

For Immediate Release

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Speechless, GLOW, Chicago Med and Empire **Among Dozen Shows Honored by 2018 Sentinel Awards**

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 29, 2018—As the entertainment landscape expands and programs continue to push boundaries, TV storylines that inform, educate and motivate audiences to make choices for healthier and safer lives are more important than ever.

Now in their 19th year, the 2018 Sentinel Awards are presented by Hollywood, Health & Society (HH&S), a program of The Norman Lear Center at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. The 12 outstanding Sentinel Awards honorees for 2018 spotlight a wide range of topics that include nuclear safety, maternal health, HIV/AIDS, autism, sexual assault, mental health and disabilities.

Entries were submitted from broadcast networks, cable channels and streaming services. All eligible submissions were reviewed for accuracy by experts from the CDC and partner organizations; a second round of judging looked at the entertainment value and potential benefit to the viewing audience.

"Entertainment television is a powerful resource for information, and compelling storylines can motivate millions of viewers worldwide," said Kate Langrall Folb, director of HH&S.

Martin Kaplan, director of the Lear Center and HH&S' principal investigator, said: "We're delighted to shine a spotlight on writers and producers who entertain viewers and at the same time provide them with accurate information. We hope the shows and storylines we honor will spur other writers to recognize and use responsibly the power they wield."

The honorees will be recognized at a red-carpet event on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at the Taglyan Complex in Hollywood.

The 2018 Sentinel Awards honorees:

• **Chicago Med**—*Mountains and Molehills* (NBC)

Topic: HIV/AIDS

• **Grey's Anatomy**—Hemorrhage Cart storyline (ABC)

Topic: Maternal health

• **One Day at a Time**—*Hello, Penelope* (Netflix)

Topic: Mental health

- **Speechless**—*One A-n-Angry M-Maya* (ABC)

Topic: Disability

- **13 Reasons Why**—*The Missing Page* (Netflix)

Topic: Sexual assault

- **GLOW**—*Maybe It's All the Disco* (Netflix)

Topic: Abortion

- **Empire**—*Sweet Sorrow* (FOX)

Topic: Abortion

- **Sofia the First**—*The Lost Pyramid* (Disney Junior)

Topic: Vision impairment

- **Sesame Street**—*Shape Hunt* (HBO)

Topic: Autism

- **Jane the Virgin**—*Chapter 78* and *Chapter 80* (The CW)

Topic: Breast cancer

- **Madam Secretary**—*Night Watch* (CBS)

Topic: Nuclear safety

- **General Hospital**—Sonny's Dad storyline (ABC)

Topic: Alzheimer's disease

Hollywood, Health & Society provides entertainment industry professionals with accurate and timely information for storylines dealing with health, safety and security through consultations and briefings with experts. Based at The Norman Lear Center, HH&S is a free resource for writers, producers and others in search of credible information. HH&S funders include the CDC, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The SCAN Foundation, N Square Collaborative, the California Health Care Foundation and the Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute. For more information about resources for writers, go to www.usc.edu/hhs.

The Norman Lear Center is a multidisciplinary research and public policy center studying and shaping the impact of entertainment and media on society. From its base in the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, the Lear Center builds bridges between faculty who study aspects of entertainment, media and culture. Beyond campus, it bridges the gap between entertainment industry and academia, and between them and the public. For more information, visit www.learcenter.org.

Located in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California, the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism is among the nation's leading institutions devoted to the study of journalism and communication, and their impact on politics, culture and society. USC Annenberg offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in journalism, communication, public diplomacy and public relations. For more information, visit www.annenberg.usc.edu.