

# #OscarsAintSoWhite – Hand Clap To These Nominees



This year's Oscar Awards will be one for the books and a night to remember for African American actors. If you haven't noticed already, the #OscarsAintSoWhite, contrary to the nominee list from 2015.

The lead categories are far more diverse and we are all here for it. Seven out of the 20 acting nominees are non-white. Viola Davis has strikingly become the first Black woman with three Oscar nominees; she sure knows how to start off the New Year, after receiving her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame earlier this month.

Davis (*Fences*), Octavia Spencer (*Hidden Figures*), and Naomie Harris (*Moonlight*) are the only Black actresses nominated for Best Supporting Actress and Mahershala Ali (*Moonlight*) is nominated for Best Supporting Actor.

Although this year's nominees were more color appealing, the Oscars still has more to progress to make, seeing as Dev Patel (*Lion*) is the only Asian

actor nominated for Best Supporting Actor.

In a perfect world where my opinion on who took home the honor mattered, here are my winners for a few categories and they #AintSoWhite.



## **Best Picture**

My Choice: ***Fences***

Denzel Washington did an exceptional job transforming one of August Wilson's plays into a film illuminating the African American experience. I loved that he stayed true to the original play, preserving Wilson's authenticity. It was amazing to see how Washington captured and kept the complexities of African American life, like the play. Every scene keeps you enthralled in the film's true historical essence, from the emotionally involved conversations between Denzel's character, Troy and his eldest son to Viola

Davis' epic role as Rose, expressing the sacrifices she's made for her family.



## **Actress in a Leading Role**

My Choice: **Ruth Negga, *Loving***

The role of Mildred Loving played by Ruth Negga was remarkable. She easily transformed her Irish accent/ Ethiopian into that of a 1950's Virginian woman. She goes from being a young, sweet, naïve girl to a sweet woman of strength and pride for her family and her rights. I often wonder the mind state an individual must put him or herself in to play a role during the civil rights movement. But for the this to be her breakout performance is truly an accomplishment itself.



## **Actress in a Supporting Role**

My Choice: **Viola Davis, *Fences***

Viola Davis has become my favorite actress over the last few years. Seeing her play Annalise Keating is what I looked forward to every Thursday night. She's real, raw and in your face and I love it. Her role as Troy Maxson's wife, Rose was quite similar. We see her go through her pain and devastation, like *How to Get Away from Murder*. I honestly believe her role as Annalise helped her play Rose. She's devoted to every character she plays. Davis has a way of making you feel the emotion she is trying to portray. She brings that natural mother instinct with intensity, strength and don't forget class.

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