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Julie Andrews honored with Grace

Performer honored at November gala

By GORDON COX

Julie Andrews will be honored at this year's Princess Grace Awards Gala with the Prince Rainier III Award, a kudo given to prominent creatives whose career has included both artistic achievement and significant humanitarian work.

Andrews has a long history of charity work, particularly on behalf of orgs that tackle international issues. She's a founding board member of Operation USA, which provides relief to areas of the world hit by disasters, disease or poverty, and has also been a goodwill ambassador for gender-equality fund Unifem. In recent years, the honor has gone to Denzel and Pauletta Washington, Mandy Patinkin, Glenn Close and George Lucas.

Also tapped for a career achievement award at the ceremony is Jon M. Chu, helmer of "Justin Bieber: Never Say Never." He'll get the Princess Grace Statue Award. Prior winners of the statue award have included Tony Kushner, Greg Mottola and Anna D. Shapiro.

Princess Grace Awards support emerging creatives in legit, dance and film, handing out scholarships, apprenticeships and fellowships. Twenty-one up-and-comers will receive the Princess Grace during the upcoming kudofest and gala.

Ceremony is set for Nov. 1 at Gotham's Cipriani 42nd Street.

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