

UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL OCT. 8, 2025 AT 9:30AM PT



WIF ANNOUNCES JAMIE LEE CURTIS, MAUDE APATOW, TESSA THOMPSON, NIA DACOSTA, DEDE GARDNER, GABRIELLE NADIG, MARA BROCK AKIL, REGINA KING, AND JUDY BLUME AS 2025 HONOREES

JANE FONDA TO PRESENT CURTIS WITH THE JANE FONDA HUMANITARIAN AWARD

WITH SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY ATSUKO OKATSUKA

**THIS YEAR MARKS THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MAX MARA FACE OF THE FUTURE® AWARD**

WIF Honors will be held on November 6 at The Beverly Hilton and will be presented by Max Mara with Visionary Sponsor e.l.f. Cosmetics, and additional support from Amazon MGM Studios, Delta Air Lines, Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, Netflix, and STARZ #TakeTheLead

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LOS ANGELES, CA – October 8, 2025 – WIF (Women In Film, Los Angeles) announced today that Jamie Lee Curtis, Maude Apatow, Tessa Thompson, Dede Gardner, Gabrielle Nadig, Mara Brock Akil, Regina King (and Judy Blume and Nia DaCosta in absentia), will be honored at the 2025 WIF Honors on Thursday, November 6, at The Beverly Hilton. The evening will also feature a special appearance by comedian Atsuko Okatsuka. This year's WIF Honors, themed *Unity*, underscores that our shared commitment to equity, sustainability, and stories that represent the breadth of the human experience can transform culture.

WIF Honors is an annual gala that raises vital funds for Women In Film's education, career, and advocacy programs. Tickets are on sale today at [WIF.org/Honors](https://wif.org/Honors).

The 2025 WIF Honorees include:

- The Crystal Award for Advocacy in Film: **Tessa Thompson, Nia DaCosta** (honored in absentia), **Dede Gardner**, and **Gabrielle Nadig**
- The Crystal Award for Advocacy in TV: **Mara Brock Akil, Judy Blume** (honored in absentia) and **Regina King**
- The Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award: **Jamie Lee Curtis** presented to her by **Jane Fonda**
- WIF Max Mara Face of the Future® Award: **Maude Apatow**

Director and producer **Nia DaCosta**, actor **Tessa Thompson**, and producers **Dede Gardner** and **Gabrielle Nadig** will be honored for their upcoming film, *Hedda*, with the **Crystal Award for**

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Advocacy in Film – which recognizes outstanding individuals who are creating increased opportunities for the advancement of women in the screen industries.

Legendary TV writer and showrunner **Mara Brock Akil** will be honored alongside Academy Award® winner **Regina King** with the **Crystal Award for Advocacy in Television** for their collaboration on the hit Netflix series, *Forever*.

Academy Award® winner **Jamie Lee Curtis** will receive the Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award, named for its inaugural recipient, Jane Fonda, in 2021. Fonda and WIF selected Curtis for this honor in recognition of both her powerful artistic legacy and extraordinary philanthropic impact. Jamie has long championed children’s health and well-being, beginning with charitable work at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh when she was there making a film in 1984. Her focus then shifted to Children’s Hospital Los Angeles because, as she says, “I was born and raised in the City of Angels. This is my children’s hospital.” She has been an unwavering advocate for over 30 years helping to raise awareness and funds and in 2020 created My Hand in Yours – an online marketplace featuring items of comfort and celebration, with 100% of the proceeds going to the hospital. That endeavor alone has raised over \$1.5 million. Among other children’s charities Curtis has supported are the former Children Affected by AIDS Foundation and Starlight Children’s Foundation. Curtis is a long-time ambassador for the American Red Cross focusing on disaster preparedness and emergency kits, and aided in the LA Wildfire recovery. In addition, Curtis is fearless in her advocacy for LGBTQ+ rights, supporting organizations such as The Trevor Project and Advocates for Trans Equality, and has been involved with Project Angel Food for decades. Other charitable support has included the NRDC as well as animal welfare and pet adoption advocacy. Most recently, Curtis joined the board of People for the American Way.

Celebrating its twenty-year partnership with Max Mara, **Maude Apatow** will be honored as the 20th recipient of the annual WIF Max Mara Face of the Future Award®, which recognizes a rising star who embodies style and grace. Apatow exemplifies these qualities through the strength and depth she brings to every role, from *Euphoria* to her recent directorial debut, *Poetic License*. Beyond her acting and directing, Apatow’s entrepreneurial spirit—demonstrated through her company JewelBox Pictures—promises to create even more opportunities for women in film.

“This year’s WIF honorees exemplify how artists are using their voices to drive change,” said **Kirsten Schaffer, CEO, WIF**. “From rising talent like Maude Apatow to legends like Jamie Lee Curtis and Mara Brock Akil, their inspiring work, both on and off screen, reminds us that solidarity and connectedness are what will protect us, and our ability to tell stories that reflect our full humanity.”

“WIF Honors is a celebration of unity across generations, disciplines, and stories, and this year’s honorees reflect that,” said **Honors Co-Chairs Victoria Alonso** and **Tracy McKnight**. “As a collective, we stand united against division, our commitment to fair pay, safe working conditions, and the right to express and create freely. We believe in the power of unified action to transform our industry and are proud to celebrate those leading the way.”

Alongside Alonso and McKnight, the WIF Honors Committee is comprised of WIF Board of Directors Tara Duncan, Monica Levinson, Andrea Nelson Meigs, Rachel Rusch, and Talitha Watkins. WIF Honors is presented by Max Mara with visionary sponsor e.l.f. Cosmetics. The event is designed and produced by Anchor Street Collective.

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Press Kit Available [HERE](#)

(Includes headshots and bios of honorees and presenters)

About WIF and the Awards

Founded in 1973 as Women In Film, Los Angeles, WIF has been fighting for gender equity for more than 50 years. Its advocacy, career programs, and research efforts are a driving force for increasing gender representation in Hollywood. WIF works to dismantle gender bias in the screen industries by building the pipeline, sustaining careers, and advocating for change. Membership is open to all screen industry professionals and more information can be found on our website: WIF.org. WIF is led by Chief Executive Officer Kirsten Schaffer and Chair of the Board of Directors Syrinthia Studer. Follow WIF on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [TikTok](#), [X](#), and [YouTube](#).

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 honors outstanding individuals and groups of women who are creating increased opportunities for the advancement of women working throughout the screen industries. 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 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.

About Max Mara, Presenting Sponsor

Max Mara, founded in 1951 by the late visionary Achille Maramotti, is one of the highest expressions of Italian luxury and style. A contemporary collection of ready-to-wear and accessories for the remarkable woman. 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 2,500 locations in more than 100 countries

UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL OCT. 8, 2025 AT 9:30AM PT

worldwide. The Max Mara Fashion Group counts nine different brands. The company remains privately held and managed by the Maramotti family.

About e.l.f. Cosmetics, Visionary Sponsor

e.l.f. Beauty (NYSE: ELF) is fueled by a belief that anything is e.l.f.ing possible. We are a different kind of company that disrupts norms, shapes culture and connects communities through positivity, inclusivity and accessibility. e.l.f. Cosmetics, our global flagship brand, makes the best of beauty accessible to every eye, lip and face by bringing together the best of beauty, culture and entertainment. Our superpower is delivering universally appealing, premium quality products at accessible prices that are e.l.f. clean and vegan, all double-certified by Leaping Bunny and PETA as cruelty free. We are proud to have products made in Fair Trade Certified™ facilities. Learn more at www.elfcosmetics.com.

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