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This Is Why *Heated Rivalry* Was Not Nominated for an Actor Award

Here's everything you need to know

BY ROSA SANCHEZ PUBLISHED: MAR 01, 2026 8:38 PM EST

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Heated Rivalry has taken over our collective consciousness ever since it came out in late November, and its stars, Connor Storrie (Ilya Rozanov) and Hudson Williams (Shane Hollander) have quickly become true Hollywood stars. Storrie made his debut as the host of Saturday Night Live this past weekend, Williams landed an earth-shattering Wonderland cover. Both have secured major brand deals (Storrie with Saint Laurent and Williams with Balenciaga), and both have landed other big roles.

But sadly, the beloved queer romance hockey series did not make it into this year's awards circuit. Why? The reasons actually make a lot of sense.



STEFANIE KEENAN // GETTY IMAGES

Heated Rivalry was not nominated in the 2025-2026 awards season primarily because the show was not submitted for consideration. The series was produced and financed solely by Canadian company Crave, making it a foreign production, and for U.S. awards, a series must have been coproduced with a U.S. partner from the beginning. (HBO Max acted as the U.S. distributor only after production was finished.)



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It's sad, yes, but it is expected that for future seasons, the series may change to a coproduction structure to allow for U.S. awards eligibility.



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Despite not having received a nomination at the award show tonight, Storrie was invited to attend as a presenter—and he looked damn good for the role. The actor walked from the red carpet onto the stage in a sharp black suit, little silver hoop earrings, and a fabulous, kinky diamond choker from Tiffany & Co.

Hi co-star Ksenia Daniela Kharlamova, who plays his on-screen best friend, Svetlana Vetrova, also attended the award show in a glittery high-slit black dress.

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We'll be seeing a lot more of this starry cast, just you wait.

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