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Hugo Turner - Editor In
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Jolie Eyrolet - Staff
Cartoonist

Sierra Kogan - Staff
Artist

Ollie Satterfield - Staff
Cartoonist

"When is the Winter Formal going to be?" and Other Such Questions

Paul O'Brien



If there's one thing most everyone enjoys, it's a party. From a simple fundraiser, to a full blown dance, they are an integral part of High School life not just at SCVi, but in general! Many events, however, have been postponed or canceled due to Covid-19, and now with the winter formal being postponed many people are wondering about events at our school, and whether or not they will be happening at all. I'm going to explain what's going on with the winter formal, as well as other SCVI events that will be taking place. I will also briefly go over how COVID will/might affect these upcoming events.





School Events

The first on the list is the Winter Formal, which as it turns out might just as well be the Spring Formal. As of right now, there is no confirmed date for when the event might be. We only know that it will take place sometime in March, and most likely towards the end of the month.

There has also been talk of a prom, and although this reporter could find no specific date when it would occur, all evidence points to it being after the winter formal, although with the way things are going, it might not happen altogether. If there was a prom, however, it's possible that they wouldn't be able to have food. But as the restrictions are rapidly changing, so nothing is confirmed yet.

If either of these events do occur, there is a strong possibility that they will have to be held outside. Everyone will have to wear a mask (as expected) and there will be little to no food available. It's also entirely possible that many of the restrictions will have been lifted by that time, but that depends on what the situation with COVID is like at the time.

In summary, the Winter formal will most likely be held sometime in March, there may also be a prom soon, and if the events do



happen, there will probably be quite a few restrictions. Please take all this with a grain of salt, however, as the situation may change with the severity of Covid-19.



The Oscars: Covering The Controversy

Diamante Cameron



The night of May 16th, 1929 in the Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood the first Oscar ceremony was held, there were only 250 people in attendance. 93 years later 10.4 million people were watching this prestigious event, but how has it evolved into what it is today? And how a simple hashtag reminded audiences of how important diversity is in film?

The first Academy Awards ceremony happened 2 years after the academy was created. It was made as a non-profit that would be dedicated to the advancement and improvement of the film industry. The Oscars started as a much different kind of award than it is today, as stated before there were only 250 people in attendance, with 10 different awards, and only silent films. Spoken films, or talkies, had been made, but the academy wouldn't accept them at the time because of the unfair advantage they had over silent films. The winner of the first Oscars Best Picture award was a film called Wings, directed by William Wellman, it was the most expensive film of its time with a budget of two million dollars. Ever since that first Oscar ceremony this award show has taken the world by storm.

Entertainment

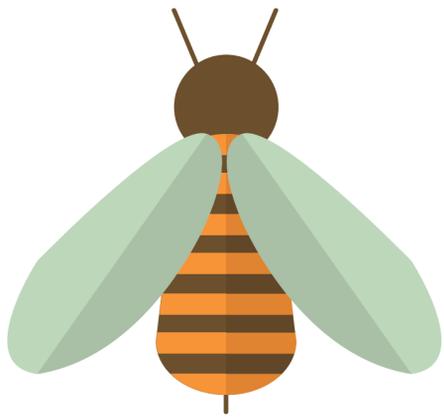


In 2015 a tweet changed everything about how people viewed the Academy Awards, April Reign said “#OscarsSoWhite they would ask to touch my hair...” That one tweet blew up in mere minutes, sprung off the hashtags #WhiteWashedOut for asian representation, and #Time’sUp for more female nominees behind the camera. This was the catalyst for the Oscars to actually start listening to the marginalized voices who had been begging to be represented since the beginning, and for good reason too. The lack of diversity in the awards is astounding. From the first ceremony, all the way to 2021 there have only been twenty black people who have won for acting and only five women who have been nominated for best director, not to mention the fact that the voting party is 64% male and 84% white. In 1988 Eddie Murphy said “I just want you to know that I’m gonna give this award, but black people will not ride the caboose of society, and we will not bring up the rear anymore. I want you to recognize us.” after almost turning down the opportunity to announce the best picture. Yet as with most things in this industry the thing that started the academy down the path of fixing their years of discrimination was the bad publicity that April Reign unleashed on them.

A week after the January 14th Oscars that inspired April Reign’s hashtag, the Oscar Committee created the A2020 accord which promised to double the amount of people of color nominees



by 2020. Though that seems now like a bit of an empty promise as of 2019 it was only up 17%. The board of voters has become more diverse, doubling the number of female members from 1,446 to 3,179 and tripling their members of color from 554 to 1,787, which



makes it seem like hope might be around the corner.



Unfortunately this year's nominations aren't nearly as diverse as we would hope yet it is still a start, there are 6 people of color nominated for best actor/actress and best supporting actor/actress, one woman nominated for best director, 3 woman for best adapted screenplay, and one of the best picture nominations is CODA which is the story of a deaf family where they used actually deaf actors.

The thing is, it all feels a bit too little too late. There are so many stories that should be told that our western film industry won't let be heard. I can hope that in the years coming we accept more stories that will open our eyes, and celebrate the diversity that created them.

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