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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**VISUAL EFFECTS SOCIETY (VES) ANNOUNCES WINNERS  
OF 8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL VES AWARDS**

**AVATAR WINS BIG WITH SIX AWARDS  
UP NABS THREE**

**Los Angeles, February 28, 2010** - [The Visual Effects Society](http://www.ves.org) announced the winners of the 8th Annual VES Awards tonight at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California. The annual event recognizes outstanding visual effects in more than twenty categories of film, animation, television, commercials and video games.

Filmmakers, producers and guests joined more than a thousand attendees from the visual effects industry for the sold-out gala which honored James Cameron with the VES Lifetime Achievement Award and Dr. Ed Catmull with the Georges Méliès Award for Pioneering.

*Avatar* was the evening's big winner taking home six awards including Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects Driven Motion Picture. The animated feature film *Up* was honored with three awards including Outstanding Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture.

The 2010 VES Awards will premiere on Friday, March 5 at 10pm ET/PT on REELZCHANNEL.

The following is the complete list of winners of the 8th Annual VES Awards:

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Visual Effects Driven Feature Motion Picture**

***Avatar***

Joe Letteri, Joyce Cox, Eileen Moran, Richard Baneham

**Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Feature Motion Picture**

***Sherlock Holmes***

Jonathan Fawkner, Chas Jarrett, David Vickery, Dan Barrow

**Outstanding Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

***Up***

Pete Docter, Jonas Rivera, Steve May, Gary Bruins

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Miniseries, Movie or Special**  
***Disney Prep and Landing – Gadgets, Globes, and other Garish Gizmos***

Dorothy McKim, Scott Kersavage, David Hutchins, Kee Suong

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Series**

***Battlestar Galactica Season 4 -Ep. 421 “Daybreak”***

Michael Gibson, Gary Hutzel, Jesse Toves, Dave Morton

**Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects in a Broadcast Program**

***CSI Crime Scene Investigation - Ep. 1001 Opening Sequence***

Rik Shorten, Sabrina Arnold, Steve Meyer, Derek Smith

**Best Single Visual Effect of the Year**

***Avatar – Neytiri Drinking***

Joe Letteri, Joyce Cox, Eileen Moran, Thelvin Cabezas

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Commercial**

***Audi – Intelligently Combined***

Jay Barton, Rafael F. Colon, Ronald Herbst, Chris Fieldhouse

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Special Venue Project**

***Dance of the Dragons - Eastern***

Derry Frost, Michael Morreale

**Outstanding Real Time Visuals in a Video Game**

***Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2 Gulag Extraction***

Mark Rubin, Richard Kriegler, Robert Gaines, David Johnson

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Video Game Trailer**

***Halo 3: ODST – The Life***

Robert Moggach, Ryan Meredith, Jens Zalzala, Michael Pardee

**Outstanding Animated Character in a Live Action Feature Motion Picture**

***Avatar - Neytiri***

Joe Letteri, Andrew R. Jones, Jeff Unay, Zoe Saldana

**Outstanding Animated Character in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**

***Up – ‘Carl’- No Dad Scene***

Ed Asner, Ron Zorman, Brian Tindall, Carmen Ngai

**Outstanding Animated Character in a Broadcast Program or Commercial**  
***AMF – The Caterpillar***

Robert Sethi, Jamie O'Hara, Becky Porter, Steve Beck

**Outstanding Effects Animation in an Animated Feature Motion Picture**  
***Up***

Jason Johnston, Alexis Angelidis, Jon Reisch, Eric Froemling

**Outstanding Matte Paintings in a Feature Motion Picture**  
***Avatar – Pandora***

Yvonne Muinde, Brenton Cottman, Peter Baustaedter, Jean-Luc Azzis

**Outstanding Matte Paintings in a Broadcast Program or Commercial**  
***Kaiser Permanente – Emerald City***

Ben Walker, David Woodland, Kim Taylor, Ben Walsh

**Outstanding Models & Miniatures in a Feature Motion Picture**  
***Avatar – Samson/Home Tree/Floating Mountains/Ampsuit***

Paul Jenness, Rainer Zoettl, John Stevenson-Galvin, Simon Cheung

**Outstanding Created Environment in a Feature Motion Picture**  
***Avatar – Jungle/Biolume***

Eric Saindon, Shadi Almassizadeh, Dan Cox, Ula Rademeyer

**Outstanding Created Environment in a Broadcast Program or Commercial**  
***V – Pilot “Atrium and Ship Interiors”***

Chris Zapara, Chris Irving, David Morton, Trevor Adams

**Outstanding Compositing in a Feature Motion Picture**  
***District 9***

Shervin Shogian, Hamish Schumacher, Janeen Elliott, Simon Hughes

**Outstanding Compositing in a Broadcast Program or Commercial**  
***CSI Crime Scene Investigation - Ep. 1001 Opening Sequence***

Derek Smith, Christina Spring, Steve Meyer, Zach Zaubi

**Outstanding Visual Effects in a Student Project**  
***They Will Come to Town***

Thilo Ewers

For more information on the VES Awards, sponsorship and tickets, please visit  
[www.visualeffectssociety.com](http://www.visualeffectssociety.com).

**About the VES**

The VES is a professional, honorary society, dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences, and applications of visual effects and to upholding the highest uniform standards and procedures for the visual effects profession. The VES is the entertainment industry's only official organization representing the extended community of visual effects practitioners including supervisors, artists, producers, technology developers, educators and studio executives.

Its over 2,000 global members contribute to all areas of entertainment from film, animation, television and commercials to music videos, games and new media. VES strives to enrich and educate its members and the entertainment community at large through many domestic and international events, screenings and programs. Visual effects professionals constitute a vital creative force in content creation and are literally shaping the future of entertainment.

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