



an entertainmentOne company



## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **THE ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY OPENS ENTRIES FOR THE RTS PROGRAMME AWARDS 2020**

## **New Wild Card Entry Option for Broadcasters**

London, 24 October 2019 – The Royal Television Society (RTS), Britain’s leading forum for television and related media, has launched the RTS Programme Awards 2020 in partnership with Audio Network. Taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> March next year, the awards seek to recognise the extraordinary talent across all genres in British television. New this year is the wild card option for submissions which, in addition to the allocated number of entries broadcasters can make in each category, gives broadcasters the opportunity to submit one extra entry into a category of their choosing.

The 2020 ceremony will recognise UK productions and, where appropriate, international co-productions which, between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019, have made a positive contribution worthy of acclaim by the industry and UK viewers in 29 categories across: Single Drama; Drama Series; Mini-Series; Soap and Continuing Drama; Writer – Drama; Scripted Comedy; Entertainment; Writer – Comedy; Actor (Female); Actor (Male); Entertainment Performance; Comedy Performance (Female); Comedy Performance (Male); Presenter; Breakthrough Award; History; Science and Natural History; Arts; Single Documentary; Documentary Series; Formatted Popular Factual; Daytime Programme; Children’s Programme; Live Event; Sports Programme; Sports Presenter, Commentator or Pundit; RTS Channel of The Year; Judges’ Award and the Outstanding Achievement Award.

Chair of the Awards, Wayne Garvie said: “We are very much looking forward to receiving entries for the 2020 RTS Programme Awards and announcing the nominations in early March. As we come together to celebrate the extraordinary talent across British television, we would like all organisations to demonstrate awareness and recognise diversity in our industry and the wider community.”



an entertainmentOne company



The 2020 Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London. All entries must be submitted by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019. For more information on conditions of entry please visit: <https://rts.org.uk/award/rts-programme-awards-2020-partnership-audio-network>

**For further information please contact:**

[rts@ddapr.com](mailto:rts@ddapr.com)

+44 20 7932 9800

### **The RTS Programme Awards Categories:**

#### **DRAMA**

##### ***Single Drama***

The single drama should be submitted in full and should be in one, complete and self-contained episode.

***Up to three entries per channel.***

2019 nominations: *Killed By My Debt (winner); Mother's Day; Black Mirror: USS Callister*

##### ***Drama Series***

For returning drama series. Entries MUST be accompanied by full synopses of all other episodes in the series so that jurors can fully understand the context of the two episodes they view.

***Up to three entries per channel.***

2019 nominations: *Save Me (winner); Killing Eve; Peaky Blinders*

##### ***Mini-Series***

For single-run drama series that are not intended to return. Entries MUST be accompanied by full synopses of all other episodes in the series so that jurors can fully understand the context of the two episodes they view.

***Up to three entries per channel.***

2019 nominations: *A Very English Scandal (winner); The Cry; Butterfly*

##### ***Soap and Continuing Drama***

For half hour or hour long multi-unit entities running throughout the year with one or more episodes per week. Three **consecutive** episodes should be submitted to demonstrate the soap's consistency and continuing quality. Specials or late night episodes should NOT be included. Jurors will give equal weight to their consideration of each episode.

***Up to three entries per channel.***

2019 nominations: *Hollyoaks (winner); Casualty; Coronation Street*

##### ***Writer – Drama***

Both original drama and adaptation can be entered. Single dramas should be submitted in full. For series and serials, please submit one episode only. Please include a shooting script with your online entry.



an entertainmentOne company



**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Lennie James – Save Me (winner)*; *David Nicholls – Patrick Melrose*; *Russel T. Davies – A Very English Scandal*

**ENTERTAINMENT AND COMEDY**

**Scripted Comedy**

For situation comedies, comedy dramas and sketch shows. Single programmes should be submitted in full. For series and serials, please submit two episodes.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Derry Girls (winner)*; *Detectorists*; *Famalam*

**Entertainment**

For entertainment shows, such as chat shows, panel shows and ‘shiny floor’ studio shows. Series (one episode only) and single programmes can be entered. Programmes should be submitted in full.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *The Last Leg (winner)*; *Britain’s Got Talent*; *Don’t Hate The Playaz*

**Writer – Comedy**

For single writers or writing partnerships. Series (one episode only) and single programmes can be entered. Programmes should be submitted in full.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Stefan Golaszewski – Mum (winner)*; *Jamie Demetriou and Robert Popper – Stath Lets Flats*; *Lisa McGee – Derry Girls*

**PERFORMANCE**

**Actor (Female)**

Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each actor can only be considered for a single programme title. Please identify in the accompanying notes the actor being judged.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Jodie Comer – Killing Eve (winner)*; *Michaela Coel – Black Earth Rising*; *Sandra Oh – Killing Eve*

**Actor (Male)**

Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each actor can only be considered for a single programme title. Please identify in the accompanying notes the actor being judged.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Lucian Msamati – Kiri (winner)*; *Ben Whishaw – A Very English Scandal*; *Lennie James – Save Me*

**Entertainment Performance**



an entertainmentOne company



For hosts, comperes and panellists performing as themselves in a pure entertainment format, eg chat shows, panel shows and 'shiny floor' studio shows. Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each performer can only be considered for a single programme title.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Big Narstie and Mo Gilligan – The Big Narstie Show* (winner); *Jennifer Hudson – The Voice UK*; *Michael McIntyre – Michael McIntyre's Big Show*

**Comedy Performance (Female)**

For female actors/performers in sitcom, comedy drama and sketch shows. Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each performer can only be considered for a single programme title.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Lesley Manville – Mum* (winner); *Sian Gibson – Peter Kay's Car Share*; *Daisy May Cooper – This Country*

**Comedy Performance (Male)**

For male actors/performers in sitcom, comedy drama and sketch shows. Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each performer can only be considered for a single programme title.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Steve Pemberton and Reece Shearsmith – Inside No 9* (winner); *Alex Murphy and Chris Walley – The Young Offenders*; *Samson Kayo – Famalam*

**PRESENTER**

**Presenter**

For presenters (not performers in an entertainment show) in broadcast programmes, online and streamed services. Judges will focus on the ability to communicate with the viewer and, by doing so, add impact to the programme rather than reporting or interviewing techniques. Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each presenter can only be considered for a single programme title. Sports presenters should be entered into the Sports Presenter, Commentator or Pundit category.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Romesh Ranganathan – The Misadventures of Romesh Ranganathan* (winner); *Michael Palin – Michael Palin in North Korea*; *Bobby Friction – Pump Up The Bhangra*

**BREAKTHROUGH AWARD**

**Breakthrough Award**

For recognition of the emergence of a significant new on-screen talent. Judges will consider the personal impact and the recognition of that impact during the awards year.



an entertainmentOne company



There is no age limit and it may well be that the entrant has been a member of a successful team for several years but has only now achieved personal recognition. Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items to a maximum of 15 minutes. This can include material from multiple episodes of the same series, but each entrant can only be considered for a single programme title.

**Up to five entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Nabhaan Rizwan – Informer (winner)*; *Mo Gilligan – The Big Narstie Show*; *Alice Feetham – Save Me*

## **FACTUAL**

### **History**

For series and single programmes about History, including, where appropriate, dramatic reconstruction of historical events. “Series” in this category does not refer to a programme strand (a collection of unrelated programmes grouped together under a generic title) but only to programmes conceived and transmitted as an entity, even though each separate programme may be complete in itself. A single programme which is part of a broader strand may be entered as a single programme. New and recurring History formats should be entered into this category rather than Documentary or Formatted Popular Factual. An entire single programme or one episode of a series should be entered as representative of that series. Programmes entered into this category may NOT be entered in another Factual category.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *A Dangerous Dynasty: The House of Assad (winner)*; *Holocaust: The Revenge Plot*; *The Ruth Ellis Files: A Very British Crime Story*

### **Science and Natural History**

For series and single programmes within the Science and Natural History genre. “Series” in this category does not refer to a programme strand (a collection of unrelated programmes grouped together under a generic title) but only to programmes conceived and transmitted as an entity, even though each separate programme may be complete in itself. A single programme which is part of a broader strand may be entered as a single programme. New and recurring Science and Natural History formats should be entered into this category rather than Documentary or Formatted Popular Factual. An entire single programme or one episode of a series should be entered as representative of that series. Programmes entered into this category may NOT be entered in another Factual category.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Drowning in Plastic (winner)*; *The Secret Life of Landfill*; *Blue Planet II*

### **Arts**

For series and single programmes within the Arts genre. “Series” in this category does not refer to a programme strand (a collection of unrelated programmes grouped together under a generic title) but only to programmes conceived and transmitted as an entity, even though each separate programme may be complete in itself. A single programme which is part of a broader strand may be entered as a single programme. New and recurring Arts formats should be entered into this category rather than Documentary or Formatted Popular Factual. An entire single programme or one episode of a series



an entertainmentOne company



should be entered as representative of that series. Programmes entered into this category may NOT be entered in another Factual category.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *The Art of Drumming* (winner); *Black Hollywood: "They've Gotta Have Us"*; *Germaine Bloody Greer*

**Single Documentary**

For programmes conceived as either as a single documentary or as a one-off programme that is part of a documentary strand. The programme must be submitted in full. This category is aimed at documentaries of a general nature, including religious, business or other specialist journalism. History, Science & Natural History, and Arts programmes cannot be submitted in this category but should be entered in the specialist categories.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Raped: My Story* (winner); *Grenfell*; *Married To A Paedophile*

**Documentary Series**

For a series which has a continuous narrative or is linked by a central theme. Two programmes representative of the series should be submitted. Entries must be accompanied by a complete list of other programmes in the series within the Awards year. This category is aimed at documentaries of a general nature, including religious, business or other specialist journalism. History, Science & Natural History and Arts programmes cannot be submitted in this category but should be entered in the specialist categories.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *Prison* (winner); *Love and Hate Crime*; *Drugland*

**Formatted Popular Factual**

This category is for originality in developing and delivering constructed factual content aimed at the widest possible audience. It is likely, though not necessary, that such formatted factual shows will be pre-watershed. One episode of a series should be entered as representative of that format and series. Subject matter could include – for instance – cookery, fashion, consumer, travel but also such shows as *The Undateables*, *The Apprentice*, *SAS Who Dares Wins*, *Long Lost Family*. Programmes entered into this category may NOT be entered into another Factual category. History, Science & Natural History and Arts programmes cannot be submitted in this category but should be entered in the specialist categories.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *The Real Full Monty: Ladies Night*; *Gordon, Gino and Fred's Road Trip: The French Connection*; *Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing*

**Daytime Programme**

For the purposes of this Award, the RTS considers Daytime to run from 6.00am to 7.00pm. For programmes lasting longer than an hour, up to one hour of continuous programming (NOT edited highlights) should be submitted.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *The Repair Shop* (winner); *Moving On – Invisible*; *Murder, Mystery and My Family*

**CHILDREN'S**



an entertainmentOne company



### **Children's Programme**

Series (one episode) and single programmes can be entered for children's factual, entertainment, animation, drama and comedy programmes. Programmes must have been commissioned and produced specifically for the child audience and broadcast during children's airtime or on a dedicated children's channel.

**Up to six entries per channel, of which at least two must be produced by independent production companies.**

2019 nominations: *Prosiect Z (winner)*; *My Life: Locked In Boy*; *Jacqueline Wilson's Katy*

### **LIVE EVENT**

#### **Live Event**

For network broadcast or streamed live events which are not sport. Entries should be a 30 minute compilation of coverage as transmitted, with a maximum of three extracts included. If the event crosses multiple days, the extracts may come from more than one day. Each extract must be as transmitted and not re-edited for these awards. Entries will be judged on the quality of the coverage, not on the importance or excitement of the event. The entry 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 and presentation.

**Up to three entries per channel**

2019 nominations: *The Royal Wedding: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle (winner)*; *The Real Full Monty Live*; *Glyndebourne Opera Cup*

### **SPORT**

#### **Sports Programme**

The Award will recognise production and editorial values in live OB and actuality sports programming – event coverage (live and/or recorded), strand or individual programme. The entry should be either one continuous hour or an hour's compilation of the coverage as transmitted but without editing to enhance for this submission. There can be a maximum of four extracts within the hour (a continuous clip which crosses an ad break is considered to be two extracts). If the sporting event crosses multiple days, extracts may come from more than one day. Each extract must be from the same programme and must be as transmitted and not specifically edited. Credit will not be given for material sourced from a host broadcaster.

**Up to three entries per channel.**

2019 nominations: *MOTD 2018 World Cup: Quarter Final – England v Sweden (winner)*; *Winter Paralympic Games*; *2018 Ryder Cup*

#### **Sports Presenter, Commentator or Pundit**

For the best work by a sports presenter or pundit/analyst either on location or in the studio, or a sports commentator on location. Please submit a single extract or a portfolio of items (this can include material from multiple episodes of the same series but each entrant can only be considered for a single programme title), in either case the maximum running time is 15 minutes in total. Each excerpt must be as transmitted and not specifically edited. Only networked commentators are eligible.

**Up to three entries per channel**



an entertainmentOne company



2019 nominations: *Osi Omenyiora – NFL This Week and The NFL Show (winner); Roy Keane – 2018 FIFA World Cup; Gary Lineker – MOTD: World Cup 2018*

### **RTS CHANNEL OF THE YEAR**

This award recognises outstanding performance by a single broadcast channel or wider streaming service based in the UK during the award year. The channel or service may be delivered on any or many platforms, be in linear or VOD in form, and be free-to-air, subscription or pay-per-view. The judges will require evidence of attractive, original and fresh content in a video showcase compilation of no less than 3 minutes and no more than 10 minutes. They will also consider such supporting evidence based on viewer and user research and impact during the year which the channel presents to support its claims of success. In short, the winner will be the channel which, in the opinion of the judges, catches the mood of the moment.

2019 nominations: *CBeebies (winner); BBC One; Channel 5*

### **JUDGES' AWARD**

The Judges' Award recognises an outstanding contribution to the UK's television and media industry (excluding television journalism, which has its own Judges' Award). This award can also recognise outstanding achievements which do not fit neatly into the standard categories. The winner can be an individual or a group. The award is in the gift of the Chair of the Awards, advised by the category chairs and will focus primarily on impact in the criteria year. A separate award (Outstanding Achievement) recognises achievements over an extended period. This award is not aimed at on-screen personalities for their on-screen work and cannot be awarded posthumously. Broadcasters cannot make direct entries for this award but suggestions are always welcomed.

### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

This Award may be presented at the discretion of the Chair of the Awards, advised by the category chairs, for an outstanding broadcaster for an on-screen or off-screen achievement over a number of years in a career which demonstrates excellence. This Award cannot be awarded posthumously. Broadcasters cannot make direct entries for this award but suggestions are always welcomed.

### **About The Royal Television Society:**

From glamorous award ceremonies to lively debates, the RTS embraces all aspects of television, and is open to anyone with an interest in the medium.

As an educational charity, we encourage and celebrate work in television and its related fields, from finding out how the nation's favourite shows are made in our Anatomy of a Hit series, to celebrating burgeoning talent at our annual Student Awards.

The industry's most talented individuals give us an insight into the work that goes into making cutting edge contemporary TV. From Government ministers and CEOs to workshops with great runners, our events look at every part of the business.





an entertainmentOne company



Our annual Television Journalism, Programme, Craft and Design, and Student Awards celebrate achievements across the broadcasting industry.

Each year, we offer Television Production and Technology bursaries to help those from less affluent backgrounds get a foothold in the industry, and Masterclass sessions bring together students, academics and industry heads.

Global television leaders gather to discuss what the future holds for television at our London Conference or the RTS Cambridge Convention.

Alongside our engaged community of over 4,900 full members, the Society is supported by Britain and the world's biggest broadcasters, producers and consultants, including Principal Patrons BBC, Channel 4, ITV and Sky.

Originally founded as the Television Society in 1927, the Society was granted its Royal title in 1966 and HRH The Prince of Wales became Patron of the RTS in 1997.

Today, 15 regional and national groups curate lively events and awards around the UK and Ireland, from Glasgow to Galway.

RTS Futures, which is aimed at those in their first two years of employment, organises an exciting roster of discussion, training and social occasions. Recent events have included workshops on learning how to format shows and how to survive as a freelancer, and expert panels explaining how to be the best researcher and how to make it on-screen.

### **About Audio Network:**

Owned by eOne, Audio Network is a music company creating original, high-quality music for broadcasters, brands, creators and music fans everywhere. From Hollywood to YouTube, Coca-Cola to Vice, it has helped to tell some of the world's most iconic stories.

With an expansive roster of 1,000+ renowned composers, respected singer-songwriters and known and emerging artists worldwide, Audio Network has 150,000+ wholly-owned tracks in its catalogue, spanning every imaginable genre and mood.