

RTS Scotland Awards

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Open for entries: Monday 9 January 2017

Entry deadline: Monday 13 February 2017

Production Awards

Production awards include the following nine categories.

Judges will consider all elements of the entries, based on the following criteria:

- Creativity
- Originality and innovation
- Entertainment value
- Use of resources
- Professionalism

All work must have been aired on TV, distributed for non-broadcast or streamed online for the first time between January and December 2016.

Category 1: Factual

There are five categories for Best Factual Production, including daytime, factual entertainment and features, documentaries and specialist factual: history, documentaries and specialist factual: and documentaries and specialist factual. This category has been split into five sections to reflect the breadth and depth of factual production talent in Scotland.

Entries may come from one-off programmes or a factual series - although only one edition of the series may be submitted. Please note that "one edition of the series" excludes compilation entries and compilation broadcasts, unless there is substantial new content. Complete programmes must be submitted.

a. Best Daytime

This category recognises the demands of producing high quality factual programming on daytime budgets. Daytime programmes are those transmitted before 6.00pm.

b. Best Factual Entertainment and Features

Features programmes including magazine shows, fashion, cookery, travel, property and other popular formatted programmes.

c. Best Documentary and Specialist Factual: History

This category includes documentaries and specialist factual programmes with an emphasis on history.

d. Best Documentary and Specialist Factual: Arts

This category includes documentaries and specialist factual programmes with an emphasis on arts.

e. Best Documentary and Specialist Factual

This category includes documentaries and specialist factual programmes including arts, science, natural history and the environment.

Category 2: Best Drama

This award is for fiction or other narrative drama, including docu-drama and online. Complete programmes must be submitted.

Category 3: News and Current Affairs

a. Best News Programme

This award is for the best television news programme in Scotland. The award is intended to recognise every aspect of television news, including speed of reaction to breaking news and the depth and quality of coverage. A whole programme or series of up to ten excerpts can be submitted for judging.

Each clip should be clearly identified by time and date. They must not be edited internally.

b. Best Current Affairs Programme

This award is for documentary and discussion programmes, which investigate, explain or analyse current events.

Entries may come from one-off programmes or a series - although only one edition of the series may be submitted. Complete programmes should be submitted.

Category 4: Best Sport Programme

The award will recognise production and editorial values in sports programming – either event coverage/live or recorded, strand or individual programme. The submitted entry should be either up to one continuous hour or up to a one hour compilation of the coverage as transmitted – there can be a maximum of four extracts within the hour. Each extract must be from the same programme and must be as transmitted and not specifically edited.

Entries of live events will be judged on the quality of the coverage, not on the importance or excitement of the event. These entries should reflect the full range of the coverage. The focus will be on the commentary, pictures and sound, what was shown or not shown, editing, packaging, punditry and presentation.

Category 5: Best Comedy

This award category is for a wide range of comedy programmes whose common aim is to make the audience laugh. This could include panel shows, chat shows, game shows, situation comedies, comedy dramas and sketch shows.

Category 6: Best Children's Programme

This category includes children's drama, comedy, factual, entertainment and animation programmes.

Series (one episode) and single programmes can be entered for the children's award.

Programmes must have been commissioned and produced specifically for the child audience, and broadcast during children's airtime.

Category 7: Best Short Form Content

This is a new category designed to recognise excellence in the production of short form television content and the specialist skills required therein. Judges will consider anything shorter than ten minutes duration, which might include:

- Promotional items; trailers, idents and stings

- Commercials
- Online content, individual or episodic

Entries from any media platform used for distribution can be considered. Entries should demonstrate the project's effectiveness, evidencing clear, objective benchmarks of success in the marketplace.

Category 8: Best Animation and VFX

This category recognises professional excellence in the field of Animation and Visual Effects. Entrants should submit one complete programme or sequence(s). Entries can be stand-alone animations, effects or features within programmes. Where the animation is for inclusion in a programme or game, entries should include a maximum of three sequences. The work should show a genuine flair for the medium of animation or VFX and the judges are looking for originality, creativity and innovation as well as technical expertise.

Category 9: Student Television Award

Student Television Awards are made in February in the following categories; animation, factual and fiction. An overall winner will be chosen.

Portfolio Awards

These categories celebrate professional excellence.

All work must have been produced/aired between January and December 2016.

Category 10: On Screen Personality of the Year

This category is open to all television and video on screen talent working across any and every genre and format.

Entrants should submit a portfolio of three items showing of no more than 12 minutes duration, together with contextual notes of no more than 750 words overall. The clips and notes should set out the background to the entry and be explicit about the entrants' skills in on screen presentation.

This category is open to all on screen talent. The judging panel will consider:

1. Originality – presentation which demonstrate the ability to display individual personality
2. Interaction with location and contributors
3. Understanding the audience

Category 11: Young Journalist of the Year presented in memory of George Sinclair

This category is open to all television and video web journalists working in news, current affairs, features and sport up to the age of 30 and is presented in memory of George Sinclair.

As Editor News and, latterly, Editor News and Current Affairs, George Sinclair left a legacy of achievement over two decades in BBC Scotland. His monument will be “Reporting Scotland”, still regarded as the best local news programme in the UK, but his influence extends to a generation of journalists who worked with him and for him

After a period in Fleet Street, George became the youngest news editor of the Scottish Daily Mail at the age of 27. He brought to BBC Scotland a repertoire of news values and techniques that marked a step-change in programme style and content.

The entry must be endorsed by a senior editorial colleague and be no longer than 12 minutes in duration. Entrants should submit a portfolio of up to three items showing a range of work, together with contextual notes of no more than 750 words overall, setting out the background to the entry and being explicit about the entrants’ role or roles.

Crucially, the body of work submitted will show clear evidence of the ambition to develop outstanding skills in television or online journalism.

The judging panel will consider:

1. Originality and innovation - reports which demonstrate the journalist’s ability to work beyond a press release and uncover new ways of telling the story
2. Visual storytelling - including presentation, scripting and use of locations, video and graphics
3. Use of resources - including live links, archive and research
4. Working with other members of the editorial and technical team

Category 12: Television Director of the Year

This category is open to all television and video directors working across any and every genre and format.

Entrants should submit a portfolio of up to three items no longer than 12 minutes in duration, or one complete programme. Entrants should also submit contextual notes of no more than 750 words overall, setting out the background to the entry and being explicit about the entrants’ skills in direction.

Category 13: Professional Excellence (Craft)

There are four awards in this category. Entries should include a combination of material (as outlined below) and contextual notes of no more than 500 words in support of the entry.

a. Best Camera

For professional excellence in all elements of camera work, including sound capture where relevant, in single camera operations. Portfolios can encompass both broadcast and non-broadcast work.

Entries should be no longer than 12 minutes and limited to three extracts, which demonstrate exceptional camerawork.

Entire programmes can be submitted as an example of work, but a time code reference of the favoured 12 minutes to view is required.

The judging panel will consider:

- 1 Originality, creativity and innovation
- 2 Technical competence
- 3 Versatility with a range of material
- 4 Use of resources

b. Best Sound

This category recognises professional excellence in sound across all television output. This award could identify the work of one individual or the work of the whole sound team, in which case the recording supervisor and/or mixing supervisor should be named on the form. Entrants should submit a maximum of three programmes, clips or sequences exhibiting professional excellence in sound. Total duration should not exceed 12 minutes. Entire programmes can be submitted as an example of work, but a time code reference of the favoured 12 minutes to view is required.

The judging panel will consider:

- 1 Originality, creativity and innovation
- 2 Technical competence
- 3 Versatility with a range of material
- 4 Use of resources

c. Best Post production: Editing

This category recognises professional excellence in post-production and is open to all aspects of editing, pictures and sound. Particular emphasis will be given to situations where editing added extra power or value to the process and the final content was significantly more effective as a result.

Entrants should submit a maximum of three programmes, clips or sequences exhibiting professional excellence in this area. Total duration should not exceed 12 minutes. Entire programmes can be submitted as an example of work, but a time code reference of the favoured 12 minutes to view is required.

The judging panel will consider:

- 1 Originality, creativity and innovation
- 2 Technical competence
- 3 Versatility with a range of material
- 4 Use of resources

d. Best Post production: Graphics and Titling

This category recognises professional excellence in post-production and is open to all aspects of graphics and titling. Particular emphasis will be given to situations, where post production added extra power or value to the process and the final content was significantly more effective as a result.

Entrants should submit a maximum of three programmes, clips or sequences exhibiting professional excellence in this area. Total duration should not exceed 12 minutes.

The judging panel will consider:

- 1 Originality, creativity and innovation
- 2 Technical competence
- 3 Versatility with a range of material
- 4 Use of resources

Best Innovation Award

This award is designed to celebrate the use of technology in an expanding and changing world reaching out to new communities of users and new, often interactive ways of communicating using video and text. It is about the use of technology in the production process and the award honours the best in second screen, multi-screen, interactive, online and connected TV content, mobile content and games.

We are looking for outstanding creativity and innovation in creating content across any platform or combination of platforms, which breaks new ground.

Entrants should demonstrate the range of their work through a portfolio of a maximum of three pieces (not necessarily from three different productions). Entries should be no longer than 12 minutes in total and should be supported by contextual notes of no more than 500 words. Entrants can be individuals, groups or partnerships.

The judging panel will consider:

- 1 Originality, creativity and innovation
- 2 Technical competence
- 3 Audience engagement/development
- 4 Use of new technologies

The RTS Scotland Award

The industry award is for the outstanding contribution to television in Scotland. This could apply to any aspect of the industry, broadcasting, production or technical sectors in Scotland and beyond, with a particular focus on the past 12 months (January to December 2016).

This award is open to individuals, teams and organisations whose work, either in front of the camera or behind the scenes, should have made a significant and lasting impact on audiences and viewers in Scotland.

Nominations are not required and the decision will be ratified by the RTS Scotland Committee.

Judging Process

Each entry will be judged by industry experts drawn from appropriate disciplines into sub-committees responsible for specific categories. Each sub-committee will have a chair of the category judging panel. Judges will consider all submitted content, contextual notes and testimonials.

Judging will take place early in 2017 and the decision of the judges will be final. In the event of a tie in any category, the Chair will have the casting vote.

Under normal circumstances awards will not be made posthumously. Entries made and judged prior to any individual's death will be awarded as planned.

Please take care to comply with the entry requirements of each category. Be careful to follow guidance on length of submitted video material and additional written information.

The entries will be judged on the basis of what entrants submit, not on the judges' memories of the original transmission or their knowledge of the entrant's other work.

Except when otherwise stated, the definition of 'broadcast' is taken to include web streaming and video on demand.

The judges retain the right not to offer an award, if there are too few entries in a particular category.

Should your entry be shortlisted you will be expected to provide a broadcast quality clip, for inclusion in the awards ceremony nominee compilation.

The RTS requires the rights to show excerpts from the nominated and winning shows and individuals on the night; for use on promotion of the RTS and awards; and on screen news coverage also. This includes the use of music.

How to Enter

Click here to create your account and enter the RTS Scotland awards

<https://awardsendry.rts.org.uk/entrant/>

The cost of each entry is £72 (£60 + £12 VAT). All nominees will receive an email by 31 March 2017. The full list of nominations will be available online by 7 April 2017.

The award ceremony takes place on Wednesday 17 May 2017 at Òran Mór, Glasgow.

For any technical support contact: awards@rts.org.uk 0207 822 2820.

For any general enquires contact: RTSScotland@rts.org.uk

Good luck!