



BANFF

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HBO to Receive Global Television Outstanding Achievement Award at the 25th Anniversary Banff Television Festival

(Los Angeles, March 9, 2004) **Home Box Office**, known for the impressive quality and diversity of its original programming, is this year's recipient of the prestigious **Global Television Outstanding Achievement Award** at the 25th Anniversary Banff Television Festival, June 13 – 17. The award will be presented to HBO at a special evening tribute celebration on Tuesday, June 15. Pat Ferns, president and CEO of the Banff Television Foundation made the announcement today at a special luncheon hosted by Canada's Consul General Colin Robertson and his wife Maureen Boyd.

"Canada has always held a special regard for HBO, from its first Made-for-TV-Movie *The Terry Fox Story* to this year's recognition of HBO as the finest creative organization in the world today," observed Pat Ferns. "They are truly deserving of our highest honor."

"HBO is proud to be the place where some of the brightest creative talents of the industry can realize their visions without compromising. It's a profound honor to have our work recognized with such a prestigious award," said Chris Albrecht, chairman and CEO.

HBO has a rich and diverse history of accolades at the Banff Television Festival including the Banff Rockie Grand Prize Winner (*Subway Stories*, 1998), the NHK President's Prize for Best HDTV Entry (*Band of Brothers*, 2002), three Best Continuing Series (*The Sopranos*, 2000; *The Sopranos*, 2001; *Six Feet Under*, 2002), two Best Made-for-TV-Movies (*Subway Stories*, 1998; *A Lesson Before Dying*, 2000), two Best Comedy Awards (*The Larry Sanders Show*, 1997; *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, 2003), Best Social and Political Documentary (*Legacy*, 2002) and Best Sports Program (*Where Have You Gone, Joe DiMaggio?*, 1998). The 2003 Banff Television Festival honored Sheila Nevins, president, HBO documentary and family with a Lifetime Achievement Award while David Chase, writer, director, executive producer and creator of *The Sopranos*, received the 2003 Award of Excellence. Each year HBO produces unparalleled numbers of highly praised and award-winning original programs which include innovative comedy and drama series, uncompromising documentaries and cutting-edge movies for television. HBO continues to set a standard excellence for the best in original programming.

The winner of the Global Television Outstanding Achievement Award is selected annually by the Banff Television Foundation's Board of Governors, a who's who of television executives from around the world. (See attached list). The award recognizes a body of work over time and is one of the world's pre-eminent television prizes. (A complete list of past recipients is attached).

The Banff Television Festival is an annual celebration of excellence in international television programming and an exploration of the issues, challenges, creative and business opportunities in television and new media. The 25th Anniversary Banff Television Festival takes place June 13 – 17 at the Fairmont Banff Springs in the Canadian Rockies. It is expected to draw over 1,800 producers, broadcasters, commissioning editors, content creators and other industry stakeholders from around the world who will take part in an array of plenary sessions, seminars, Master Classes, pitching and networking opportunities. For more information go to www.banff2004.com.

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Attachments:

*Past Award Recipients
*Board of Governors List



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**Past Recipients
Global Television Outstanding Achievement Award**

- 1985 Granada, United Kingdom
- 1986 WDR, Germany
- 1987 MTM Enterprises, U.S.A.
- 1988 NHK, Japan
- 1989 TV Globo, Brazil
- 1990 BBC Natural History Unit, United Kingdom
- 1991 Ted Turner, U.S.A.
- 1992 Dr. Reiner Moritz, Germany
- 1993 Children's Television Workshop, U.S.A.
- 1994 Société Radio-Canada, Canada
- 1995 Canal+, France
- 1996 WGBH Boston, U.S.A.
- 1997 Channel Four Television, United Kingdom
- 1998 BBC Drama, United Kingdom
- 1999 ARTE, German, France
- 2000 SBS Television, Australia
- 2001 Discovery Communications, Inc., U.S.A.
- 2002 A&E Television Networks, U.S.A.
- 2003 ZDF German Television, Germany



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Banff Television Foundation Board of Governors continued...

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(As at March 8, 2004)