

RTS North East and the Border Awards

2023/24 Categories and Criteria

Production Awards

Category 1	Non-Broadcast Factual
Category 2	Broadcast Factual
Category 3	Factual Entertainment
Category 4	Comedy
Category 5	Drama
Category 6	Commercial
Category 7	News Programme
Category 8	Short Form
Category 9	Children's
Category 10	Cinematography
Category 11	Sport Award

Individual Awards

Category 12A	Journalism – presentation
Category 12B	Journalism - production
Category 13	TV Personality of the Year
Category 14	Drama Performance
Category 15	Newcomer

Professional Excellence Awards

Category 16	Post production
Category 17	Animation, Gaming, Graphics and Titling
Category 18	The Craft Award

The Centre Award

Judging Process

How to Enter

Open for entries: 23rd August 2023

Entry deadline: 1st November 2023

Production Awards

1. *Judges will consider all elements of the entries, based on the following criteria:*
 - *Quality*
 - *Creativity*
 - *Originality and innovation*
 - *Entertainment value*
 - *Use of resources*
 - *Professional Skills*
2. *Entries may come from any media platform and must have been either aired on TV, distributed for non-broadcast or streamed online for the first time between **November 2022 and December 2023.***
3. *Entries must have a substantial link with the region. This can be - more than a third of the budget spent in the region, originated and shot in the region and/or post-produced in the region.*
4. *More than one production or episode from a series can be entered into the same category.*
5. *All rights must have been cleared for the copying and showing in public of extracts during the Awards presentation and for screening on the internet.*
6. *All entrants must provide a full programme for judging purposes and a 30-second clip (a stand-out moment) which should be uploaded along with their entry. Entries will not be considered complete unless the clip is included.*

Production awards include the following six categories.

Category 1: Non-Broadcast Factual

This award will recognise a production or promotion not made for broadcast. Entries are generally aimed at a specific target audience.

Where there is a commissioning editor, a testimony from them should be included outlining how effective the production was in meeting the commissioner's objectives. Please include a headline production budget for the project.

Category 2: Broadcast Factual

This award will recognise productions made for broadcast. We are looking for the highest standard of output. This category includes daytime, documentaries, current affairs and specialist factual productions.

Entries may be a one-off programme or one episode from a factual or entertainment series and can include investigative and political analysis.

Category 3: Factual Entertainment

This category includes productions made for broadcast and non-broadcast across all platforms.

Entries may be a one-off programme or one episode from a series.

Category 4: Comedy

This is a new award to recognise writers, performers and producers making comedy for broadcast and non broadcast across all platforms. Entries are welcomed from individuals or production teams.

Category 5: Drama

This award is for broadcast and non-broadcast fiction or other narrative drama, including docu-drama and online content. The full production must be submitted. The judges reserve the right to make two awards depending on the number of entries and budget considerations.

This category is not for short form content (anything less than 20 minutes duration should be submitted to the Short Form category)

Category 6: Commercial

This award recognises exceptional standards of work in the production of commercial content from any media platform. Please include a client testimony and brief budget details.

Category 7: News Programme

This award is to recognise the highest standard of news output in the region. Rewarding exceptional journalism, production, technical delivery and depth and quality of coverage.

Two submissions are required. The first can be any programme transmitted during the month of June 2023. The second is a 30-minute highlights reel showcasing the ten best news moments of the year (any clips between **November 2022 and December 2023**)

Category 8: Short Form

This category is designed to recognise excellence in the production of short form content and the specialist skills required in short story telling. Judges will consider productions up to 20 minutes duration. The full programme should be submitted. Entries from any media platform used for distribution will be considered – including festivals, YouTube

and broadcast. Cast members could be put forward for Drama Performance and crew members can enter the Professional Excellence categories.

Category 9: Children's

The key audience for this category is children. Entries can include productions made for broadcast and non-broadcast across all platforms. Entries may be a one-off programme or an episode from a children's series.

Category 10: Cinematography

This award celebrates the skill and professional excellence of an individual or team in all elements of camera work - including sound capture where relevant in single camera operations. Portfolios can include both broadcast and non-broadcast work.

Three examples of work should be submitted demonstrating exceptional camerawork. The portfolio should be no longer than 15 minutes and be supported by written narrative

Category 11: Sport Award

This category is open to broadcast and non-broadcast. This award recognises the importance of sport to the region and will be given for excellence in sports reporting, sports presentation and sports production. This could be an individual award or could recognise sports production teams working on a range of projects.

Entrants should submit a portfolio of three pieces of work no longer than 15 minutes in total which show a range of skills, together with background notes between 500 and 750 words.

Individual Awards

1. *All work must have been aired on TV, distributed for non-broadcast or streamed online for the first time between **November 2022 and December 2023**.*
2. *All entrants must provide a 30 second clip (a stand-out moment) which should be uploaded along with their entry. Entries will not be considered complete unless the clip is included.*

Portfolio Awards include the following four categories:

Category 12: Journalism

This category is split into two separate awards:

- A. Journalism – Presentation
- B. Journalism – Production

Journalism – Presentation is open to television and online journalists and presenters working in news and features. Entrants should submit a portfolio of three pieces of work no longer than 15 minutes which show a range of skills, together with background notes between 500 and 750 words.

Judges will assess a range of skills including on the day/breaking news reporting as well as examples of original and creative journalism combined with strong storytelling and compelling use of pictures. Presentation and effective communication skills will also be taken into account. This is an individual award for reporters or presenters

Journalism – Production recognises behind the scenes excellence in producing, researching and self-shooting news and features which go on to be presented by others.

Entrants should submit a portfolio of three pieces of work no longer than 15 minutes which show a range of skills, together with background notes between 500 and 750 words.

Judges will assess a range of skills including responses to on the day/breaking news reporting as well as examples of original and creative journalism combined with strong storytelling and compelling use of pictures.

Category 13: TV Personality of the Year

This category is open to all on-screen presenters and contributors in broadcast and non-broadcast production who are based in the North East and the Border region – or feature prominently in content produced in the region. Entrants should submit a portfolio of three items no longer than 15 minutes which show a range of work, together with background notes between 500 and 750 words.

Judges will be looking for an individual who has made a significant impact on our screens over the past 12 months. Someone who has had measurable engagement with audiences through their on screen presence.

Category 14: Drama Performance

This award is to recognise the best on-screen performance this year by an actor in broadcast or non-broadcast Drama production. The performer might be working in television drama or a digital docu-drama. Entrants should be based in the region or feature in content produced in the region.

Judges will be looking for an inspired performance and one that has brought depth to the character and the situation portrayed.

Please include the full programme and highlight in the written entry why this performer has been nominated.

Category 15: Newcomer

This award is for a newcomer with less than two years industry experience either in front or behind the camera. They will originate from the region or have a long-term base and live and work in the region. The individual will have demonstrated exceptionally high standards of work and show potential to go right to the top in the industry.

The judges will recognise their skills and talents are emerging. They will want to see evidence of extensive contributions to a team effort, demonstrate newly learned skills, creativity, innovation, professionalism and bags of potential.

The nominee, for example, might be a writer who has had their first network commission aired – they might be in their first film editor job – they might be in the early stages of a

news production career or they might be showing real talent behind the scenes in a TV drama. Entrants may be trainees, assistants or early career freelancers.

This is a broad category and individuals must be nominated by a senior manager who will submit a written nomination between 500 and 1000 words demonstrating why the nominee is already considered to be a “rising star” and why they are likely to make a big impact on the industry in the future. The entry should also include endorsements/letters from clients/managers which highlight how the individual has demonstrated excellence in their role. Video content will not be accepted in this category.

Professional Excellence Awards

1. *All work must have been aired on TV, distributed for non-broadcast or streamed online for the first time between **November 2022 and December 2023.***
2. *Individuals or teams may enter these categories with the exception of Editing.*
3. *Entrants must have their home base in the region if they work elsewhere. At least one member of a team should be based in the North East and Borders.*
4. *These awards include a broad range of disciplines and the winner will be able to clearly demonstrate to the judges that their work is excellent.*
5. *The judging panel will consider:*
 - *Quality*
 - *Originality*
 - *Creativity*
 - *Technical excellence*

6. *All entrants must provide along with their entry, a 30-second clip (a stand-out moment) which should be uploaded along with their entry. Entries will not be considered complete unless the clip is included.*

Professional Excellence Awards include the following categories:

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Category 16: Post Production

This category recognises professional excellence in post-production.

Entrants should submit three samples of work no longer than 15 minutes which demonstrate professional excellence in this area. The portfolio should be supported by written narrative.

This award could identify the work of one individual or the work of the whole post-production team.

Category 17: Animation, Gaming, Graphics and Titling

This award recognises professional excellence in all aspects of animation, graphics and titling.

Entrants should submit three clips or sequences demonstrating professional excellence in this area up to 15 minutes. The portfolio should be supported by written narrative.

Category 18: The Craft Award

Judges are seeking nominations for unsung heroes of tv production in the North East and the Borders. They might be exceptional make up or props professionals, art directors, location or production managers, finance managers or costume designers. There is no cost to nominating individuals for this category.

Nominations will contain a statement of no less than 1000 words about the behind the scenes professional, plus a link where appropriate to examples of their contribution to a production,.

The Centre Award

This award is open to individuals, teams and organisations whose work, either in front of the camera or behind the scenes, has made an outstanding contribution to any aspect of our industry - broadcasting, production, talent development or technical sectors in the North East and Border region – and on a wider stage - with a particular focus on the past 12 months.

Entrants should submit a statement of no less than 1000 words, plus at least three letters of support for the nomination outlining why they deserve this industry award. Without this the entry will not be eligible and therefore will not be considered.

Nominations for the Centre Award and any special achievement awards should be sent in confidence to netbchairofjudges@rts.org.uk

and RTSNorthEastBordersViceChair@rts.org.uk

Judging Process

Each entry will be judged by a panel of five industry experts who are responsible for specific categories. Each will consider the entries along with entry notes and testimonials where required. Each judging panel will have a chair who has the casting vote in the event of a tie in any category.

The entries will be judged on the basis of what entrants submit and not on the judges' knowledge of the entrant's other work.

If there are too few entries in a particular category, the judges reserve the right not to offer an award or if appropriate switch entries to another category.

Judges will be looking for a strong written submission so please take care completing the entry form and make sure you comply with the entry requirements for each category. Be careful to follow guidance on length of submitted video material.

One award will be given per category; however, the Chair of Judges reserve the right to award more than one award if after discussion this is deemed appropriate.

How to Enter

Open for entries: August 23rd 2023

Link to online portal: <https://awardsentry.rts.org.uk/entrant/>

Entry fee: £70 + VAT.

Entry deadline: In line with other RTS centres there is now one entry deadline which is 1st November at 1700.

The Award ceremony takes place on Saturday 24th February 2024 at Newcastle Gateshead Hilton.

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

For general enquiries contact:

Website: www.rts.org/region/north-east-and-the-border

Join the RTS: membership@rts.org.uk

Submission check list:

- Entry form completed
- Full programme uploaded
- 30-second highlights clip uploaded
- Entry fee paid

Good luck!

