

Harry Belafonte receives Humanitarian Oscar

Entertainer Harry Belafonte, was among four cinematic veterans honoured on Saturday at the Governor's Awards in Los Angeles, California.

Belafonte was given the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award for his activism.

The 87-year-old was a prominent civil rights campaigner and friend of Martin Luther King Jr, who he supported during his fight against segregation.

Also known as a humanitarian, he has been a UNICEF ambassador, a campaigner on HIV in Africa, as well as a supporter of prostate cancer charities since he was successfully treated for the disease in 1996.

Born in 1927 to a Jamaican mother and a Martiniquan father, Harry Belafonte lived with his grandmother in Jamaica from 1932 to 1940. The others are: Maureen O'Hara, Hayao Miyazak and Jean-Claude Carrière.