



Audio Publishers Association

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TAN FRANCE TO HOST 'THE AUDIE AWARDS' AND CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS IN AUDIOBOOKS**



New York, NY – February 4, 2019 – The Audio Publishers Association (APA), the premiere trade organization of audiobooks and spoken word entertainment, announces today that *Queer Eye* fashion expert and upcoming author and audiobook narrator, Tan France, will host the 2019 Audie Awards. This year's award ceremony and reception is getting a makeover with a high-profile host and judging panel. The prestigious event is best known as a gathering of authors, narrators, and publishers with 24 competitive categories being awarded throughout the evening. The ceremony will take place on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at Guastavino's in New York City.

"We're so honored to have audiobook fan and soon-to-be author, Tan France, help raise the bar and bring more excitement to the fastest-growing format in publishing," said Michele Cobb, Executive Director of the APA. "Tan will be a wonderful addition to the 2019 Audie Awards, commanding and enchanting the room full of publishing personalities. We're thrilled to have him introduce this year's esteemed judging panel and bring audiobooks and the 2019 Audiobook of the Year to a national stage."

Tan France is a well-known fashion designer, stylist, and star of the Emmy award-winning Netflix reboot, *Queer Eye*. This spring, Tan France will be releasing his first memoir and self-narrated audiobook, *Naturally Tan*.

The 2019 esteemed judging panel includes:

Ron Charles, Book Critic for *The Washington Post*

Lisa Lucas, Executive Director of the National Book Foundation.

Linda Holmes, Host of NPR's *Pop Culture Happy Hour*

This year's star-studded Audie Award nominees include: Sally Field, Megan Mullally, Nick Offerman, Leslie Odom, Jr., Carey Mulligan, Stockard Channing, Emma Thompson, Rosario Dawson, Joanne Froggatt, Michael C. Hall, Stanley Tucci, Amber Tamblyn, D.L. Hughley and former Vice President Joe Biden.

Nominee announcements for all categories throughout the night will be voiced by award-winning audiobook narrators P.J. Ochlan and Suzanne Elise Freeman. For more information on The 2019 Audies and to view the full list of finalists, please visit <http://theaudies.com>.

Tickets are available to the public for \$350 each. Join us on March 4th by purchasing through the below link. <https://audiopub.site-ym.com/events/register.aspx?id=1180927>

#### ABOUT THE AUDIE AWARDS®

The Audie Awards® is the premier awards program in the United States recognizing distinction in audiobooks and spoken-word entertainment. Publishers and rights holders enter titles in various categories for recognition of achievement. Finalists are selected, and from that group of finalists one winner is awarded. The Audie Awards® is a registered trademark of the Audio Publishers Association.

#### ABOUT THE APA

The Audio Publishers Association (APA) is a not-for-profit trade organization whose primary goals are to promote awareness of the audiobook industry, gather and disseminate industry statistics, encourage high production standards and represent the interests of audiobook publishers. Since 1986, the APA has worked to bring audio publishers together to increase interest in audiobooks.

For more information on attending The Audies: <https://www.audiopub.org/members/audies>

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