

The Oscars.

The Oscars award ceremony is one of the most famous ceremonies in the world, and is watched live on TV in over 200 countries. The first ceremony happened in Hollywood in 1929, and all of the prizes were for silent films. For the first ten years, the results were given to the newspapers before the ceremony. However a secret until the last moment.

No one is exactly sure where the name 'Oscars' came from. One story is that in 1931, the director of the Academy thought that the golden award looked like her uncle Oscar-and the name stayed!

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has over 6,000 members (actors, directors, producers, etc.) Each year, they vote for the winners in 25 categories. The most important categories are Best Film, Best Director, Best Actress and Best Actor.

No one is very interested in what the men wear (they usually come in a dinner jacket or a suit), but the big fashion houses, like Chanel and Dior, try to persuade the most popular female stars to wear their dresses. The stars usually get the dresses for free, and they usually look great. But there are some bad choices too!



The speeches that the winners make when they accept their Oscars are often rather boring, as they're usually just a list of people they want to thank (including their mum). THE winners often get very emotional-it can sometimes be almost impossible to understand what they're saying !



The Oscars winners.



