

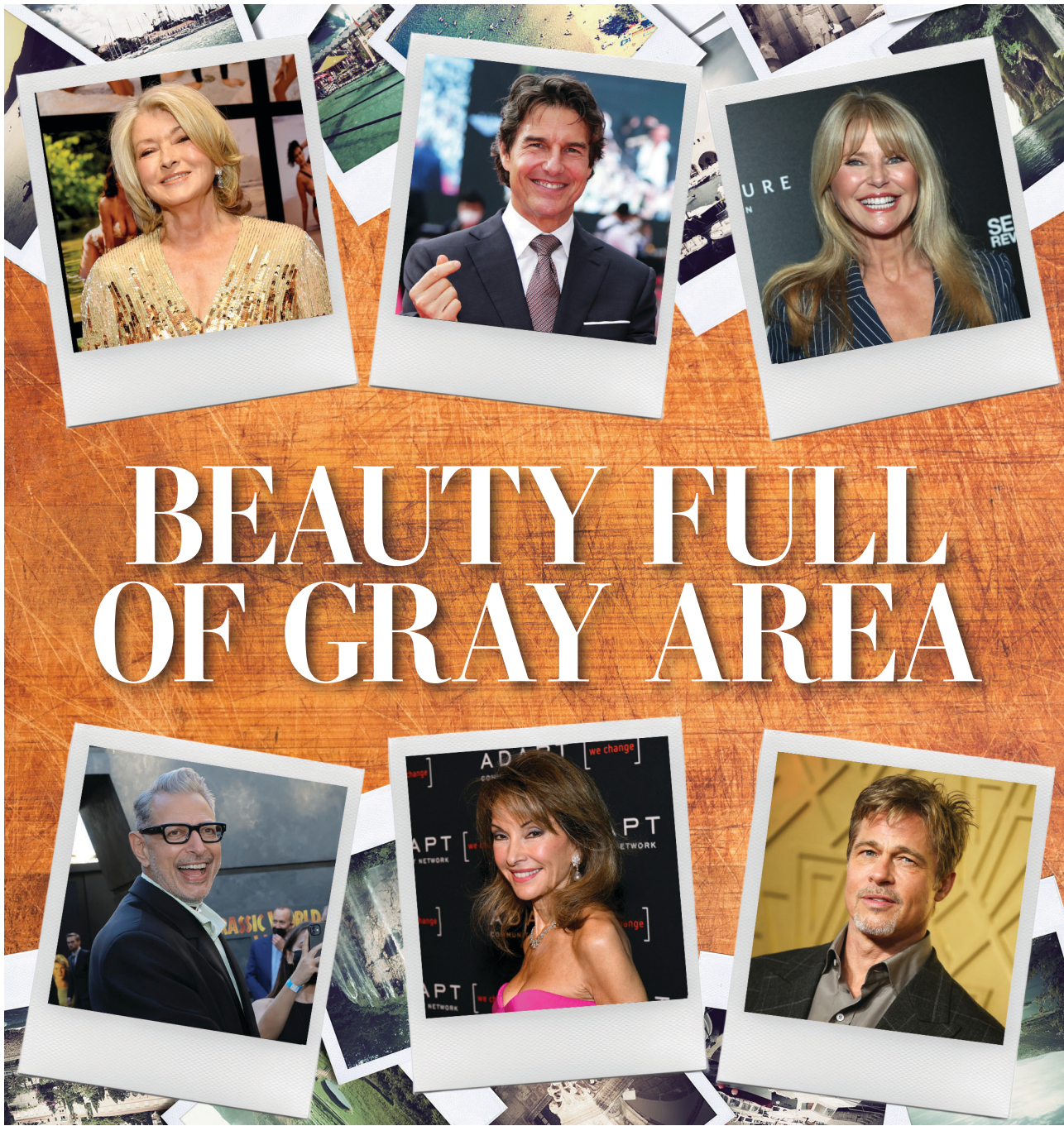
# THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

## SUNDAY

Sunday, May 21, 2023 \$2.50 FOUNDED IN 1905 FACEBOOK.COM/OCREGISTER TWITTER.COM/OCREGISTER

ocregister.com

### CULTURE



## BEAUTY FULL OF GRAY AREA

As America gets older, how we define good looks and vitality will change, causing a shift in roles, ads and more

By **Andre Mouchard**  
amouchard@sng.com

"At what age are you most beautiful?"

That was the question posed in a survey sent this year to about 16,000 adults in the United States and seven other countries.

The collective answer was 30, though respondents, all of whom were 35 or older, offered a few caveats. Men, for example, reach maximum beauty at 32 while women reach it at 28, according to the survey. Also, peak beauty apparently can arrive at different times in different countries, with Canadians and Germans saying men hit it at 35 and Italians say-

ing women are most beautiful at 24.

But, details aside, the basic message was clear: We humans believe we are most attractive sometime after the earliest bloom of adulthood but a solid decade, or more, before anything close to middle age.

As for peak beauty and old age? It's not even close. For all the lip service paid to the idea that beauty is as much about attitude as any physical attribute or birthday — a concept a lot of people would say is demonstrably true — thousands of anonymous responses suggest that's not actually how we feel.

Just don't tell Sports Illus-

trated.

This month, the magazine chose Martha Stewart, 81, to be one of four cover models for its annual swimsuit issue. Stewart's appearance generated a lot of buzz, pro and con, from people who track aging and ageism (and sexism, among other 'isms).

And it wasn't a one-off. Days before Stewart's SI cover was revealed, fitness guru Denise Austin, 66, was making news after self-publishing photos of herself wearing a swimsuit she'd modeled several decades previously. And, in the past year, everybody from model Christie Brinkley (69) and music legend Mary J. Blige

AGING » PAGE 10

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Martha Stewart, 81, Tom Cruise, 60, Christie Brinkley, 69, Brad Pitt, 59, Susan Lucci, 76, and Jeff Goldblum, 70, are older celebrities who still carry industry clout. GETTY IMAGES

### JAPAN

# Ukraine center of G7's last day

Zelenskyy attends summit as countries work on ways to punish Russia for invasion

By **Foster Klug, Adam Schreck and Josh Boak**  
The Associated Press

HIROSHIMA, JAPAN » World leaders ratcheted up pressure today on Russia for its war against Ukraine, with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the center of a swirl of diplomacy on the final day of the Group of Seven summit of rich-world democracies.

Zelenskyy's in-person attendance at one of the world's premier diplomatic gatherings is meant to galvanize attention on his nation's 15-month fight against Russia. Even before he landed Saturday on a French plane, the G7 nations had unveiled a slew of new sanctions and other measures meant to punish Moscow and hamper its war-fighting abilities.

Ukraine is the overwhelming focus of the G7 » PAGE 11

### POLITICS

# Feinstein staying may be a help to Newsom

By **Kaitlyn Schallhorn**  
kschallhorn@sng.com

Despite continued — and mounting — questions about her health, Sen. Dianne Feinstein's office last week said she plans to finish her term in the U.S. Senate.

But recent revelations about complications Feinstein, D-Calif., suffered from her shingles diagnosis, including a brain inflammation — coupled with an exchange she had with reporters in the U.S. Capitol in which she appeared to be confused about her absence — have only underscored the possibility that those plans could, at some point, change.

At 89 years old, Feinstein is the oldest sitting U.S. senator, a trailblazer for women in politics who is

FEINSTEIN » PAGE 11

### HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



KEITH BIRMINGHAM — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### JSerra wins second consecutive D1 title

The Lions defeat Santa Margarita 1-0 in a tense divisional championship game at Blair Field. PAGE B2

### NBA PLAYOFFS



KEITH BIRMINGHAM — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

#### Lakers' season is pushed to the brink

Denver wins 119-108 at Crypto.com Arena to take a 3-0 series lead in the Western Conference finals. PAGE B1

### CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY



PHOTO BY GREG ANDERSEN

#### Angela Bassett speaks at graduation

The actress and producer inspires members of the 2023 class by telling them to always "stand tall." PAGE A3

### INDEX

Focus.....A31 | Lottery.....A2 | Pets.....A4 | Real Estate.....Y4-10  
Local.....A3 | Obituaries.....A20-21 | Playlist.....C1 | Sports.....B1

**TODAY'S FORECAST**  
Coastal: High 68/Low 61  
Inland: High 79/Low 58  
Full weather report A22

Customer Service: 714-796-7777  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWS GROUP  
Volume 117, Issue 141  
7 10150 00007 1

Segerstrom Center Presents

# 2023-24 Broadway

It's showtime!

Segerstrom Center for the Arts® scfta.org/broadway

<b>Les Misérables</b> Sept 19–Oct 1, 2023	<b>Disney's Aladdin</b> May 7–12, 2024
<b>Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations</b> Oct 17–29, 2023	<b>Funny Girl</b> May 28–Jun 9, 2024
<b>Disney's The Lion King</b> Feb 1–25, 2024	<b>Clue</b> July 23–28, 2024
<b>MJ</b> Mar 19–31, 2024	<b>Peter Pan</b> Aug 6–18, 2024
<b>Beetlejuice</b> Apr 16–28, 2024	<b>Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas</b> Dec 19–24, 2024



## ENTERTAINMENT

## New TV programming pipeline in limbo from strike

By David Bauder  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** » For decades, the week in May when television executives revealed what new shows were coming and which old ones were going spoke to the power and influence that ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox had over popular culture.

This past week offered more evidence of how that is diminishing, draped in confusion about the future wrought by the Hollywood writers strike.

The week of schedule presentations, known as “upfronts” because networks are looking for millions of dollars in advertising commitments, have long been star-studded, news-making events.

Johnny Carson announced the end of his late-night run at an NBC upfront. So convinced they had a hit, ABC showed advertisers the entire pilot episode of “Modern Family” one year (the same strategy didn’t work as well when NBC tried it with “Joey”). CBS rewarded advertisers with the Who in a private Carnegie Hall concert.

This year the stars stayed home, unwilling to cross picket lines of striking writers outside Manhattan venues. That meant no Jimmy Kimmel, whose annual routine skewering his own industry is always anticipated. He’s been doing it since 2002, with a few years off due to the pandemic and his son’s illness.

Instead, networks tried to excite advertisers with sports and news stars. Michael Strahan tossed autographed balls into the audience with Rob Gronkowski,



CHRIS PIZZELLO — INVISION — AP

Janelle James, left, Quinta Brunson, Lisa Ann Walter and Sheryl Lee Ralph pose in the press room with the award for best television series, musical or comedy for “Abbott Elementary” at the Golden Globe Awards on Jan. 10 in Beverly Hills.

Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez at Fox’s event, and kibitzing with fellow “Good Morning America” host George Stephanopoulos at ABC’s.

“With the writers strike and everything, there wasn’t a whole lot of excitement about the upfronts this year,” said Alan Wolk, co-founder of TV(R)EV, a media consulting business.

Television’s biggest mystery is when viewers will be able to see new mysteries on television.

Networks tried different strategies to deal with uncertainties caused by the strike. Generally, television programs begin preparing

new episodes for the fall starting in about a month, but there have been no contract talks since members of the Writers Guild for America went on strike May 2.

CBS and NBC released fall schedules as usual, knowing that shifting gears is a possibility.

“It creates some buzz, it creates some hope,” Wolk said.

Fox, however, didn’t bother announcing a schedule. ABC, where an executive privately said it would be “miraculous” if the strike was settled in time to allow business as usual, released a fall schedule that

relies almost exclusively on unscripted programming. Reruns of the popular comedy “Abbott Elementary” was the only exception.

NBC has an entire season of episodes of “Found,” a new missing persons drama starring Shanola Hampton, already filmed in advance and ready to debut Thursdays in the fall, and recorded some new episodes of “Quantum Leap.”

But very few new or returning broadcast shows have done the same. If the strike lasts into the summer, look for CBS, for example, to offer expanded versions of shows like “Survivor,” “The Amazing Race”

and “Big Brother,” prime-time versions of game shows like “The Price Is Right” or “Let’s Make a Deal,” and reruns of scripted shows from previous years.

“It’s not lost on me that with the strike underway, all eyes are on unscripted,” said Allison Wallach, president of unscripted programming on Fox. Fox has two new game shows, hosted by Jamie Foxx and David Spade, on the docket.

Across the networks, executives put off deciding whether to reject pilots of several proposed new shows or order a full season of episodes, calls that are usually made by May. The

future of some current programs — “American Auto,” “Grand Crew” and “Young Rock” on NBC, for example — are up in the air, too.

If the strike lasts through summer, the idea of new shows for television’s traditional midseason would be in jeopardy, one executive said.

There are some in the television industry who see ABC’s fall schedule as a sign of things to come for broadcast networks.

With television viewers, and media conglomerates, increasingly turning their attention to streaming services, the future for broadcast TV may lie in schedules consisting primarily of live sports, reality games like “The Bachelor,” game shows or news programming.

An ABC executive pushed against that notion, saying scripted series will always be in the mix, and noting that one of the network’s big moves this spring was to pick up the drama “9-1-1” after it had been canceled by Fox.

Still, it was hard not to miss the increasing amount of time spent in upfront presentations touting new programming being created for streaming services Peacock and Disney+.

And perhaps the biggest development in upfronts week had nothing to do with the broadcast networks at all. It was the virtual presentation by Netflix, a first. Netflix had never needed to tout their wares to advertisers before but now they do, since it now offers a lower-cost subscription that contains advertising.

## Aging

FROM PAGE 1

(52) to soap opera actress Susan Lucci (76) have used glamor shots of themselves looking great in bathing suits to boost their brands.

While the international survey (from NordChem, a U.K.-based company that makes beauty, health and cleaning products) focused on the “when” of beauty, it ignored the fact much of the world is zooming past that alleged peak and, as that happens, the world might come up with new definitions for it.

If we do, demographics figure to play a part. Between now and 2040, the median age of all the people living in the eight countries surveyed is projected to jump from 41.8 to 46, according to the World Health Organization. In the younger-than-average U.S., the median age will change from 38.1 to 42.5, and the ratio of Americans who are 65 or older will jump from about 1 in 7 to about 1 in 4 by the mid-2040s.

This graying demography, which is hitting every advanced economy and happening at a rate unprecedented in human history, is already raising questions about everything from health care and taxes to immigration.

Soon, it figures to change our collective self-image.

“Research on this talks about something called ‘subjective age.’ People look in the mirror and, even though they know their actual age, what they see and say to themselves is about 20% younger. Our age, at least internally, is subjective,” said Charles Schewe, professor emeritus of marketing at Amherst University who, in the 1980s and ’90s, helped pioneer the field of studying the consumer behavior of different age cohorts, such as baby boomers and Generation X.

“But subjective age has its limits,” Schewe added. “Once people are in their 60s or 70s, they get more realistic about age. I don’t think anybody can say, for sure, how people will define things like beauty or whatever, and what that might mean, when our population has as many older people as it’s going to have.”

One theory goes like this: In youth-focused America, a population dominated by people 65 and older might

come up with new, less youth-centric definitions of beauty and vitality, how it looks and feels and, critically, whether it is or isn’t important.

Such a shift wouldn’t be trivial. Economists and others note that those particular crowd-sourced ideals are powerful forces when it comes to persuading people to spend money, and new definitions for beauty and vitality could reshape everything from Hollywood movies and fashion to beer commercials.

Some believe that shift has already begun.

“People in the beauty industry don’t even use the term ‘anti-aging’ anymore,” said Jennifer Norman, 52, a former model and founder of Humanist Beauty, a Los Angeles-based lifestyle company that, among other things, makes skin cream for people of all ages. “Whenever you fight something, it persists. So being ‘anti-aging’ only makes you overly concerned about the aging process. That’s not where we want to be, as an industry or as a society. I think we might get past it pretty soon.”

## Moving forward

“I am tired of the culture of youth.”

So began the first-person copy (in French) used in a series of photo-driven print ads for Tom Ford brand jewelry that ran in a 2010 edition of Vogue Paris magazine. The photo accompanying designer Ford’s words featured a male and a female model, both apparently in their 60s, embracing in a passionate, intimate kiss.

Older models were rare in 2010, and older models portrayed as sexual beings were rarer still.

No more. Jane Fonda, 85, Helen Mirren, 77, Andie MacDowell, 65, and the late writer Joan Didion (87 when she died, in 2021) are just a few of the famous women who in recent years have appeared on the covers of fashion magazines or in fashion advertising campaigns. Actor Jeff Goldblum, 70, musician/actor Lenny Kravitz, 58, and day-laborer-turned-model Mammikka, 60, are among men who’ve recently popped up in similar settings.

None of those ads and magazine covers suggest age is a barrier to being fashionable. And few, if any, feature anything approach-

ing frumpy.

Age, at least in the current moment of high fashion, is chic.

Most of the biggest fashion houses (L’Oréal, Prada and Chanel, among others) offer products and related ad campaigns aimed at older customers. And virtually all fashion companies offer public messaging that at least suggests older people and beauty aren’t separate concepts.

It’s all a bit of a countertrend, for now, with data on the fashion industry suggesting older models remain an exception. A 2019 study by FashionSpot, which tracks the industry, found 5% of the models that appeared on the covers of the 51 biggest fashion magazines during the previous year were 50 or older, a rate that had been stable

**“The idea right now is that aging is something to be embraced. It’s a privilege to get older.”**

— Jennifer Norman, 52, a former model and founder of Humanist Beauty on a shift in America’s view on getting older

for about five years. FashionSpot also found that less than 2% of runway models were 50 or older.

But hiring models older than 40 has become common only in the past 15 years. And at least some insiders believe the beauty sector’s push for older customers is only just getting started.

“The idea right now is that aging is something to be embraced,” said Humanist Beauty founder Norman. “It’s a privilege to get older.”

And if getting older is a privilege, selling older is potential profit.

In 2020, Americans age 50 and up spent about \$152 billion on clothes and shoes, according to a study released late last year by AARP. By 2040, that group’s annual clothing bill is projected to jump 75%, to about \$265 billion. Fashion sales to other age groups aren’t expected to grow at anything close to that rate.

Norman, among others, suggests an aging population is starting to leverage its growing purchasing power with social media to usher in what she termed “the democratiza-

tion of beauty.”

“I think there’s a dignity and respect that we all demand as we get older,” Norman said. “But, today, with TikTok and Instagram and YouTube, the clout is no longer with large companies and brands and designers saying ‘This is how you should look.’ The clout is with customers, and a lot of them are older.”

## Slow going

Sadly, the coming demographic revolution probably won’t be televised; or streamed, or released in theaters. At least not anytime soon.

Though there are anecdotal signs of change, a barrage of studies from researchers as diverse as the USC Annenberg School for Communication and the Center for the

intellect or physical courage.

Some have suggested the complaint is only semi-fair. Drama, by definition, isn’t about reality. And characters of all ages are written poorly more often than they’re written well.

But Hollywood’s ageism — which research suggests also extends to discrimination against older directors and older screenwriters — is felt by at least some of the industry’s biggest customers.

“You know what role I saw recently that I could relate to? Moneypenny! She’s older and she gets to boss James Bond around,” said a laughing Tanya Facinelli, 74, a retired librarian and self-described “big movie buff” who lives in Eagle Rock.

“Other than that, I think of a lot of characters that are roughly my age are in a film just to support somebody else,” she added.

“Moneypenny is like that, too, now that I think about it.”

But a few recent events might be seen as signs that Hollywood’s ageism is cracking.

In February, longtime Hollywood data company National Research Group found that 87 of the top 100 actors and actresses most likely to prompt a movie fan to buy a ticket were 40 or older. Topping the list was Tom Cruise, then age 60, and the average age of the top 10 was a tick over 56 years old.

And it’s not just surveys. Michele Yeoh and Jamie Lee Curtis were 60 and 64, respectively, when they won Oscars this year for best actress and best supporting actress for “Everything Everywhere All at Once.” Neither was the oldest to win those awards in the past two years. Frances McDormand was 64 in 2021 when she picked up an Oscar for best actress for “Nomadland,” and that year’s best supporting actress, Yoon Yuh-jung of “Minari,” was 74.

Based on recent trends, none of those winners were age outliers. In fact, the average age of best actress winners over the past five years was 52.2, which is considerably older than best actress winners of earlier periods. From 1999 through 2003, for example, the best actress average age was 31.8. From 1979 through 1983 it was 44, and from 1959 through 1963 it was 33.2.

A less dramatic version of this age wave is happening with men, too. The average best actor winner over the past five years was 54, while the winners from 1999 through 2003 were, on average, 40.4 years old, an age that roughly matches best actor winners from previous eras.

Older actors aren’t just winning Oscars, either.

In 2021, Kate Winslet was 46 when she picked up an Emmy for best actress in a limited or anthology series. Hanna Waddingham was 47 when she won an Emmy for best supporting actress in a comedy series, and Jean Smart was 70 when she won that year’s Emmy for best actress in a comedy series.

It should be noted that none of those roles is dismissive of either women or older people.

Winslet’s character, in “Mare of Easttown,” was a smart, relentless detective and a former star athlete. Waddington plays the conniving but ultimately vulnerable team owner in “Ted Lasso.” And Smart, in “Hacks,” is an aging comic hoping to remain relevant.

Still, experts who track all of Hollywood — which most years includes as many as 200 movies featuring thousands of characters — aren’t swayed that a few, high-profile awards signify broader change. Instead, they say progress is coming slowly, when it comes at all.

“Unfortunately, mature individuals are considered a niche market in Hollywood. These attitudes are unlikely to change unless great pressure is brought to bear on decision-makers. Hollywood only changes when it has no choice,” Martha Lauzen, a film and television professor and executive director of the school’s Center for the Study of Women in Television and Film, said via email.

Lauzen noted that the data shows most female characters in movies are in their 20s and 30s and most male characters are in their 30s and 40s. And while there’s a particular drop-off for female characters after age 40, she said portrayals of people age 60 or older, of both genders, “remain underrepresented.”

“While changing demographics may be destiny in certain areas, I don’t think that will apply to age,” she wrote. “It seems to be one of the last acceptable -isms.”