



## Oscars watch party at Hampton U.

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By *Miah Harris*

The one-day countdown now begins for the 87th Annual **Academy Awards**, aka the Oscars.  

Students in Professor **April Woodard's** pop culture class Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. will host their first Oscars watch party. The event will take place in the **Scripps Howard School** of Journalism and Communications auditorium.

"I thought this would be a great idea since audiences online and on social media are fanatics about pop culture, and this is what is trending in our JAC 450 course," said Woodard. "This event will allow us to combine passion for pop and real-time media coverage of events, like the Oscars." Her students have quite an eventful night planned, with hopes to entertain many guests from other schools around Hampton University's campus.

A Scripps Howard student would agree that, the Oscars, along with most academy award shows, are to be watched faithfully and criticized far beyond typical or ordinary judgment. "I absolutely adore award shows, especially the Oscars," said journalism major Jirah Cosey. "It gives the top directors, actors and other team players a chance to show off their hard work to the world, with the perks of getting all tailored and made up. Now, that is my kind of party!"

A group of Hampton students expressed their concerns and wishes to see Oscar nominees "look more like them" in due time. They were glad to hear about '**Selma's**' nomination for 'Best Picture,' but explained that they would just love to see more.

From the outside looking in, a few non-Scripps Howard majors on Hampton's campus are big fans of the Oscar awards. "Even though we are STEM majors, we do enjoy watching some of the award shows, like the Oscars, in our downtime," said marine and **environmental science** majors Christina Williams and Kris Anderson. "Us nerds keep up with pop culture, too."

Williams and Anderson both plan to join Woodard's class on Sunday to enjoy light refreshments, but most importantly, to see who will take home those shiny gold trophies.

The Oscar Academy Awards, hosted by **Neil Patrick Harris**, should be more than just receiving a trophy. It is all about hard work paying off from an idea being brought to life through a team's effort, as Cosey expressed.

Above all, the 2015 Academy Awards will definitely have Woodard's students loaded with things to discuss just in time for Monday morning's class.

*The writer is a student in the **Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications**.*

