2014-2015

- ★ President Barack Obama issued an executive order offering millions of illegal immigrants the chance to apply to stay in the U.S. temporarily if they have lived in the U.S. more than five years, have children and pass a criminal background check. Questions were raised about Obama's use of executive action versus working to get an immigration bill through Congress.
- *The nominees for Best Picture at the Oscars included "Boyhood," a coming-of-age film that was shot over the course of 12 years and showed a young boy and his sister growing up through their school years. Other nominees included "American Sniper," "Birdman," "The Imitation Game," and "Selma."
- ★ Ridesharing service Uber expanded to more than 200 cities. Smartphone users were able to arrange rides via the Uber app. However in many cities taxi drivers protested Uber, claiming they were avoiding the fees and restrictions taxi companies face.
- ★ In his first year as host, comedian Jimmy Fallon helped boost the ratings of "The Tonight Show" for the first time in years. Fallon introduced the traditional late-night show to younger viewers with comedy bits that quickly became viral video sensations.



* AMC's zombie drama "The Walking Dead" continued to gain viewers. The show's season 5 premiere was watched by more than 17 million people, making it the most-watched episode in cable TV history.









*Not many had a better year than Pharrell Williams. The singer, songwriter and producer earned six Grammy nominations, including Album of the Year for his latest album, *Girl*. Plus, Williams' song "Happy" was a number one hit.

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