Chandra Wilson, actor and director

Best known for her role as Dr. Miranda Bailey in Grey's Anatomy since 2005, Wilson has been the recipient of numerous awards, among them the Screen Actors Guild, People’s Choice, and the NAACP Image Award, and has been nominated for the Emmy for Best Supporting Actress four times. She made her New York stage debut in 1991 and made her first film appearance in the 1993 film Philadelphia. A native of Third Ward, Wilson attended Houston’s High School for the Performing and Visual Arts before earning a BFA in Drama in 1991 from the Tisch School of the Arts. Despite receiving consistently high praise for her work, she admits having struggled for many years to gain more prominent roles before landing her breakthrough role on Grey’s Anatomy in 2005. She worked for eight years part-time as a teller at Deutsche Bank to make ends meet.