

## NEWS RELEASE



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### **JESSE JACKSON TO RECEIVE SPECIAL HONOR AT THE 64th ANNUAL CHICAGO/MIDWEST EMMY® AWARDS CEREMONY**

Chicago –November 28, 2022 – The Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) is pleased to announce that the Reverend Jesse Jackson will be receiving the Board of Governors’ Citation at the 64th Annual Chicago/Midwest Emmy® Awards ceremony. The event will be held at the Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile, 540 N. Michigan, on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 7 pm. Board President John Owens will be making the presentation.

The annual event, which honors regional Emmy® winners in a wide range of broadcast and craft categories, will be available to view live on CAN TV 19 and on the Chicago/Midwest website ([www.chicagoemmyonline.org](http://www.chicagoemmyonline.org)) It will also be available on You Tube and the Emmys® app.

Rev. Jesse Jackson has been a political activist, minister and politician based in Chicago for over 55 years. He was a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984 and 1988; and he is the founder of the Rainbow/PUSH organization, which he launched in 1971.

His career as a public figure is marked with many accomplishments, including his leading a massive voter registration drive in Chicago’s African-American community in the early 1980s, a drive which was a key factor in the election of Chicago’s first Black mayor, Harold Washington; his historic attempts running for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984 and 1988; his numerous boycotts over the past 55 years against businesses to encourage minority hiring; and his work as an international ambassador, negotiating for the release of U.S. soldiers and civilians around the world, including in Syria (1984), Iraq (1990) and Yugoslavia (1999).

Rev. Jackson’s career as a media personality is almost as significant. He has been a constant presence on television and radio, in his hometown of Chicago, nationally and internationally, with countless appearances on news and information programs over the past 60 years. He hosted a highly successful news-talk show on CNN, *Both Sides With Jesse Jackson* – a program which ran from 1992 to 2000. His Saturday morning forums at Operation PUSH have been broadcast over a variety of platforms – including radio, broadcast television and live stream -- for over 50 years. He was a producer of the

celebrated 1973 documentary *Wattstax*, and has appeared in countless other documentaries, including *Punch 9 For Harold Washington* (2021). He even hosted an episode of *Saturday Night Live* in 1984, the same year he ran for president.

In addition, Jackson's 1984 and 1988 campaigns for the presidency marked the first time America's major mainstream press paid serious attention to a person of color running for the White House. Those campaigns held up a mirror on television that forced the media to confront its own lack of diversity and America to face issues of social inequality affecting all citizens. He continues to be a strong voice for social justice.

In short, Rev. Jackson is arguably one of the most notable media personalities from Chicago to hail from this region within the past 60 years. He is a unique internationally-known public figure who straddles the worlds of politics, activism, the media and religion. And he has always made Chicago his home.

His legacy is indisputable. The NATAS Chicago/Midwest chapter's Board of Governors is proud to present Rev. Jesse Jackson with the chapter's Board of Governor's Citation Award.

For more information about the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, visit [www.chicagoemmyonline.org](http://www.chicagoemmyonline.org)

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