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PEER PRESSURE

By Jon Weisman

ayim Bialik was happy to be surrounded by her peers after having been involved in a serious car accident that left her with an injured hand — as well as erroneous reports that she might lose a finger.

"I'm glad that I got to my parents before the news did," Bialik said at Monday's TV Academy Performers Peer Group reception at the Sheraton Universal, celebrating this year's Emmy acting nominees.

Saying she rarely checked out social media, Bialik added, "I (did see) there was one very funny doctored photo of me looking awesome, with my busted-up Volvo in the background, which I thought was cute."

Thoughts also turned to Phyllis Diller, who had passed away that morning. In attendance were **Jo**

Anne Worley and **Lily Tomlin**, the latter at her first Acad event since being elected to the Board of Governors last week.

"When you'd go to her house and have dinner, she'd make a martini for you this big," Tomlin said, gesturing wide with her hands. "And you know she was an artist. Jane Wagner, my partner, we must have bought 40 paintings."

Diller wasn't the only performer being remembered. Tribute was also paid to Kathryn Joosten, the "Desperate Housewives" thesp whom Tomlin succeeded on the TV Academy board. Joosten was nominated for comedy supporting actress honors, weeks after passing away at the age of 72.

"She is here in spirit — and no doubt buying spirits," Academy Board of Governors member **Bob Bergen** noted.





TV Academy Performers Peer Group reception at the Sheraton Universal brings out Jerry Mathers, Bob Bergen, Florence Henderson, Kathie Barnes and Conrad Bachmann.



