

RTS Student Television

Awards 2017

Criteria & Conditions of Entry

This is the 22nd year of the RTS Student Television Awards and we are now inviting entries for the RTS Student Television Awards 2017.

The Student Television Awards are for student television work that shows outstanding visual and aural creativity, a mastery of craft skills, innovation, initiative and story-telling.

Judges will look in particular for freshness, originality and audience appeal within the constraints of the law and broadcasting practice.

**Phil Edgar-Jones, Director of Sky Arts,** has been appointed **Chair of the RTS Student Television Awards 2017**. He says, “I’m delighted to take on the role of Chair of the RTS Student Television Awards 2017. It is right that we celebrate and more importantly, champion, the work of the industry’s talented next generation. This year, the award judges want to see work that showcases outstanding visual and aural creativity, a mastery of craft skills, innovation, initiative and story-telling. In particular, they will look for freshness, originality and audience appeal.”

For the RTS Student Television Awards 2017:

* Entries will be accepted from any students attending higher education institutions
* In the RTS North East and Borders and RTS Midlands regions, entries will also be accepted from students aged 16 or over attending further education institutions but for regional judging only
* In the RTS London and RTS North West regions, there will be an additional Craft Skill Award for Writing presented but for regional judging only
* There are still six awards categories: ***Animation***, ***Comedy & Entertainment***, ***Drama***, ***Factual***, ***News*** and ***Short Feature (formerly Open)***
* However, please note the criteria for some categories have changed. For instance, “features programmes” have moved from the Comedy and Entertainment category to Factual
* There is a new RTS Student Television Awards Judges’ Award, which will be judged nationally from among the category winners in both Undergraduate and Postgraduate awards as the “best of the best”
* The closing date for submitting entries is **Friday 30 September 2016**

**Awards Process:**

The RTS Student Television Awards 2017 will be presented on Friday 16 June 2017 to reward outstanding work produced during the 2015/2016 academic year.

Undergraduate entries will first be judged at a regional level by their local RTS Centre (including the national centres of Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) in winter 2016.

The winning films from each RTS Centre Student Awards will then be judged at the UK national level in April 2017. Postgraduate entries qualify automatically for UK national assessment and are not judged at RTS Centre level.

**Award Categories:**

For each Award Category, two awards will be presented:

**i) Undergraduate**

**ii) Postgraduate**

***Animation***

* This award is for films that include Cartoons, Computer or Electronically Generated Images

***Comedy and Entertainment***

This award is for films that include:

* Situation comedies, comedy dramas or sketch shows
* Entertainment programmes, e.g. 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*, *The Only Way Is Essex* or *First Dates*
* Music programmes or videos

***Drama***

* This award is for films that include drama and other scripted work. Comedy dramas should be entered in ***Comedy and Entertainment***

***Factual***

This award is for films that include:

* Documentaries
* Specialist factual programmes including arts, history, science, natural history and the environment
* Features programmes including magazine shows, fashion, cookery, travel, property and other popular formatted programmes, e.g. *The Great British Bake-Off*, *Don’t Tell The Bride* or *An Idiot Abroad*

***News***

* This award is for films that cover university news or news from the wider community, demonstrating an understanding of television journalism and utilising, where appropriate, the skills of video journalism and “mojo” – video stories told by the use of mobile phone

***Short Feature***

* This award is for films that are a maximum of 5 minutes in length and can be on any subject matter. The judges will look primarily for creativity and innovation.

**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 films at both Regional and National Awards Ceremonies for the following:

* ***Camerawork***
* ***Editing***
* ***Production Design***
* ***Sound***

Entries are not accepted for these craft skills but are awarded from the relevant category nominations. Only regional category winners are put forward to national judging not regional Craft Skills winners.

***RTS Student Television Judges’ Award***

This will be judged at the UK national level only, by the jury chairs of the categories, from among the winners of each category. The winner will be, in the opinion of the judges, the best overall entry.

# RTS Student Television Awards 2017

### Conditions of Entry

1. These Awards are open to all students attending higher education colleges, universities and institutions.
2. For each Award Category, 2 awards will be presented:
   * **Undergraduate**
   * **Postgraduate**
3. **The closing date for submitting entries is Friday 30 September**.
4. The date for the National Awards Ceremony is Friday 16 June 2017 at the BFI Southbank, London. The dates for the Regional Awards Ceremonies will be made know by the RTS Centres in due course.
5. All entries must have been produced during the 2015/2016 academic year.
6. All entries must be submitted using the RTS Awards System: <https://awardsentry.rts.org.uk/entrant>
   * The system allows you to submit your entry, upload the film and any other background / supporting information for the judges.
7. There are no limits to the number of entries that can be submitted by a student or educational institution.
8. Each submission **must** be accompanied by an entry fee. This is £25 + £5 VAT, totalling £30 per entry per category. A VAT receipt will be issued on receipt of payment.
9. While tutors may supervise and advise the work, the films must be made by students – either individual or working in teams.
10. 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 also 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.
11. 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 April 2017.
12. 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.
13. The RTS in partnership with Sky will seek to broadcast all national nominated films. 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, ahead of broadcast.
14. In addition to broadcast, the RTS will seek to showcase all nationally nominated films on the RTS YouTube Channel, subject to the same copyright authority.
15. 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.
16. Please let the RTS know should you **not** wish your film broadcast or uploaded for online use should it be nominated nationally.
17. In the event of a winning entry being broadcast, the format for transmission will be determined by the broadcaster.
18. The RTS and any subsequent approved user reserve the right to use extracts from entries for publicity purposes, including publication on the internet, and in addition reserve the right to make and retain a copy.
19. The RTS reserves the right to move films between categories. Initial acceptance of an entry does not guarantee its eligibility in the category for which it was entered.
20. 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.
21. For the 2017 awards only, entries in all **Undergraduate** categories will be extended to students aged 16 or over attending full-time Further Education institutions in the RTS Regional Centres of the North East and Borders and Midlands. However, only those winning entries from Higher Education courses will be passed on for the National awards.
22. For the 2017 awards only, there will be an additional Craft Skill for ***Writing*** awarded only in the RTS London and North West regions. This will be chosen as with the other Craft Skills. This award will not be judged at the UK National level.
23. 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.
24. 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**

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