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'Hurt Locker,' 'Glee' top Catholics in Media awards

by Catholic News Service

LOS ANGELES -- The new Fox musical-comedy series "Glee" and the Oscar-nominated film "The Hurt Locker" have been named two of the top honorees of the 17th annual Catholics in Media Associates awards.

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Sr. Rose Pacatte, a Daughter of St. Paul who has written extensively about film, has been chosen to receive the group's Board of Directors Award.

The awards were announced Feb. 15 in Los Angeles.

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"The Hurt Locker," nominated for best picture, follows an Army explosive ordnance disposal team as they defuse bombs, dealing with the threat of insurgency and the growing tensions which develop among their unit. The screenplay was written by Mark Boal, who was embedded with a real bomb squad.

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"Glee" focuses on a Spanish teacher who becomes director of a glee club at a fictional Midwest high school and who hopes to restore it to its former glory. It was selected "because of its beautiful and kind heart," said Catholics in Media Associates member and screenwriter Brian Oppenheimer in a statement.

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"The show demonstrates how the arts integrate life and learning in a joyful way, tinged with humor and sometimes pathos, as kids and teachers try to figure out the best choices to make in life," he added.

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Pacatte, who writes on media for NCR, has been involved in media since she entered the Daughters of St. Paul more than 40 years ago, from publishing to filmmaking. She has served on ecumenical and Catholic juries at film festivals worldwide. Pacatte has been co-director of the National

Film Retreat and has taught film and spirituality courses at Loyola Marymount University and Saddleback College in California and the University of Dayton in Ohio. She also has been an author, columnist and reviewer on movies and television.

The awards are slated to be distributed as part of a Feb. 28 Mass and awards brunch in Beverly Hills. Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles is scheduled to celebrate the Mass.

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