

Antonio Banderas

Vanguard Award Considered one of the entertainment industry's sexiest and most passionate leading men, Antonio Banderas has made a significant difference in promoting equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people through his thoughtful and honest portrayals of gay characters in film. At a time when his career was skyrocketing in Hollywood, Banderas chose to portray Tom Hanks' lover in the Oscar-nominated film "Philadelphia." "The American journalists asked me constantly how I had gotten ready to take the role of a homosexual and I always answered them the same: 'In no way because there is nothing to prepare.' Whenever I represent a homosexual I am playing a character not very different to myself, and I am not gay. When I take the role of a homosexual, I try to do it as honest as possible. I don't attempt to justify it and the public notes that I am not hiding anything." But playing gay was not a new experience for Banderas. As he was establishing himself as an actor in Spain, Banderas made five movies with openly gay director, Pedro Almodóvar, including, "Labyrinth of Passion" and "Law of Desire," in which he played gay men. Never concerned that playing gay characters would jeopardize his career, Banderas has been a shining example for other leading men in Hollywood. Off-screen, Banderas effortlessly plays the role of a human being who inspires us all to understand and accept those who differ from ourselves.

The Vanguard Award honors a member of the entertainment community who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Clive Barker

Davidson/Valentini Award Known as one of the world's most prolific horror writers, Clive Barker's books have for nearly 20 years thrilled readers and spawned numerous films. With a strong and loyal mainstream following, Barker has used his platform to educate his audience by including gay characters and issues in his work, notably in his best-seller *Sacrament*, which features an openly gay hero and addresses the impact of the AIDS epidemic in San Francisco. In addition to his novels, short stories, plays, screenplays, paintings and his vocal support for the LGBT community, Barker also served as executive producer on the film *Gods and Monsters*, which won the GLAAD Media Award for Outstanding Wide Release Film at the 10th Annual GLAAD Media Awards. And with his upcoming book *Rare Flesh* – on which Barker collaborated with his husband, photographer David Armstrong – Barker continues to further the visibility and understanding of our community by living his life openly and proudly.

The Davidson/Valentini Award is named in memory of Craig Davidson, GLAAD's first executive director, and his partner Michael Valentini, a GLAAD supporter. It is presented in San Francisco to an openly lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender individual who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for our community.

Cherry Jones

Vito Russo Award Cherry Jones is one of the most acclaimed actresses currently working and acting in critically lauded plays, films and television shows. Cherry Jones won the 1995 Tony Award for Best Actress in a Play for her role in *The Heiress* and acknowledged her partner from the stage, becoming the first out lesbian to win the prestigious honor. The accomplished thespian, who has also won the Drama Desk Award, an Obie and many others, has been out since the beginning of her career and has punctuated her diverse and successful career with outspoken support for LGBT

community. In 2001 she co-starred with Brooke Shields in the groundbreaking television movie *What Makes A Family*, which examined the issues of gay parenting when the birth mother dies and her surviving partner tries to legally adopt their daughter. Jones also has appeared in many high-profile films, including *Erin Brockovich*, *The Perfect Storm*, *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, *The Horse Whisperer* and *Signs*.

Named after a founding member of GLAAD and author of *The Celluloid Closet*, the Vito Russo Award is presented in New York to an openly lesbian or gay member of the entertainment or media community for outstanding contributions toward eliminating homophobia.

Julianne Moore

Excellence in Media Award Julianne Moore, an actress of exceptional range, who has delivered outstanding work in both major studio hits and acclaimed independent features, has long been a strong, thoughtful advocate for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. In addition to lending her support to organizations such as GLAAD, she has chosen high-impact, diverse projects that explore LGBT issues. In last year's *Far From Heaven*, Moore teamed up for a second time with openly gay director Todd Haynes (*Safe*) to portray a 1950s housewife whose idyllic world begins to crumble when she discovers her husband is gay. In *The Hours*, she shared a passionate kiss with co-star Toni Colette. Moore has established herself as a groundbreaking artist who is unafraid to tackle tough issues in her work. Her performances have earned her numerous awards and include a nominations for an Academy Award, Golden Globe Award, Screen Actors Guild Award and Independent Spirit Award.

The Excellence in Media Award is given in New York to individuals in the media and entertainment industries who through their work have increased the visibility and understanding of the LGBT community.

Megan Mullally

Golden Gate Award Over the last five years playing Karen on the hit NBC series *Will & Grace*, Emmy-award winner Megan Mullally has brought to life America's favorite pill-popping, gin-guzzling socialite who takes good care of her gay friends. Mullally's Broadway credits include *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and the revival of *Grease*. In addition to appearing in numerous films and television shows, Mullally is the lead singer with the band Supreme Music Program, and released a 2002 album entitled *Big as a Berry*. When she's not working, Megan has lent her support to GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, and the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, among other causes – also taking good care of her gay friends. Mullally has also been vocal about her support for the LGBT community in interviews – most notably in a 1999 interview with *The Advocate*, in which she shared her belief in the fluidity of human sexuality. Making her one of the few celebrities to be so open.

The Golden Gate Award is presented in San Francisco to a member of the entertainment or media community who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for the LGBT community.

John Waters

Stephen F. Kolzak Award One of America's preeminent gay independent filmmakers, John Waters is known across the globe for exploding the boundaries of conventional

filmmaking. With the upcoming film *A Dirty Shame*, Waters adds head injuries and sex addicts to a long list of social and cultural issues satirized in his films, including sexual orientation and gender identity, drugs, drag queens, race, and religion – all of which have made appearances in his irreverent counter-culture comedies. Over the last 40 years, Waters' humor, vision and talent have brought unique images of our community to audiences around the world and his support of LGBT organizations and causes has been steadfast. His openness about his life in interviews has made him a visible and powerful representative for our community. In addition to writing and directing feature films, Waters is also a photographer and author whose titles include *Art: A Sex Book*, *Crackpot: The Obsessions of John Waters*, and *Shock Value*.

The Stephen F. Kolzak Award is named after a highly successful Los Angeles casting director who devoted the last part of his life to fighting AIDS-phobia and homophobia in the entertainment industry. The award is given to an openly gay member of the entertainment or media community for his or her work toward eliminating homophobia.