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## **IT'S A PARADE OF STARS AS TV LAND HONORS DALLAS, CHEERS, GOOD TIMES, BATMAN AND GREY'S ANATOMY**

**Diana Ross, Billy Crystal, Hilary Swank, Patrick Dempsey, Robert Downey Jr.,  
Mary Tyler Moore, Sid Caesar, Patrick Duffy, Larry Hagman, Ted Danson, Kelsey  
Grammer, John Amos, Jimmy "JJ" Walker, Jeremy Piven and Quentin Tarantino  
Among Dozens of Performers Celebrating Classic TV**

Santa Monica, CA, March 19, 2006 – It was an unforgettable evening as celebrities from television, music and film bestowed special tribute awards tonight to some of television's most beloved series and stars at the fourth annual **TV Land Awards: A Celebration of Classic TV**. The honored shows included **Cheers** (Legend Award), **Dallas** (Pop Culture Award), **Good Times** (Impact Award), **Batman** (40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) and **Grey's Anatomy** (Future Classic Award). *The TV Land Awards* was taped at The Barker Hangar on Sunday, March 19 and **will air on TV Land (and simulcast on Nick at Nite) Wednesday, March 22 from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. ET/PT.**

This star-studded extravaganza featured some unforgettable moments such as when actor and comedian Billy Crystal presented TV icon Sid Caesar with The Pioneer Award. Grammy award-winning superstar Diana Ross performing a medley of her famous hits including "Touch Me in the Morning," "The Boss," "Do You Know," and "Ain't No Mountain High Enough." Acclaimed actor Robert Downey Jr. presented two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank with the Big Screen/Little Star award. Emmy-Award winner and previous *TV Land Awards* Legend Winner Mary Tyler Moore presented the cast of *Cheers* – Ted Danson, Shelly Long, Kelsey Grammer, Rhea Perlman and John Ratzenberger with this year's Legend Award. *Grey's Anatomy* creator and executive producer Shonda Rhimes accepted this year's Future Classic Award along with the cast including Justin Chambers, Patrick Dempsey, T.R. Knight, James Pickens Jr., Kate Walsh and Chandra Wilson.

Other memorable moments included:

- A TV show theme song medley showcasing the memorable theme songs from shows such as *Cheers*, *Happy Days*, *Family Ties*, *The Muppet Show*, *Dallas*, *Donny and Marie* and others featured live performances by several beloved musical stars including Johnny Mathis, Deniece Williams, James Ingram, Gary Portnoy, Donny and Marie Osmond and others.
- TV's most beloved classic TV stars spoofed one of television's most popular dramas, *Grey's Anatomy* in a parody starring several classic TV stars -- several of whom appeared in popular medical dramas -- including Bernie Kopell, Chad Everett, Diahann Carroll, Ed Begley, Jr., Loretta Swit, Richard Chamberlain, Jane Seymour as well as Larry Hagman, Maureen McCormick and Jimmy "JJ" Walker.
- Famed writer, director and actor Quentin Tarantino presenting the Impact Award to the cast of *Good Times*.
- Host Megan Mullally performing a commercial jingle medley.

The evening featured a roster of some of the most recognized talent in the history of television. Monty Hall, Wink Martindale and Peter Marshall presented the Viewer's Choice Award for "Character Most in Need of a Time Out," which resulted in a tie between *What's Happening!!*'s Danielle Spencer and Alison Arnglim of *Little House on the Prairie*. John Schneider and Tom Wopat of *Dukes of Hazzard* were reunited to present *Dallas* with the Pop Culture Award. Other stars in attendance included William Shatner (*Boston Legal*, *Star Trek*), Don Most and Anson Williams (*Happy Days*), Christopher Knight (*The Brady Bunch*) and The Muppet Show stars Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy.

The tribute awards included the following:

#### **PIONEER AWARD**

The comic brilliance of Sid Caesar was a shining light in the formative years of television. A genius of improvisation, with a chameleon-like ability to transform himself, Caesar has proven himself as a master of mime, dialects, monologues, foreign language double-talk and creating the unforgettable characters that peopled his comic sketches. TV Land honors Sid Caesar with The Pioneer Award for being one of the undisputed founding fathers of television comedy. Billy Crystal presented Sid Caesar with this award.

#### **IMPACT AWARD**

This award is given to a show that offered both entertainment and enlightenment, always striving for both humor and humanity, with comedy that reflected reality. This year's recipient is ***Good Times***. Quentin Tarantino presented this award to John Amos, Jimmy "JJ" Walker, Ja'net Dubois, BernNadette Stanis, Johnny Brown and Ralph Carter.

**LEGEND AWARD**

This award is presented to a television series which has stood the test of time and ranks among the most memorable and celebrated shows in TV history. TV Land honored **Cheers** as this year's recipient. Mary Tyler Moore presented this award to Ted Danson, Kelsey Grammer, Shelley Long, John Ratzenberger and Rhea Perlman.

**POP CULTURE AWARD**

This award is presented to a show that has crossed the line from television series to pop culture phenomenon. This year's honoree is **Dallas**. John Schneider and Tom Wopat presented this award to Larry Hagman, Patrick Duffy, Linda Gray, Charlene Tilton, Steve Kanaly, Susan Howard, Sheree Wilson, Ken Kercheval and Mary Crosby.

**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF BATMAN**

One of the most memorable series of all times, **Batman**, celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and was honored tonight with William Shatner presenting to Adam West and Burt Ward.

**FUTURE CLASSIC AWARD**

ABC's critically-acclaimed smash hit series, **Grey's Anatomy**, was awarded this year's TV Land Future Classic Award. *Entourage* star Jeremy Piven presented creator and executive producer Shonda Rhimes, the creative team – Betsy Beers, Mark Gordon and Peter Horton - and members of the cast of *Grey's Anatomy* – Justin Chambers, Patrick Dempsey, T.R. Knight, James Pickens Jr., Kate Walsh and Chandra Wilson with the award.

Among tonight's other winners included:

**TV'S GREATEST MUSIC MOMENT**

Diana Ross – Concert in Central Park

**LITTLE SCREEN/BIG STAR**

Hilary Swank

**FAVORITE SINGING SIBLINGS**

Donny and Marie

**FAVORITE TV FOOD**

Pork chops and applesauce, *The Brady Bunch*

For a complete list of winners, log onto [www.tvland.com](http://www.tvland.com).

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The fourth annual **TV Land Awards: A Celebration of Classic TV** is presented by M&M'S(r) Brand Chocolate Candies. Other major sponsors include Capital One, Dell and Nestlé's HOT POCKETS® Brand SUBS.

Michael Levitt (*Knots Landing Reunion: Together Again*, TV Land Awards 2003, 2004 and 2005, *Happy Days: 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion*) serves as Executive Producer, Emmy-award winning Glenn Weiss as Director (*The Miss Teen USA Pageant 2005*, *BET Awards 2005*, *The 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Tony Awards 2005*), Greg Sills as Supervising Producer (*Knots Landing Reunion: Together Again*, *The Teen Choice Awards 2005*, *Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards 2005*) and Sal Maniaci and Larry W. Jones also serve as Executive Producers.

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Now seen in over 90 million U.S. homes, TV Land is dedicated to building the ultimate Baby Boomer entertainment brand on all platforms. Armed with a slate of new original programming, newly acquired Classic TV and movies, multiplatform content and **Cause Change**, a new pro-social initiative, the network is uniquely positioned to cater to America's 78 million Baby Boomers, the first generation of Americans who grew alongside television. TV Land's program mix features hit originals, popular dramas, sitcoms, westerns and Retromercials®. TV Land's roster includes hits like *All in the Family*, *M\*A\*S\*H*, *The Andy Griffith Show* and several others. Furthering the network's commitment to develop original programming that complements its roster of acquisitions, the network regularly showcases original series and specials like *I Pity The Fool*, *Sit Down Comedy with David Steinberg*, *TV Land Myths and Legends*, *Generation Boom*, *TV Land Confidential*, *TV Land's Top Ten*, *My First Time* and the upcoming original series *High School Reunion*.

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