



RTS Student Television Awards 2022

August 2021

Message from the Chair

“The RTS Student Television Awards have a proven track record in discovering and nurturing the next generation of world class talent in video production, film making and television journalism.

They provide a fantastic opportunity to have your ambition and creativity recognised and celebrated by top media professionals and crucially, for you to sell your skills to people at the very top of the broadcasting industry.

Put simply, winning an RTS Student TV Award is a real badge of honour on any CV and one that is taken incredibly seriously by professionals.

This year, we have expanded our categories to provide even more opportunities for you to showcase your talent and I would encourage anyone considering a career in the broadcasting sector to seize the chance to show us what you’ve got!”

Sinead Rocks, Channel 4 Managing Director, Nations & Regions
Chair of the RTS Student Television Awards

Criteria

The RTS Student Television Awards are here to encourage, nurture, support and reward talent, potential and enthusiasm of students in colleges and universities for the creation of film and video content.

During these unprecedented times with the challenges they present, these Student Television Awards allow you to submit films for assessment by current professional practitioners.

With new filmmaking techniques and opportunities, the RTS believe that these Awards demonstrate a fantastic way to celebrate and recognise your outstanding skills, ambition and creativity and offer you an unique opportunity to put your creative talents before the critical eye of professionals, win recognition for your skills, and even “audition” for a first job in the television, media and film industry.

- Entries will be accepted from any students enrolled in higher education institutions and from students aged 16 and over attending further education courses.
- Taking into consideration challenges caused by COVID-19, the entry fee for 2022 is £15 per entry per category
- The RTS pays due recognition across all its Awards to the need for diversity. It is important that these awards should reflect diversity within the student community and within wider society.
- The judges will look for strong story-telling, creativity, innovation, outstanding visual and aural creativity with high quality craft skills with a strong emphasis of originality.
- Shooting using mobile phones or film cameras, filming at university or at home, these Student Television Awards are open to all students and filmmakers who produce a short film for consideration.

Awards Process:

Entries must have been made between 1 November 2020 and 31 October 2021. The closing date for submission is **Monday 8 November**.

Judging of these entries will be in two parts. Undergraduate entries are judged first by the RTS regional centre (including the national centres of Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland) in which your educational institution is based. They select a winner and the winners are announced at an Awards Ceremony in your region.

All regional winners then go through to National Judging, taking place in April 2022, alongside all Postgraduate entries, (which qualify automatically for UK national assessment and are not judged at RTS centre level), to decide on the national nominations for presentation at the RTS Student Television Awards Ceremony 2022 in June 2022.

Nominations and Winners:

The awards offer a marvellous opportunity for students to put their creative talents before the critical eye of professionals, win recognition for their skills, and even “audition” for a first job in the television, media and film industry.

At both a regional and national level, industry practitioners will view and judge all entries and the nominated films will be invited to the relevant Awards Ceremony, where they will get the opportunity to network with the judges and other professionals, as well as the chance of winning a RTS Award.

Award Categories:

For these Award Categories, two awards will be presented:

- i) **Undergraduate**
- ii) **Postgraduate**

Animation

This award is for videos which are primarily cartoons, computer or electronically generated images. Where the animation/CGI sequence or sequences are part of a production with other portrayal, the judges will consider primarily the quality of the animated/CGI sequences.

Judges will look for technical competence, originality and the ability for the animation to enhance the way a story can be told or a message conveyed.

Each entry must be a maximum of 30 minutes in length.

Comedy and Entertainment

This award is for entertainment or factual entertainment films. Comedy dramas and other situation comedies may be entered here.

Judges will look for technical excellence, humour where appropriate, pace and audience interest and engagement.

Each entry must be a maximum of 30 minutes in length.

Drama

This award is for scripted fiction work, which may be on any subject or style.

Judges will be looking for a strong storyline, with a script which helps portray and possibly develop characters, direction which adds value to the script, and a range of technical and production competences to deliver a memorable dramatic effect.

Each entry must be a maximum of 30 minutes in length.

Factual

This award is for films of any subject matter and style, which can include either specialist factual programmes or documentaries.

Judges will look for technical competence (camerawork, sound on location, mixing and dubbing, editing, direction), a strong story and engaging presentation.

Each entry must be a maximum of 30 minutes in length.

News and Sport

This award is for filmed reports of university news or news from the wider community; and for the first time, we are also welcoming video reports of sports related stories.

Entries are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the aim of television news journalism to report the "who, what, when, where, why and how" in ways that will really engage the audience using video storytelling by camera, sound and where appropriate, devices such as mobile phones. For sports reporting, we are looking for films that innovate and surprise; shining a light on an issue or a subject that may be new to viewers.

Entries should not exceed 15 minutes in duration.

Sustainability

From *Blue Planet* to *Springwatch* and much else, television programming now reflects the greater public interest in and awareness of our environment and the urgency to ensure a sustainable future.

This category should showcase your contribution in a short video which will engage, inform and stimulate action on matters related to the natural world and its essential value.

Entries should not exceed 15 minutes.

Entrants should also explain how, in the making of the content, they demonstrate efficient and effective use of resources in production.

Craft Skills Awards:

To reward excellence in craft skills, awards will be presented to the person or people responsible for the following Craft Skills at the judges' discretion for the following:

- ***Camerawork***
- ***Editing***
- ***Production Design***
- ***Sound***
- ***Writing***

Direct entries are not accepted for these craft skills but are awarded from the relevant category nominations. At a regional level, the Craft Skills Awards will be chosen from the regional nominations in each category.

At the national level, the Craft Skills Awards will be chosen only from the national nominations in each category.

Young Filmmaker Award

This award is for films of any subject matter and style, made by a young filmmaker (aged 16-23) not currently enrolled in higher or further education.

Judges will look for technical competence (camerawork, sound on location, mixing and dubbing, editing, direction), a strong story, engaging presentation, humour where appropriate, pace and audience interest and engagement.

This category should only feature work produced by non-current students. Current students should enter the other categories.

Each entry must be a maximum of 30 minutes in length.

Conditions of Entry

1. These Awards are open to all students enrolled with higher education colleges, universities and institutions and from students aged 16 and over attending further education courses.
2. For each Award Category, two awards will be presented: **Undergraduate** and **Postgraduate**.
3. Young filmmakers, aged 16-23, can enter these Student Television Awards in the ***Young Filmmaker Award***.
4. Subject to the number of entries received, additional awards categories may be presented at the discretion of the RTS
5. Entries must have been made between 1 November 2020 and 31 October 2021. **The closing date for submitting entries is Monday 8 November.**
6. The National Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday 24 June 2022 and the dates for Regional Awards Ceremonies will be made known in due course.
7. The RTS pays due recognition across all its Awards to the need for diversity. It is important that these awards should reflect diversity within the student community and within wider society.
8. All entries must be submitted using the RTS Awards System: <https://awardsentry.rts.org.uk/entrant>
9. There are no limits to the number of entries that can be submitted by an individual or educational institution, but the same film cannot be submitted more than once.
10. Each submission **must** be accompanied by an entry fee: This is £15 (including VAT) per entry per category. A VAT receipt will be issued on receipt of payment.
11. Films must be made by students, either individual or working in teams. Tutors may supervise and advise only. The role and nature of all non-student help - whether professional or academic - in the planning, shooting or post-production of the entry must be clearly stated. In reaching their verdict, the judges will consider the range and impact of such "expert" supervision, advice and intervention on the delivered video. Where a tutor or professional has played a part in the technical operations (such as lighting, sound, graphics, camera), this must be stated and the extent of such assistance made clear. It is not permitted for an academic, professional or other non-student to act in a key role, such as director or producer, even if all other work is that of students.
12. For the *Young Filmmaker Award*, entries must be made by individuals or teams.
13. Please ensure that you comply with all relevant Covid-19 guidelines and best practices when filming your entry.

14. Entries in the Undergraduate categories will be judged in two stages: **Regionally** and **Nationally**. The winner in each category from each RTS Regional Centre will be eligible for RTS national judging which will take place in May 2022.
15. In the event of an entry being from the overlap of two Regional Centres, the RTS reserves the right to determine which Regional Centre shall judge the entry.
16. In addition to broadcast, the RTS will seek to showcase all national nominations on the RTS YouTube Channel. Where script, sound and visual material which is not the property of the producers is used, the entering institution **must clear all copyright and rights**, providing evidence where needed.
17. It is condition of entry that the RTS is entitled to use excerpts from all films for non-broadcast promotion of the RTS, the RTS Student Awards competition and the RTS Student Awards events and reserve the right to use these excerpts for publicity purposes.
18. Please let the RTS know should you **not** wish your film uploaded for online use should it be nominated nationally.
19. The RTS reserves the right to move entries between categories. Initial acceptance of an entry does not guarantee its eligibility in the category for which it was entered.
20. The RTS reserves the right to refuse entries if, in the opinion of the RTS, they do not fulfil category requirements of the Rules of Entry.
21. The decisions of the judges at both regional and national level are final. Neither correspondence nor discussion concerning any decision may be entered into. At regional level, judging arrangements will be made by the appropriate RTS regional centre.
22. No responsibility is taken for entries that are lost, delayed, misdirected or incomplete or cannot be delivered or entered for any technical or other reason.
23. The rules and regulations remain at the absolute discretion of the Royal Television Society and may be changed at any time.

In the event of any queries, please contact the RTS Events Department:
Email: events@rts.org.uk