Film – NICOLE KIDMAN**
- **2015 Lucy Award for Excellence in Television – JILL SOLOWAY**
- **2015 Dorothy Arzner Directors Award® – AVA DuVERNAY**
- **The Women In Film Max Mara “Face of the Future®” 2015 – KATE MARA**
Presented by NICOLA MARAMOTTI, Global Brand Ambassador for Max Mara
- **2015 Tiffany & Co. / Bruce Paltrow Mentorship Award – SUE KROLL**
- **2015 Sue Mengers Award – TONI HOWARD**

The 2015 Crystal + Lucy Awards is sponsored by Presenting Sponsors **Max Mara, BMW of North America, and Tiffany & Co.**

Cathy Schulman, President of Women In Film, Los Angeles, said in making the announcement, “We are proud to celebrate an extraordinary line-up of honorees this year. Each one of these women has made extraordinary contributions to the media art, and as a group they have forged sustainable careers that are emblematic of the positive and long overdue change that is taking root for women in Hollywood.”

Iris Grossman, President Emerita of Women In Film, Los Angeles, returning this year as Chair of the Awards, said “This year’s honorees are all women who have helped change the face of the business. Through their insight, determination, resilience and talent, they add substance and depth to their creative endeavors and to the entertainment industry as a whole.”

About the Honorees

Nicole Kidman / Crystal Award for Excellence in Film

Academy Award winning actress **Nicole Kidman** is internationally-recognized for her range and versatility.

In 2002, Kidman was honored with her first Oscar nomination for her performance in the innovative musical, *Moulin Rouge!* For that role, and her performance in the psychological thriller *The Others*, she received dual 2002 Golden Globe nominations, winning for Best Actress in a Musical. In 2003, Kidman won an Academy Award, a Golden Globe Award, a BAFTA Award and a Berlin Silver Bear for her portrayal of Virginia Woolf in Stephen Daldry’s *The*

Hours. In 2010 Kidman starred in *Rabbit Hole*, for which she received Academy Award, Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild and Independent Spirit Award nominations for Best Actress. The film was developed by Kidman's production company, Blossom Films. In October 2012 Kidman starred in Lee Daniel's *The Paperboy*. Her performance earned her an AACTA, Screen Actors Guild and Golden Globe nomination.

Upcoming films include *Strangerland*, *The Family Fang* and *Genius*. Kidman is currently in production on *The Secret in Their Eyes*. Next up, she will be shooting The Weinstein Company's *Lion*.

In January of 2006, Kidman was awarded Australia's highest honor, the Companion in the Order of Australia. She was also named, and continues to serve, as Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, UN Women, whose goals are to foster women's empowerment and gender equality, to raise awareness of the infringement on women's human rights around the world and to end violence against women. Along with her husband, Keith Urban, she has helped raise millions over the years for the Women's Cancer Program which is a world-renowned center for research into the causes, treatment, prevention, and eventual cure of women's cancer.

Jill Soloway / Lucy Award for Excellence in Television

Jill Soloway is the creator of Amazon Studios' Golden Globe-winning, *Transparent*, a dark, deep, silly family series about boundaries, love and secrets.

Soloway won the US Dramatic Directing Award at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival for her first feature, *Afternoon Delight*. She recently founded WifeyTv, an internet brand producing and curating content to ignite the feminist revolution. Soloway is a three-time Emmy nominee for her work writing and producing *Six Feet Under*.

She co-created the theater experiences, *Real Live Brady Bunch*, *Miss Vagina Pageant*, *Hollywood Hellhouse* and *Sit N Spin*, and co-founded the community organization EAST SIDE JEWS. Soloway lives with her family in Silver Lake.

Ava DuVernay / Dorothy Arzner Directors Award

Nominated for two Academy Awards, four Golden Globes, five Critics Choice awards, eight NAACP Image Awards and five Independent Spirit Awards, writer/director **Ava DuVernay's** most recent film *Selma* chronicles the historic 1965 voting rights campaign led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

She won the Best Director Prize at the Sundance Film Festival in 2012 for her acclaimed feature *Middle of Nowhere*. Her previous narrative and documentary work includes the feature film *I Will Follow* and the documentaries *Venus Vs.*, *My Mic Sounds Nice* and *This is The Life*.

In 2010, DuVernay founded the African-American Film Festival Releasing Movement (AFFRM), a grassroots collective that distributes work from filmmakers of color. Prior to her directorial career, she worked as a film marketer and publicist for more than 14 years through her company, The DuVernay Agency.

Kate Mara / The Women In Film Max Mara "Face of the Future" Award

Kate Mara made her feature film debut in *Random Hearts* for director Sydney Pollack. She then co-starred in Ang Lee's *Brokeback Mountain* in which she portrayed Heath Ledger's daughter. She also appeared in the Academy Award nominated film *127 Hours* with James Franco for director Danny Boyle and she co-starred in *Transcendence* alongside Johnny Depp and Morgan Freeman, which marked the directorial debut of Academy Award-winning cinematographer Wally Pfister.

Mara recently completed filming on location in Budapest, director Ridley Scott's outer space action film *The Martian* alongside Matt Damon and Jessica Chastain. Last fall, she completed filming the psychological thriller *Man Down* in which she plays the wife of a war veteran, played by Shia LaBeouf and *Captive* in which she stars with David Oyelowo as a single mother struggling with meth addiction in the adaptation of the best-selling book *An Unlikely Angel*. This summer she will film *Morgan* for director Luke Scott, son of Ridley Scott, who will produce. Audiences will next see her star in *Fantastic Four* alongside Miles Teller, Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Bell.

She received an Emmy Award® nomination for her role in David Fincher's critically acclaimed television series, *House of Cards* in which she co-starred alongside Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright.

Sue Kroll/ Tiffany & Co. / Bruce Paltrow Mentorship Award

Sue Kroll is President, Worldwide Marketing and International Distribution for Warner Bros. Pictures. As marketing chief, she oversees the strategic creation and implementation of marketing campaigns for the Studio's global releases and collaborates closely with the Studio's principals on the strategic development of its slate of films.

Her leadership of global marketing has propelled the studio's releases to record-breaking box office and myriad awards. Most recently, the Best Picture Oscar nominee *American Sniper* became the top-grossing domestic film release of 2014 and has grossed more than \$500 million worldwide. Other recent successes include the *Harry Potter*, *Dark Knight*, and *The Hobbit* film series, as well as such award-winning pictures as *Gravity*, *Argo* and *The Departed*.

Kroll joined Warner Bros. in 1994 and headed International Marketing from 2000 to 2008, when she was named to her current role at the studio. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Film Independent, the Los Angeles-based non-profit that produces the Spirit Awards and the Los Angeles Film Festival, and is one of the inaugural members of Big Brothers Big Sisters' Women in Entertainment Mentorship Program.

Toni Howard / Sue Mengers Award

Toni Howard is a partner at ICM Partners. Toni joined the agency's talent department in 1991 and quickly became a leader in the division, having served as its department head for the better part of a decade. She oversees a celebrated and eclectic group of actors who appear in film, television and on stage and have garnered an astonishing 46 Academy Award® nominations, 148 Emmy® nominations, and 125 Golden Globe® nominations. Among her award-winning clients are Alan Alda, Candice Bergen, Michael Caine, Bobby Cannavale, Edie Falco, Samuel L. Jackson, Topher Grace, Holly Hunter, Michael Keaton, Nathan Lane, Spike Lee, Laura Linney, Catherine O'Hara, Lily Rabe, Christina Ricci, Tim Robbins, Michael Sheen, Maggie Smith, James Spader, Julia Stiles, and Christopher Walken. Throughout her career at ICM Partners, Toni has mentored many young agents to incredibly successful careers of their own.

Prior to joining ICM, Toni was an agent at the William Morris Agency for seven years. She began her entertainment industry career as a casting director, working on such iconic projects as *Tootsie*, *Superman*, *The Right Stuff* and *Something About Amelia*.

Recognized by her distinctive voice, Toni was cast by director Alexander Payne as the voice of agent 'Evelyn Berman-Silverman' in the film *Sideways*.

About Women In Film and the Awards

Women In Film is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting equal opportunities for women, encouraging creative projects by women, and expanding and enhancing portrayals of women in all forms of global media. Given that women comprise fifty percent of the population, WIF's ultimate goal is to see the same gender parity reflected on and off screen. Founded in 1973, WIF focuses on advocacy and education, provides scholarships, grants and film finishing funds and works to preserve the legacies of all women working in the entertainment community. For more information visit www.wif.org.

The Crystal Awards were established in 1977 to honor outstanding women who, through their endurance and the excellence of their work, have helped to expand the role of women within the entertainment industry. Past recipients include Cate Blanchett, Laura Linney, Viola Davis, Annette Bening, Donna Langley, Jennifer Aniston, Diane English and the cast of *The Women*, Renée Zellweger, Jennifer Lopez, Sandra Bullock, Gwyneth Paltrow, Diane Lane, Halle Berry, Laura Ziskin, Jessica Lange, Meryl Streep, Jodie Foster, Angela Bassett, Meg Ryan, Susan Sarandon, Michelle Pfeiffer, Alfre Woodard, Polly Platt, Lauren Shuler Donner, Diane Warren, Amy Heckerling, Paula Weinstein, Martha Coolidge, Buffy Shutt and Kathy Jones, Gale Anne Hurd, Nancy Malone, Maya Angelou, Lily Tomlin, Ruby Dee, Penny Marshall, Jessica Tandy, Barbara Boyle, Nikki Rocco, Jean Firstenberg, Lee Remick, Lina Wertmuller,

Bette Davis, Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton, Sherry Lansing, Nora Ephron, Dawn Steel, Fay Kanin, Lillian Gish, Whoopi Goldberg, Glenn Close and Amy Pascal.

The Lucy Awards were founded in 1994 by Joanna Kerns, Bonny Dore and Loreen Arbus and are presented in association with the Lucille Ball Estate. They were named for Lucille Ball, who was not only a legendary actress and comedienne, but also a producer, studio owner, creator and director. They are given to recognize women and men and their creative works that exemplify the extraordinary accomplishments she embodied; whose excellence and innovation have enhanced the perception of women through the medium of television. Past recipients include: Kerry Washington, The Women Of *Mad Men* (Christina Hendricks, January Jones, Elisabeth Moss, Jessica Paré, Kiernan Shipka), Bonnie Hammer, Nina Tassler, Courteney Cox, Holly Hunter, Salma Hayek, Shonda Rhimes and the women of *Grey's Anatomy*, Geena Davis, Debra Messing and Megan Mullally, Blythe Danner, Lily Tomlin, Rosie O'Donnell, Amy Brenneman, Tyne Daley, Phyllis Diller, Marcy Carsey, Carol Burnett, Barbara Walters, Shari Lewis, Garry Marshall, Angela Lansbury, Marlo Thomas, Gary David Goldberg, Diahann Carroll, Tracey Ullman, Fred Silverman, Imogene Coca, Camryn Manheim, Norman Lear, Bud Yorkin and the casts of *Sex and the City*, *If These Walls Could Talk* and *If These Walls Could Talk 2*.

The **Women In Film Max Mara "Face of the Future" Award®** was inaugurated at Women In Film's 2006 Crystal + Lucy Awards®. As the 13th year as presenting sponsor and longstanding Women In Film partner, Max Mara identifies an actress who is experiencing a turning point in her career through her work in the film and television industries with focus on her contributions to the community at large and recognizes her outstanding personal achievements and embodiment of style and grace. Past recipients include: Rose Byrne, Hailee Steinfeld, Chloë Grace Moretz, Katie Holmes, Zoë Saldana, Elizabeth Banks, Ginnifer Goodwin, Emily Blunt and Maria Bello.

Dorothy Arzner was the first female member of the Directors Guild of America. In her honor, the **Dorothy Arzner Directors Award®** was established to recognize the important role women directors play in the film and television industries. Past recipients include: Jennifer Lee, Sofia Coppola, Pamela Fryman, Lisa Cholodenko, Catherine Hardwicke, Nancy Meyers, Barbra Streisand, Mimi Leder, Barbara Kopple, Gillian Armstrong, Lian Lunson, Joey Lauren Adams and Nicole Holofcener.

The Tiffany & Co. / Bruce Paltrow Mentorship Award was created to honor the late director and great mentor Bruce Paltrow. This year, WIF Presenting Sponsor Tiffany & Co. has joined the Paltrow family in recognizing an entertainment industry professional who has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to mentoring and supporting the next generation of filmmakers and executives. Past honorees include Kathleen Kennedy and Sherry Lansing.

The Sue Mengers Award, named for the legendary agent and given for the first time in 2015, will be presented annually to a representative who is, and has been, instrumental in guiding careers. Sue Mengers was an icon in the entertainment industry. She was one of the most influential talent agents of her time, when women were not the norm, and she was devoted to her clients.

About the Sponsors

Women In Film welcomes Presenting Sponsors **Max Mara, BMW of North America, and Tiffany & Co.**

Max Mara, the premiere Women's Ready-to-wear collection within the Max Mara Fashion Group, is the epitome of Italian luxury and style; a contemporary collection for the confident woman consisting of opulent fabrications with couture details applied to Women's ready-to-wear. Known for classic silhouettes with a timeless sensibility, constructed with the most luxurious fabrics, Max Mara is revered for the classification of the coat, sharp suiting and elegant accessories. Max Mara, was founded by the late visionary Achille Maramotti in 1951. The collection is now available in 2,368 locations in 100 countries. Max Mara Fashion Group counts 19 different collections. The company remains privately held and managed by the Maramotti family.

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of **BMW of North America** this year, BMW has been actively involved in the arts with hundreds of long-term initiatives. The automaker continues to lead the way with its commitment to storytellers, independent film and filmmakers across the world. BMW of North America, LLC has been present in the United

States since 1975. Rolls-Royce Motor Cars NA, LLC began distributing vehicles in 2003. The BMW Group in the United States has grown to include marketing, sales, and financial service organizations for the BMW brand of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, the MINI brand, and the Rolls-Royce brand of Motor Cars; DesignworksUSA, a strategic design consultancy in California; a technology office in Silicon Valley and various other operations throughout the country. BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC in South Carolina is part of BMW Group's global manufacturing network and is the exclusive manufacturing plant for all X5 and X3 Sports Activity Vehicles and X6 and X4 Sports Activity Coupes. The BMW Group sales organization is represented in the U.S. through networks of 339 BMW passenger car and BMW Sports Activity Vehicle centers, 146 BMW motorcycle retailers, 122 MINI passenger car dealers, and 35 Rolls-Royce Motor Car dealers. BMW (US) Holding Corp., the BMW Group's sales headquarters for North America, is located in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.

Tiffany & Co. operates jewelry stores and manufactures products through its subsidiary corporations. Its principal subsidiary is Tiffany and Company. The Company operates TIFFANY & CO. retail stores in the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Japan and Europe, as well as in the United Arab Emirates and Russia. It also engages in direct selling through Internet, catalog and business gift operations. For more information, please visit www.tiffany.com.

Media Contact

For additional information, please contact Catherine Olim, Joanna Cichocki or Christina Canseco at PMK·BNC / (310) 854-4800 or Catherine.Olim@pmkbnc.com / Joanna.cichocki@pmkbnc.com / Christina.Canseco@pmkbnc.com