

Diversifying Film Academy Is a Tall Order

Look at Actors Branch Shows Challenges

By MICHAEL CIEPLY and BROOKS BARNES

LOS ANGELES — Roughly 87 percent are white. About 58 percent are male. As many as two-thirds are at least 60 years old.

As the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences scrambles to address an outcry over a lack of diversity among its membership, a close look at its largest group, the actors branch, shows that ending the imbalance within its ranks might be more difficult than, say, predicting the annual Oscar winners.

The academy is typically reluctant to disclose the identities of its members and does not regularly provide demographic information about them. There is no set standard for membership and no consistency when it comes to how many people from the film industry are invited to join each year.

But an examination by The New York Times of the actors branch — whose more than 1,100 members control acting nominations for the Academy Awards — revealed the basic racial outlines of the group. Using public and private databases, The Times compiled data on nearly 1,100 acting branch members. Along with the white members, about 6 percent are black, under 4 percent are Hispanic and less than 2 percent are Asian. Women make up about 42 percent of the branch. A spokeswoman for the academy confirmed all of those percentages.

The academy has stated that its aim is to double the number of minorities in its overall membership

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BULENT KILIC/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Syrian refugees near a crossing gate on the Turkish border on Friday. Tens of thousands of civilians were fleeing the Aleppo area.

Assad Forces Gain Momentum Around Aleppo

By ANNE BARNARD

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Syrian government and allied forces pressed their most significant advance in months on Friday, sending insurgents scrambling and tens of thousands of civilians fleeing toward the border with Turkey.

The advance has accelerated in recent days, with new momentum from heavy Russian airstrikes in the northern province of Aleppo, according to Syrian state news media, residents and antigovernment activists. The

A Surge of Refugees and a Major Blow to the Opposition

government's gains have given a morale boost to loyalists and prompted opponents of President Bashar al-Assad, including Turkey and Saudi Arabia, to calculate their next moves.

The government's gains in Aleppo Province, building on earlier ones in Dara'a in the south

and Latakia in the north, also scuttled United Nations-mediated peace talks this week in Geneva. Neither side saw much to discuss there: The government believed it was achieving its goals on the battlefield, while the opposition accused the Assad administration and Russia of using negotiations as a cover for indiscriminate attacks.

Russia's four months of escalating military intervention have strengthened the government, allowing Mr. Assad's forces to go on the offensive in several provinces

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Trump's Bid Is Going Easy On His Wallet

By NICHOLAS CONFESSORE and SARAH COHEN

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Donald J. Trump once boasted that he could someday be the only person to turn a profit running for president. He may be closer than anyone realizes.

Mr. Trump's campaign spent just \$12.4 million in 2015, according to disclosures filed with the Federal Election Commission, millions less than any of his leading rivals for the Republican nomination. More than half of Mr. Trump's total spending was covered by checks from his supporters, who have thronged to his stump speeches and bought millions of dollars' worth of "Make America Great Again" hats and T-shirts.

About \$2.7 million more was paid to at least seven companies Mr. Trump owns or to people who work for his real estate and branding empire, repaying them for services provided to his campaign. That total included more than \$2 million for flights on his own planes and helicopter, a quarter of a million dollars to his Fifth Avenue office tower, and even \$66,000 to Keith Schiller, his bodyguard and the head of security at the Trump Organization.

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CLINTON EMAILS DRAW OUT FIGHT ON SECRET DATA

SPARRING BY AGENCIES

At Debate's Core: Drone Program, Classified but Well Known

By STEVEN LEE MYERS and MARK MAZZETTI

WASHINGTON — Some of the nation's intelligence agencies raised alarms last spring as the State Department began releasing emails from Hillary Clinton's private server, saying that a number of the messages contained information that should be classified "top secret."

The diplomats saw things differently and pushed back at the spies.

In the months since, a battle has played out between the State Department and the intelligence agencies — as well as Congress — over what information on Mrs. Clinton's private server was classified and what was the routine business of American diplomacy, according to government officials and letters obtained by The New York Times.

At the center of that argument, the officials said, is a "top secret" program of the Central Intelligence Agency that is anything but secret. It is the agency's long effort to track and kill suspected terrorists overseas with armed drones, which has been the subject of international debates, numerous newspaper articles, television programs and entire books.

The Obama administration's decision to keep most internal discussions about that program — including all information about C.I.A. drone strikes in Pakistan — classified at the "top secret" level has now become a political liability for Mrs. Clinton's presidential campaign.

Some of the skirmishes over Mrs. Clinton's emails reflect the disagreements in a post-9/11 era over what should be a government

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Behind-the-Scenes Push

Emails show that while she was secretary of state, Hillary Clinton lobbied Congress for the Affordable Care Act. Page A11.



Clinton



STEPHANIE KEITH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Fatal Crane Crash in Lower Manhattan

The collapse on Friday on Worth Street, which happened as workers were trying to secure the crane, killed a pedestrian. Page A16.

App Provides Anonymity to Teenagers, and to Predators, Too

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG and RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA

The allegations are beyond chilling: two Virginia Tech freshmen charged with the premeditated kidnapping and killing of a 13-year-old girl who, the authorities say, communicated with her murderer online.

But the way they chatted — on a wildly popular messaging app

called Kik — has increasingly become a source of concern for law enforcement.

The death of Nicole Madison Lovell, a liver transplant and cancer survivor from Blacksburg, Va., has put Kik — widely used by American teenagers but not as well known to adults as Snapchat or Instagram — in the spotlight at a time when law enforcement officials say it has been linked to a growing number of abuse

cases. Neighbors say that the day before she died, Nicole showed them Kik messages she had exchanged with an 18-year-old man she was to meet that night.

Kik is cooperating in the investigation. Its officials say they responded to "multiple emergency requests" from the F.B.I. for information that helped lead to the arrests of the students, David Eisenhauer, 18, and Natalie Marie Keepers, 19, both aspiring engi-

neers from Maryland. And experts in Internet crime caution that the app is just one of many digital platforms abused by all manner of criminals, from small-time drug dealers to terrorists.

But law enforcement officials say Kik — used by 40 percent of American teenagers, by the company's own estimate — goes further than most widely used apps

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City's Homeless Young People: Overlooked and Underserved

By NIKITA STEWART

Hundreds of homeless young people are in plain sight every day in New York City.

They are sitting on the floor at the Port Authority Bus Terminal and charging their phones as if they were college students awaiting a bus home. They are huddled on the sidewalk, hanging out. They sleep on friends' couches and in strangers' beds. They stay with "Uncle A.C.E.," code for the long route of the A train, where they can spend hours unbothered and unnoticed.

Mostly, they just blend in, people in their late teens or early 20s, navigating a treacherous path into adulthood.

On Monday, New York City is scheduled to hold its annual count of homeless people, as part of a nationwide tally coordinated by the federal government. The under-

taking involves more than 3,000 volunteers who will fan out across the five boroughs to record how many people are found to be living on the streets.

But many young homeless people are overlooked.

Undercounting them means fewer social services for people at particular risk of being drawn into prostitution and cycling into long-term homelessness, according to organizations that specialize in helping young homeless people.

In the past two years, after criticism that the city was not doing enough, it added shelter beds for people 16 to 20 and now has 453 beds. Mayor Bill de Blasio announced last month that over the next three years, the city would add 300 beds.

But groups serving young

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INTERNATIONAL A3-9

Investigating a Death in Egypt

An Italian student, Giulio Regeni, above, killed in Cairo, had secretly written articles critical of Egypt's leader. PAGE A3

Zika Virus Found in Saliva

Brazil said the virus was found in samples of human saliva and urine. PAGE A4

NATIONAL A10-15

Funeral for Oregon Protester

Mourners came from across the West to remember LaVoy Finicum, part of an armed protest group who was killed by the authorities in a chase. PAGE A10

Capitol Perk Gets the Brushoff

Taxpayer-funded oil paintings of congressional members on display in the Capitol have been banned. PAGE A10

NEW YORK A16-20

Shootings Show Risk to Police

The wounding of two officers in the Bronx reflects the danger of stairwell patrols at housing complexes. PAGE A17



ARTS C1-6

Playing May Break Your Heart

The video game "That Dragon, Cancer," above, uses magical realism to help tell the story of a Colorado couple and their terminally ill son, Joel, 5, who died while the game was in development. It is the latest example of the medium's evolution as a platform for memoir. PAGE C1

SPORTSSATURDAY D1-6

New Rebuff to Fantasy Sports

Citigroup said it would begin blocking New Yorkers' debit and credit card payments to the two largest fantasy sports sites, FanDuel and DraftKings. PAGE D1

BUSINESS DAY B1-8

Jobs Data Shows Rise in Wages

Job creation slowed in January, according to the Labor Department, but wages picked up significantly in a sign of strength in the labor market. PAGE B1

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Gail Collins

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THIS WEEKEND



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