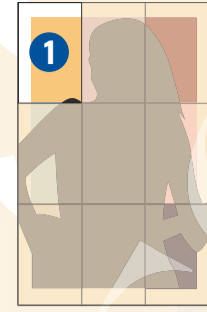


In this first instalment of The Straits Times' nine-part daily Taylor Swift infographic series, correspondent **Yamini Chinnuswamy** and executive artist **Billy Ker** explore the 34-year-old American pop star's second album. This is ahead of The Eras Tour in Singapore from March 2 to 9, named for the different musical "eras" of her career

FEARLESS (2008)



ASSEMBLE YOUR OWN POSTER

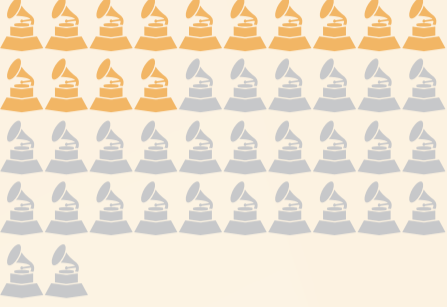
This is the first of a nine-part infographic that will be published daily until Feb 25. Combine all nine pages to create your own mosaic poster of Taylor Swift. Or stand a chance to win a limited-edition collectible poster. Find out more: str.sg/TSwift

AWARDS GALORE

In Swift's 17 years in the industry, she has amassed an impressive collection of accolades and awards

Grammy Awards

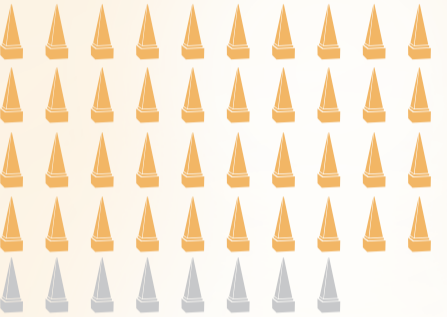
14 wins out of 42 nominations



- Only artiste to win Album of the Year four times, for Fearless (2008), 1989 (2014), Folklore (2020) and Midnights (2022)
- Most nominations for Song of the Year – seven, for You Belong With Me (2009), Shake It Off (2014), Blank Space (2014), Lover (2019), Cardigan (2020), All Too Well: 10 Minute Version (2021) and Anti-Hero (2022), but zero wins

American Music Awards

40 wins out of 48 nominations



- Most-awarded artiste

MTV Video Music Awards

23 wins out of 58 nominations



- Second only to American music star Beyonce on the all-time leaderboard
- Most Video of the Year wins, for Bad Blood (2015), You Need To Calm Down (2019), All Too Well: The Short Film (2021) and Anti-Hero (2022)

Billboard Music Awards

39 wins out of 90 nominations



- Most-awarded artiste (tied with Canadian rapper Drake)

Time
Named Person of the Year
2 times
as part of the Silence Breakers of the #MeToo movement in 2017 and by herself in 2023

Emmy Awards
1 win for her Amex Unstaged: Taylor Swift Experience app in 2015

Forbes
5 appearances on the Most Powerful Women list, including 5th place in 2023, making her the first entertainer and youngest person, at age 33, to make the top 5

People's Choice Awards
16 wins out of 39 nominations

Guinness World Records
118 including Greatest Seismic Activity Caused By A Music Concert (in Seattle in July 2023)

Teen Choice Awards
26 wins out of 66 nominations

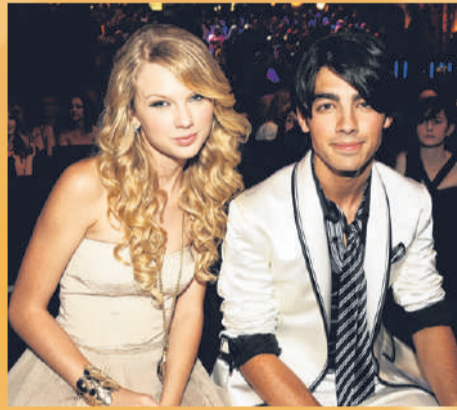
TAYLOR'S DIARY

July to November 2008

♥ The long-time fascination with Swift's dating life begins in the Fearless era with her first celebrity boyfriend, American singer Joe Jonas (below), then 18. He is one-third of the Jonas Brothers pop group with his brothers Kevin and Nick.

On a talk show, Swift says that Jonas broke up with her over the phone in 25 seconds when she was 18.

He is the first celebrity skewered in a Swift song, on Forever And Always from the Fearless album.



Early 2009

🎬 Swift nabs her first professional acting credit on the television show CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (2000 to 2015). In the summer of 2009, she begins filming ensemble romantic comedy Valentine's Day (2010).

This is probably when she meets her next love interest, American actor Taylor Lautner, then 17. The two Taylors play high-school lovebirds in the film (below).

It is not clear when exactly they began dating, but they split up after Swift's birthday party in December. Her song Back To December (2010) suggests that she was the one who initiated the break-up and regretted it.



September 2009

✂ Lautner presents Swift with the award for Best Female Video at the MTV Video Music Awards for You Belong With Me.

American rapper Kanye West (below) storms the stage to interrupt Swift's thank-you speech with the now-notorious line: "Taylor, I'm really happy for you, and I'm gonna let you finish, but Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time."



Everyone has an opinion on the scandal – even then United States President Barack Obama, who says: "I thought that was really inappropriate... She was getting an award, why (was he) butting in? He's a jacka**"

Swift later tells the media that West had called her: "He was very sincere in his apology, and I accepted that apology." But they would have more run-ins in years to come.

WE NEVER GO OUT OF STYLE

1 Junior Jewels

The oversized white T-shirt that Swift wears in the 2009 music video for You Belong With Me became iconic. The tee says "Junior Jewels", a reference to being in the junior grade of American high school.



2 Hearty gesture

Swift popularised the heart-hands gesture in her first concert tour during the Fearless era.



3 Lucky number

Swift's is "13" – she was born on Dec 13, 1989.

4 Bling bling

Sparkles and fringe are the name of Swift's aesthetic game in the Fearless era. She keeps the guitar and cowboy boots from her debut album Taylor Swift (2006), and adds more bling.

AT A GLANCE

2nd album, released in November 2008

12 million copies sold worldwide

4 Grammy Awards won, including for Album of the Year

Age 20 Swift was the youngest person to win the Album of the Year Grammy



LINER NOTES

• Fearless is the earliest era that Swift pays homage to in her Eras Tour.

• She has yet to explain why her 2006 self-titled debut album is not included in the concerts. But its 2008 follow-up, Fearless, set her on the track to musical stardom.

• The lead single, Love Story, sees the singer-songwriter make her first real foray into pop music after starting out in the country genre. Love Story gives Swift her first top 5 single in mainstream music charts in multiple countries, including the US, Britain and Australia.

• Fearless remains rooted in the country music tradition showcased

in Swift's debut album. Fiddles and banjos feature in the other breakout single, You Belong With Me. The anthem remains popular among fans for lines such as "she wears short skirts, I wear T-shirts; she's cheer captain, and I'm on the bleachers".

• Other songs include Fifteen, which describes her coming-of-age friendship with long-time school friend Abigail Anderson.

• The Best Day is a fan-favourite track dedicated to Swift's family, and especially her mother, Andrea.

• A re-recorded Taylor's Version of Fearless is released in April 2021, as part of Swift's project to take back control of her back catalogue.