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NEW YORK

**'Punk'd' to Be Revived With Chance the Rapper Doing Pranks**

Celebrities, beware: "Punk'd" is being revived. And this time Chance the Rapper is the one doing the punk'ing. MTV Studios and Quibi said Friday they are teaming up to revive the show with Grammy-winner Chance the Rapper pranking unsuspecting A-listers. No date was announced but the show will be available only on Quibi's mobile video platform. Quibi is a short-video streaming service vbacked by Hollywood studios. — The Associated Press

**Backstage Pass**

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

**Underwater Photographer Dives Deep Into Ocean's Issues**

By KRISTEN FIORE | Daily Sun Senior Writer

Brian Skerry spends a majority of his time in the middle of the ocean. Sometimes he photographs fluffy white harp seal pups, other times he lures mako sharks to his lens with AC/DC music. But as an underwater photographer for National Geographic, Skerry's goal is to bring awareness to the ocean's problems with his images.

Skerry brought his program, "Ocean Soul," to The Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center Monday as part of the venue's National Geographic Series. "Everybody ready to go for a swim?" Skerry said at the beginning of the program, which was filled with videos and images from his assignments.

Skerry said that the longer he worked in the ocean, the more problems he started to notice, which caused an evolution in his career. "As a journalist, I felt a sense of responsibility and a sense of urgency to tell these stories," he said. Because as Skerry pointed out, more than 50% of the



Brian Skerry, a photojournalist with National Geographic, answers questions about his underwater photography after his lecture, "Ocean Soul."

Rachel Stuart  
Daily Sun

oxygen we breathe is generated by the sea, and the sea is in trouble. In his presentation, Skerry explained that baby seals are dying because the ice is too thin, 100 million sharks are killed each year and the seafood industry is endangering many sea creatures. "The ocean's not a grocery store," Skerry said after showing a photo of dozens of dead fish caught up in a net

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The Villages Entertainment sells tickets in person at its four box office locations or online at thevillagesentertainment.com

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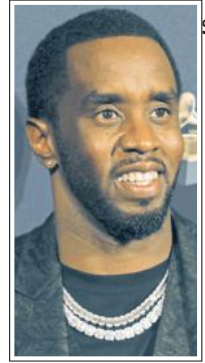
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CELEBRITY SPOTLIGHT



SEAN "DIDDY" COMBS

Sean "Diddy" Combs called out the Grammy Awards for dissing rap and R&B stars in its major categories in a blazing speech that earned him a standing ovation from Beyoncé, Jay-Z and several other music industry players.



SALMA HAYEK

Salma Hayek is apologizing for promoting a controversial new novel, Jeanine Cummins' "American Dirt," without actually reading it. "American Dirt," tells the story of a Mexican woman and her 8-year-old son fleeing to the U.S. border.



RON HOWARD

A little over a year since the Camp Fire ravaged the northern California town of Paradise, Ron Howard came to the Sundance Film Festival with "Rebuilding Paradise," a documentary he directed about the aftermath of the Camp Fire.

MADRID

Almodóvar, Banderas Triumph With 'Pain and Glory' at Goyas

Pedro Almodóvar's "Pain and Glory" swept the top prizes at the Spanish Film Academy's Goya Awards, including best picture, best director and a best actor victory for Antonio Banderas. "Pain and Glory" is nominated for an Academy Award in the best international film category. Almodóvar is hoping to claim his third Oscar in two weeks.

— The Associated Press

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and then thrown back into the ocean like garbage for just one handful of shrimp. "We can't continue to take it at unsustainable levels and expect everything to be OK."

But Skerry's photos have influenced conservation efforts and brought awareness to the issues underwater.

"If we're going to solve these problems, we need to know about them first," he said.

Marilyn and Joe Ging, of the Village of Hillsborough, are fans of National Geographic and purchased The Sharon's National Geographic package for the season.

"National Geographic has a reputation on how they approach the environment, which is always both positive and negative," Joe said. "They show both sides."

"It's important to have that awareness," Marilyn added.

Shirley Mull, of the Village of Belle Aire, got a free ticket to the program because she

works for The Villages Entertainment. Mull came with Jim Nylund, of the Village De La Vista, who was attracted to the lecture because he used to scuba dive.

"The ocean is really interesting," Mull said.

And Skerry did have a lot of interesting photos, videos and facts to share.

The great white shark, for instance, can grow to be 21 feet long and weigh over a ton.

Skerry has spent a lot of time around different types of sharks for assignments.

He said that for the most part, sharks aren't as scary as they are typically portrayed—they are actually curious and intelligent creatures.

But they have swam off with his camera equipment.

"Sometimes the sea giveth, and other times she taketh away," he joked.

Skerry's lecture was both eye-opening and entertaining.

"I need to understand the science, but I'm trying to capture the poetry," he said.

DiCaprio, Zellweger and More Oscar Hopefuls Attend Luncheon

By JONATHAN LANDRUM JR. The Associated Press

Renée Zellweger, Al Pacino and dozens of other Academy Award nominees bowed their heads in a moment of silence Monday for Kobe Bryant to open the annual Oscars luncheon, a somber moment in an otherwise sunny annual affair that serves as a meet-and-greet, celebration and training session for each year's class of nominees.

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences President David Rubin asked the audience to honor the NBA star and 2018 Oscar winner, and his daughter, who were among nine people killed in a helicopter crash on Sunday.

"With all the success he had on the court, he was the most excited person in the room that day," Rubin said of Bryant at the 2018 luncheon. Bryant went on to win an Oscar for best animated short for "Dear Basketball."

The group of both longtime Oscar luminaries and first-time hopefuls broke into applause to end the silence.

Leonardo DiCaprio, Laura Dern, Robert De Niro and

Quentin Tarantino were all set upon by groups of photographers as they walked into the luncheon being held just a few steps from the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, home to the 92nd Academy Awards on Feb. 9.

Tarantino, nominated for best director for "Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood," stood for just a few photos before heading to join his fellow nominees at lunch tables.

"One more, Quentin, come on," one photographer said.

Inside the ballroom, Brad Pitt and Tarantino autographed a "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood" movie poster brought by the film's sound engineer Mark Ulano, who is nominated for his work in three films in the best sound mixing category.

Taika Waititi, whose film "Jojo Rabbit" is nominated for six Oscars, walked in and shared a hug with Bong Joon Ho, whose "Parasite" earned nominations for best director, best international film and best picture.

Both congratulated each other on their awards season recognition.

The luncheon is an annual chance for all Oscar nominees to rub shoulders, celebrate the status many will only have once, and take a class picture, after

a roll call of all the nominees summons them to the front of the ballroom. Among those standing near the center of the frame were Pacino, Diane Warren and "Frozen II" songwriters Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez.

In another annual ritual, they were told to keep their acceptance speeches short at the Oscars, ideally 45 seconds or less, and were urged to appoint one person to speak for a group of winners.

Democratized seating arrangements at the luncheon often pair little-known nominees in categories like documentary short or sound-design with major stars nominated in acting categories.

Warren, an 11-time nominee

who this year is competing for best original song with "I'm Standing With You" from "Breakthrough," chatted with newbie nominee director Matthew Cherry, telling him and producer Karen Rupert Toliver that their animated short "Hair Love" was "amazing."

Best actress nominee Cynthia Erivo and best supporting actor nominee Pitt posed for selfies with their fellow hopefuls.

Pacino said he's embracing getting his first nomination in 27 years, for best supporting actor in "The Irishman." He called getting the nod in a category that also includes Pitt, Tom Hanks, Anthony Hopkins, and his "Irishman" co-star Joe Pesci "special."

Monday's menu was entirely plant-based, with nominees noshing on vegan cheese, micro herbs, roasted maitake mushrooms and forbidden rice, with wines from the fittingly film-friendly vineyards of Francis Ford Coppola.

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