

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# THE AMBIES

**TRIXIE MATTEL TO HOST THE PODCAST ACADEMY'S FOURTH ANNUAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN AUDIO ON MARCH 26 IN LA**

***Malcolm Gladwell to be Honored with the Governors Award;  
Ira Madison III to Receive Impact Award***

***Ceremony to be Livestreamed at  
TPA's [YouTube Channel](#) Beginning at 6:00p.m. PT***

**LOS ANGELES, CA, March 4, 2024**—[The Podcast Academy](#), the preeminent professional podcast organization, announced today that season 3 winner of “RuPaul’s Drag Race All Stars” **Trixie Mattel** will host its fourth annual **Awards for Excellence in Audio** ([The Ambies](#)) on March 26 at the JW Marriott LA Live Los Angeles. TPA also unveiled that it will bestow upon **Malcolm Gladwell** the esteemed **Governors Award**, which recognizes a podcast or individual for the compelling influence they’ve had on the industry. Additionally, TPA will honor pop-culture podcaster, **Ira Madison III** with the **Impact Award**, which recognizes an individual or podcast that has made a significant, positive effect on its listeners. The ceremony will be livestreamed at TPA’s [YouTube Channel](#) beginning at 6:00p.m. PT.

The Ambies celebrate excellence in podcasting and elevate awareness and status of podcasts as a unique and personal medium for entertainment, information, storytelling and expression. The ceremony will highlight 192 nominees across 27 categories with winners to be selected by every voting member of The Podcast Academy (TPA). Community Building Sponsor [Wondery](#) will highlight TPA’s Mentorship Program at the Ceremony. Full list of the 2024 nominees may be found [here](#).

“On behalf of The Podcast Academy, we are thrilled to honor Ira Madison III with the Impact Award and Malcolm Gladwell with the coveted Governors Award,” said **Donald Albright**, chairperson of TPA. “As a writer and podcaster, Ira is an authentic voice for the industry. He alongside his team have created unique content that spans pop-culture to politics while amplifying underrepresented voices. Furthermore, we are beyond privileged to recognize Malcolm Gladwell with the Governors Award. He’s been instrumental in shaping the medium with innovative content that has, and will continue to have, a lasting effect.”

**Trixie Mattel** is an American singer, actor, drag queen and recognized “Skinny Legend.” She is also a *Billboard* Heatseekers #1 charting recording artist (*One Stone*, 2018), a wildly successful

touring act, and one half of a comic duo with Katya on YouTube (“UNHhhh” & Netflix’s “I Like To Watch”). *The New York Times* best-selling author is also the co-host of the popular podcast with Katya called “The Bald And The Beautiful,” which received the 2021 Queerties Award for Best Podcast in 2021. She stars in her own Discovery+ reality renovation show “Trixie Motel” and released her double LP ‘The Blonde and Pink Albums’ to acclaim from *Rolling Stone*, *Billboard*, *People*, *Vogue*, *NPR* and more, as well as a performance slots on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, Stagecoach Festival, and Austin City Limits.

**Ira Madison III** is a cultural critic, TV writer, and host of the Crooked Media award-winning podcast “Keep It.” His work has been featured in *GQ*, *Vulture*, *The Cut*, and *MTV News*. As a television writer, he’s written for “Uncoupled,” “Q-Force,” “Nikki Fre\$h,” and “Daybreak.” His debut essay collection *Pure Innocent Fun* will be published by Random House in early 2025.

**Malcolm Gladwell** is the author of seven *New York Times* bestsellers, including *The Tipping Point*, *Blink*, *Outliers*, *Talking to Strangers*, and *The Bomber Mafia*. He is the co-founder of Pushkin Industries, an audiobook and podcast production company that produces the podcasts “Revisionist History,” “Against the Rules with Michael Lewis,” “The Happiness Lab with Dr. Laurie Santos,” and “Broken Record.”

#### **ABOUT THE PODCAST ACADEMY**

Founded in February 2020, The Podcast Academy is a not-for-profit professional membership organization that celebrates excellence in podcasting and elevates awareness of podcasts as an indispensable medium for entertainment, information, and creative expression. It values individual and organizational creators alike, of all backgrounds and means, and defines achievement through the values of quality, creativity, and innovation. The Podcast Academy provides community, professional development, and industry connections through inclusive, dynamic programming. For more information about The Podcast Academy, please visit [www.thepodcastacademy.com](http://www.thepodcastacademy.com) and follow/like/subscribe on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#). [Visit our donation page to support our mission.](#)

Sponsor support for [The Podcast Academy](#) includes [The Hollywood Reporter](#), [Audible](#), [Dolby](#), [Campside Media](#), [The Podcast Show](#), [Tenderfoot TV](#), [Castbox](#), and [IMDb](#).

###

#### **Press Assets:**

The Ambies logo: [here](#); photo credit: The Podcast Academy

Trixie Mattel headshot: [here](#); photo credit within

Ira Maddison III headshot: [here](#); photo credit Sela Shiloni

Malcolm Gladwell headshot: [here](#); photo credit Celeste Sloman