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OU Alumna Jayne Houdyshell wins 2016 Tony Award

Oakland University Alumna **Jayne Houdyshell** has earned a 2016 Tony Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Play for her work in ***The Humans***.

Houdyshell's nomination for the character of Deirdre Blake was one of six total nominations for *The Humans*, a play that began off-Broadway at its inception and has been playing at the Helen Hayes Theatre since February. The play revolves around a family's Thanksgiving dinner in New York City.

Houdyshell was in Tony Award competition in that category along with Pascale Armand and Saycon Sengbloh, from *Eclipsed* and Megan Hilty and Andrea Martin from *Noises Off*.

It was the third nomination and first win for Houdyshell, who was nominated in 2012 for Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Musical for *Follies* and in 2006 for Best Featured Actress in a Play for her work in *Well*.



OU alumna Jayne Houdyshell won her first Tony Award in the category of Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Play at the 2016 Tony Awards.

The Humans was nominated for six awards overall and won four of them, including Best Play for author **Stephen Karam**, Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Play for **Reed Birney**, Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Play for Houdyshell and Best Scenic Design of a Play for **David Zinn**.

The 70th annual Tony Awards was hosted by **James Corden** and broadcast live on CBS from New York's Beacon Theatre on Jun 12.

This was Corden's first time hosting the Tony Awards. He won a Tony in 2012 for Best Performance by a Leading Actor in a Play for his performance in *One Man, Two Guvnors*.

The Tony Awards were presented by The Broadway League and the American Theatre Wing.