

Mary J. Blige To Receive Entertainment Icon Award At Urban One Honors



Credit: Will Sterling

Mary J. Blige will receive the Entertainment Icon Award at the 2024 Urban One Honors. The Urban One Honors: Best In Black will premiere on Sunday, February 25, 2024, at 8 PM ET on TV One and will be simulcast on CLEO TV. The award adds to Blige's several accomplishments as the Queen Of Hip Hop Soul. Blige has nine Grammys, an Emmy, two Academy Award nominations, two Golden Globe nominations, and a SAG nomination amongst her achievements. The singer and actress's 15-album discography includes musical landmarks like her debut and sophomore albums, *What's The 411?* and *My Life*, which

affirmed countless Generation X women. Her musical legacy continues to influence contemporary singers and set the standard for the hip-hop and R&B collaboration. Michelle L. Rice, President of TV One and CLEO TV, says,

“Urban One is thrilled to honor the incomparable Mary J. Blige as our 2024 Entertainment Icon. Mary’s immeasurable talent and award-winning music has shaped our culture and has had a profound impact on artists and music across all genres, but most notably the elevation of female artists in both R&B and Hip Hop across generations. She fully personifies the “Best in Black” theme of this year’s Urban One Honors.”

Mary J. Blige joins previous honorees: Dionne Warwick received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Chlöe was recognized as the Generation Next honoree, Frankie Beverly was awarded the Living Legend distinction, and Donald Lawrence was celebrated for his inspirational influence.

Angie Stone, Bebe Winans, October London, Teyana Taylor, Damon Little, Keke Wyatt, Chanté Moore and Nicci Gilbert are some of the performers and presenters at the event. Singer and actress LeToya Luckett will host the event’s Backstage Pass segment, where she will interview the honorees and stage talent. The 2024 Urban One Honors kicks off the celebration of TV One’s 20th anniversary.

Watch The Encore Of The

Annual Urban One Honors This Thursday

[youtube id="0dQ5lH3-zXo"]The Annual Urban One Honors aired last night on TV One and will have an encore presentation Thursday night. The awards show celebrated some of the most recognizable names in music, film and television. Missy Elliott, Jamie Foxx, Clarence "The Black Godfather" Avant, Billy Porter and Chance The Rapper were among those honored. Urban One Founder and Chairwoman Cathy Hughes and actor Chris Tucker hosted the evening. There were performances from Anita Baker, Wale, Nas and more. Ne-Yo, Eric Ben-Art, Chante Moore and Al B. Sure! did a tribute to the late James Ingram. The event was also a celebration of the 40-year legacy of Radio One. The Urban One Honors will have its repeat showing Thursday night January 23rd at 7 PM on TV One.

Urban One, Inc. Celebrated 40 Years At Urban One Honors



Billy Porter, Urban One Founder/Chairwoman Cathy Hughes, Chris Tucker and TV One General Manager Michelle Rice attend the "Urban One Honors" on December 5, 2019, at the MGM National Harbor (credit: Urban One, Inc)

The Urban One Honors took place Thursday, December 5th at the

MGM National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Maryland. Urban One founder and chairwoman Cathy Hughes and actor Chris Tucker hosted the star-studded event celebrating 40 years of Radio One. **The taping will air January 20, 2020, at 8 PM ET on TV One.**

The honorees this year included music executive Sylvia Rhone (Lifetime Achievement Honor), recording artist Missy Elliott (Music Innovation Honor), actor and comedian Jamie Foxx (Entertainment Icon Honor), artist Chance The Rapper (Represent Change Honor), *Pose* actor/dancer Ryan Jamaal Swain (Represent Pride Honor), music executive legend Clarence "The Black Godfather" Avant (Represent Opportunity), civil rights activist Rev. Al Sharpton (Represent Leadership) and actor Billy Porter (Represent Excellence).

There were several highlights from the evening starting with a surprise performance from Anita Baker who serenaded Cathy Hughes with "Giving You The Best That I've Got" and she had Lalah Hathaway, Billy Porter and Jamie Foxx join her on stage. Lil' Kim warmly presented the Music Icon Innovation Award to her longtime friend Missy Elliott. Actress Corinne Foxx presented her father Jamie Foxx with the Entertainment Icon Award and he revealed that being a father is his best role ever. A musical tribute to the late James Ingram had performances from Ne-Yo, Eric Benét, Chante Moore and Al B. Sure!

There were additional performances from Brandy, Wale and new artist Jac Ross. Special appearances by Urban One CEO Alfred Liggins, III, veteran radio personality Tom Joyner, entrepreneur and TV personality Ray J, rapper/radio host Da Brat, TV host Egypt Sherrod, comedian George Wallace, and Reach Media/Radio One personalities Russ Parr, Willie Moore, Jr, Dyana Williams, Darlene McCoy, and Little Bacon Bear rounded out the show.



Jamie Foxx



Anita Baker



Lil Kim, Missy Elliott, Da
Brat



Ryan Jamaal Swain and Billy
Porter



Cathy Hughes



Ne-Yo

Urban One Inc. Announces Honorees & Performers For Urban One Honors



Radio One personalities DJ QuickSilva and Russ Parr with Michelle Rice (General Manager, TV One), recording artist Jac Ross, Urban One Founder and Chairwoman Cathy Hughes, "Pose" actor Ryan Jamaal Swain, Kashon Powell (VP Programming, Radio One) and Radio One personality Little Bacon Bear attend the Urban One Honors "Press Supporting Press" Event at the TV One Headquarters in Silver Spring, MD on November 12, 2019. [photo credit: Nerissa Jones for Urban One

Cathy Hughes, Urban One Founder and Chairwoman, today announced the honorees, performers and presenters for the prestigious annual *Urban One Honors* event on Thursday, December 5, 2019, at MGM National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Maryland. The two-hour telecast will air on TV One, a division of Urban One, on January 20, 2020, the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

This year's honorees include: veteran music executive Sylvia Rhone (Lifetime Achievement Award); Grammy Award-winning recording artist and producer Missy Elliott (Music Innovation Award); Academy Award-winning actor Jamie Foxx (Entertainment Icon Award); and actor/dancer and star of "Pose," Ryan Jamaal Swain (Represent Pride Award).

Performers include Grammy Award-winning recording artist and songwriter Ne-Yo; Grammy-nominated rapper Wale; Grammy Award-

winning R&B superstar Brandy; R&B singer Eric Benét; gospel singer Pastor Charles Jenkins; new music artist Jac Ross; and television host Egypt Sherrod. Actor/singer and star of *Pose* Billy Porter and the subject of Netflix's documentary *The Black Godfather* Clarence Avant are among the show's presenters.



Cathy Hughes, Urban One
Founder/Chairwoman

"This will be an evening to remember," stated Hughes. "We are extremely proud to present this showcase of talent in recognition of these exceptional men and women whose contributions "REPRESENT" our capacity to transform industries and effectuate change. I am overjoyed that we can celebrate the anniversary of Radio One with an event that honors what has been our mission of service to our community over these 40 years."

Urban One Honors is presented by TV One and Radio One's Washington D.C. market's cluster of radio stations: Majic 102.3 and 92.7; WKYS 93.9, Praise 104.1, WOL 1450, Spirit 1340, and The Team 98.0 and 95.9. The televised event will herald the accomplishments of individuals who have made extraordinary contributions in entertainment, media, music, education, and the community. It will also pay tribute to the 40-year history of Radio One, the radio division of the company, and its extraordinary founder, Cathy Hughes.

Hughes continued, "We are blessed to have Billy Porter as part of our event. No matter how busy the Emmy, Grammy and Tony Award-winning performer is, he has made time to support Urban One and continues to be an advocate for black press."

"It's so amazing to be a part of an organization that is about the excellence of black people and to know that I'm an honoree at this year's Urban One Honors in conjunction with celebrating the 40-year anniversary of Radio One," stated Ryan Jamaal Swain. "It just shows we're in a place where we are accepting innovation, diversity and inclusion – and not just buzz words. It's so beautiful to have my pop-up Billy

Porter presenting me with my award and it's going to be an event that I feel will set the tone for the trajectory of entertainment, media, radio and also the world."

Urban One Honors is produced for TV One by Eric Tomosunas and Keith Neal of Swirl Films. Kashon Powell, Vice President of Programming for Radio One, is the Executive in Charge of Production, and Susan Henry, Senior Director of Original Programming and Production for TV One, is the Executive Producer in Charge of Production. Brigitte McCray is Senior Vice President of Original Programming and Production.

Tickets to the awards show are available to the public and can be purchased at

urbanonehonors.com.

Â