

PRESS RELEASE

THE ROYAL TELEVISION SOCIETY OPENS ENTRIES FOR THE RTS STUDENT TELEVISION AWARDS 2020

London, 26 September 2019 – The Royal Television Society (RTS), Britain’s leading forum for television and related media, has launched the RTS Student Television Awards 2020. The awards are set to be presented at an awards ceremony, sponsored by Motion Content Group, on Friday, 26th June 2020 at the BFI Southbank, London.

The RTS Student Television Awards, now in its 25th year, celebrates the best audiovisual work created by students across the UK, with both an Undergraduate and Postgraduate winner awarded in each category across **Animation, Comedy & Entertainment, Drama, Factual, News** and **Short Form**. The awards provide an unparalleled opportunity for students’ work to be seen and critiqued by industry heavyweights, with the judges looking for strong story-telling, innovation, outstanding visual and aural creativity with high quality craft skills.

Siobhan Greene, Chair of the RTS Student Television Awards said: “I was bowled over by the experience of chairing the RTS Student Awards this year. The standards set in each category exceeded every expectation and the work was relentlessly creative and inspiring. I came away feeling uplifted and moved by what I saw. You've got to be in it to win it, and if you are considering entering I would say do it. You don't know who is watching and the impact the work may have. The very best of luck.”

All entries must be from students attending higher education institutions and from students aged 16 and over attending further education courses. All entries must have been made during the 2018/2019 academic year and must be submitted by **Friday 25th October 2019** via the online submission form. For more information and conditions of entry please visit: <https://rts.org.uk/award/student-television-awards-2020>

The RTS Student Television Awards Categories:

For each Award Category, 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.

There is no maximum running time for entries but you are encouraged to aim at 15 minutes or less.

Comedy and Entertainment

This award is for videos of:

- Situation comedies, comedy dramas, or sketch shows
- Entertainment programmes, eg game shows, shiny-floor Saturday night programmes, quiz or panel shows, chat shows or other studio-based shows
- Factual entertainment programmes including reality shows and popular factual programmes, e.g. *Gogglebox*, *Love Island* or *First Dates*
- Music programmes or videos

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

For this category, entries have a maximum running time: for Undergraduate entries, it is 30 minutes and for Postgraduate entries, 60 minutes.

Drama

This award is for drama and other scripted dramatic work. Please note if the drama is primarily comedy drama it should be entered in *Comedy and Entertainment*.

Judges will be looking for a strong dramatic 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.

For this category, entries have a maximum running time: for Undergraduate entries, it is 30 minutes and for Postgraduate entries, 60 minutes.

Factual

This award is for videos of:

- Documentaries
- Specialist factual programmes such as arts, history, science, natural history and the environment
- Feature programmes such as magazine shows, fashion, cookery, travel, property and other popular formatted programmes.

In documentaries and specialist factual, judges will be looking for a strong story, told so that it has impact, with characters who speak well, a script which helps understanding, all conveyed with technical excellence, editing and direction.

In feature programmes, judges will consider more widely the way in which the shows engage viewers and how they are presented.

For this category, entries have a maximum running time: for Undergraduate entries, it is 30 minutes and for Postgraduate entries, 60 minutes.

News

This award is for reports of university news or news from the wider community. This can be as a solo news report or a series of reports in a short news-based programme.

Entries are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the aim of television journalism to report the "who, what, when, where, why and how?" of events and issues using video storytelling by camera and sound and, where appropriate, devices such as mobile phones. Consideration will also be given to the reporter and presenter as well as report content.

Entries should not exceed 15 minutes.

Short Form

This award is for short, free-form videos with no restriction on style or content.

Judges will look for originality, creativity and invention in content and techniques.

Entries should not exceed 5 minutes.

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 from the winning category entries at both Regional and National Awards Ceremonies 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.

****ENDS****

For further information please contact:

rts@ddapr.com
+44 20 7932 9800

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.

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 MOTION CONTENT GROUP

Motion Content Group is a global content investment and rights management company. It invests and partners with the world's leading talent, producers and distributors to fund, develop, produce and distribute premium content. Motion supports editorially and commercially vibrant networks and platforms by helping meet the ever-increasing demand for premium content, for the benefit of advertisers and its content partners. Headquartered in London and Los Angeles, Motion currently operates in 26 countries worldwide and has a broad range of award-winning programming distributed globally. Motion Content Group is part of GroupM, the world's leading full-service media investment management operation, a WPP company.

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