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Academy confirms Oscars will not have a host

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A representative for The Academy has officially confirmed that the Oscars will go ahead without a host following the Kevin Hart controversy.

A publicist with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) [confirmed to Fox News](#) on Monday night that the 91st Academy Awards will have no official presenter after [Hart stepped down from the post in December](#) following the resurfacing of some old controversial tweets. It marks the first time the ceremony will be without a host since 1989.

On Monday they announced the first wave of presenters, which include Oscar winners Brie Larson and Whoopi Goldberg, Marvel Cinematic Universe stars Chris Evans and Tessa Thompson, Crazy Rich Asians co-stars Constance Wu and Awkwafina, as well as Jennifer Lopez, Daniel Craig, Charlize Theron and comedienne Tina Fey, Amy Poehler and Maya Rudolph. More talent will be announced in due course.

The announcement came weeks after a spokesman for actors' union SAG-AFTRA put out a statement blasting AMPAS bosses, claiming they had been placing "extraordinary and unwarranted pressure" on celebrities, insisting they

appear exclusively at the Oscars and no other ceremonies during this awards season.

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In their press release on Monday, Oscars producers said the ceremony would honour the night's nominees and "embrace the diversity of the global movie-going audience".

"This is an important moment in Oscar history," said Academy chief executive Dawn Hudson. "This year's show maintains Oscar traditions, and is also evolving to reflect our global audience."

The nominees took part in the annual Oscars luncheon and group photo on Monday. Notable nominees missing from the snap included Olivia Colman, Adam Driver and Emma Stone.

Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra will perform during the In Memoriam segment, while all five Best Original Song nominees will be performed. They include Shallow from A Star Is Born, All the Stars from Black Panther, The Place Where Lost Things Go from Mary Poppins Returns, I'll Fight from RBG, and When a Cowboy Trades His Spurs for Wings from The Ballad of Buster Scruggs.

The Oscars will take place on February 24 at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

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