

Gina Prince-Bythewood, Danielle Deadwyler, Tabitha Brown & More to be Honored at BWFN Summit 2023



Gina Price-Bythewood

The Black Women Film Network is celebrating 26 years of preserving Black women's voices in film and television by announcing its 2023 class of honorees. The group will be recognized at the annual BWFN Summit on Saturday, March 25th at the Loudermilk Conference Center in Atlanta, GA. Registration is now open at blackwomenfilm.org.

The honorees this year are:

- Gina Prince-Bythewood (Award-Winning Director/Writer/Producer – “The Woman King,” “Love & Basketball”) – RainmakHER Award * who will be accepting the award virtually
- Danielle Deadwyler (Actress – “Till,” “From Scratch”) – Black Woman Rising Award
- Tabitha Brown (Actress, Author, Social Media Personality) – InfluenceHER Award
- Cas Sigers-Beedles (Writer, Director, Producer – “Scheme Queens,” “Unthinkably Good Things”) – StorytellHER Award
- Tammy Williams (Owner, Cinema South Studios and CS145 LED Production Facility) – TrailblazHER Award
- Latasha Gillespie (Executive Head of Global Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility for Amazon Studios, Prime Video and IMDb) – Beacon Award

The BWFN Summit is in its eighth year and the theme this year is Her Mic Is On: Black Women Owning The Moment which is a tribute to the words of wisdom Black women have given in high-profile speeches in recent years. The summit is an all-day experience of panels, master classes, fireside chats, the awards luncheon and the announcement of the scholarship recipients.

“We are thrilled to have yet another opportunity to produce the BWFN Summit, thanks to the support of Cvent,” says BWFN Board Chair Saptosa Foster. “In recent years, we’ve witnessed iconic remarks from women like Sheryl Lee Ralph, Lizzo, Viola Davis, Michelle Obama and countless others. Those moments are part of a rich tradition of wisdom that is the magic of Black women, and we wanted to honor that uniqueness with this year’s Summit theme. Furthermore, there aren’t many places you can go in the film and television industry to network,

gain knowledge, and access resources all in one space that is created specifically for Black women. The Summit is that space, and we are fortunate to be able to bring it back to Atlanta in person."

"Twenty-six years ago, my Georgia State University film teacher told me the world needed to hear stories told by Black women," says Sheryl Gripper, who founded BWFN in 1997 in Atlanta. "He asked what I was going to do about it. With the help of a visionary group of women, I formed the Black Women Film Network. That vision continues today with the leadership of our Board Chair Saptosa Foster."

To register for the BWFN Summit, visit blackwomenfilm.org. Early bird registration discount lasts until March 20th.