

British Academy Television Awards

Rules and Guidelines 2015

British Academy of Film & Television Arts

British Academy Television Awards

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A. INTRODUCTION & TIMETABLE

The British Academy Television Awards are presented annually to recognise, honour and reward individuals for outstanding achievement in television. The awards categories reflect the wealth and diversity of British television.

The Academy also honours individuals with awards in recognition of their contribution to the television industry. These awards are in the gift of the Academy: they are approved by the Television Committee and ratified by the Board of Trustees.

2014

Monday 13 October

Entry site opens

Monday 10 November

Viewing site opens

Friday 5 December

Submission deadline for programmes broadcast 1 January-30 November 2014

Programmes yet to be transmitted may be entered but will not be made available for viewing until after transmission

2015

Tuesday 6 January

Submission deadline for programmes broadcast 1-31 December 2014, including performance categories

Thursday 15 January

Round One voting opens (12:00 GMT)

Thursday 22 January

Round One voting closes (12:00 GMT)

Monday 26 January

Broadcaster entries invited

Monday 2 February

Deadline for broadcaster entries (12:00 GMT)

Thursday 5 February

Deadline for video submission for broadcaster entries

Monday 16 March

Juries begin

Thursday 26 March

Juries end

Wednesday 8 April

Nominations announcement

Wednesday 22 April

Nominees Party (TBC)

Sunday 10 May

British Academy Television Awards

B. ELIGIBILITY

Production and performance categories

- Programmes must have had their first transmission in the UK between 1 January and 31 December 2014 on terrestrial, cable, satellite or digital channels, including web based broadcasters who commission content (e.g. Netflix).
- Programmes may be regional or networked.
- Programmes will be considered for one category only.
- International programmes are only eligible in the International category, unless they are co-productions (both financially and creatively, and provided the first transmission was in the UK).
- Programmes that have previously entered BAFTA's Children's or Film Awards are not eligible for the Television Awards.
- Programmes that are self-commissioned and published are not eligible for the Television Awards.

CHOOSING WHICH CEREMONY TO ENTER

An entry can only be made either to the Film Awards or to the Television and/or Television Craft Awards.

If an entry receives its first exhibition as a TV broadcast then it should be entered for the Television and/or Television Craft Awards. If an entry receives its first exhibition as a public, paid-entry cinema screening then it should be entered for the Film Awards.

If an entry is released into cinemas and on television or online on the same day, then it will be eligible for either the Television and/or Television Craft Awards or the Film Awards, but not both.

For the Film Awards, there is a further specification that a film should be over 60 minutes long and have a theatrical run of at least seven days. These need not be consecutive days, nor the same venue.

If an entry of over 60 minutes has a theatrical release of fewer than seven consecutive days before its television broadcast, then it will be eligible for the Television and/or Television Craft Awards, but not for the Film Awards.

Programmes that have previously had a theatrical release and then re-cut for television are ineligible unless a significant amount of new material has been shot specifically for the television broadcast.

For the British Short Film and British Short Animation categories in the Film Awards, where the minimum theatrical run is not applicable, the principle of first exhibition determining the appropriate ceremony still holds. If the entry first has a public, paid cinema screening and/or a film festival screening it will be eligible for the Film Awards. Otherwise it will be eligible for the Television /Television Craft / Children's Awards.

Programmes that are commissioned by the children's department and/or are intended for an audience 16 and under should be entered for the Children's Awards.

Correct entry information is the responsibility of the entrant. BAFTA is not liable for errors in listings that are the result of incorrect information being submitted on the entry form. BAFTA cannot be held responsible for programmes being entered in the wrong categories.

C. ENTRY

- All entries should be made via the entry site <https://entry.bafta.org/>. Full instructions about the entry process can be found at <http://bit.ly/TelevisionEntry> and more information about the video specifications can be found on page 6 of this document.
- The BAFTA Awards entry website will be open for entries from **Monday 13 October** until **17:00 on Friday 5 December 2014**. Entries for programmes that are broadcast 1 January – 30 November received after the deadline will not be accepted or eligible for future awards. Supporting videos should also be uploaded by this date.
- The deadline for programmes that are transmitted 1-31 December is **17:00 on 6 January 2015**.
- On the entry website a synopsis of no more than 1000 characters will also be requested. This should be a factual synopsis of the episode or the series. It should not include any details of other awards won, ratings or media quotes. BAFTA reserves the right to edit text that does not meet these criteria.

Production Categories

- There is a fee per entry of £384.00 (£320.00 + £64.00 VAT)
- Entries for the production categories can be submitted by producers, directors, broadcasters, independent production companies and BAFTA members.
- Specials or one-offs from series with continuing narratives and/or characters should be categorised in the same way as an episode from the series would have been.
- At the entry stage, entrants will be asked to propose names of up to four individuals who would be listed as nominees if the programme receives a nomination. These are the 'candidates for nomination'. Failure to propose names may render your entry invalid.
 - There must be careful consideration of who is proposed for nomination candidates as changes cannot be made once nominations have been announced.
 - The names submitted must pertain to the episode submitted, as this is the episode that the work is being judged upon and should be those who have made the greatest creative contribution to the programme. For scripted pieces, the BAFTA Television Committee would expect the writer, director and producer to be credited.
 - When supplying the names of the candidates for nomination BAFTA will only accept names if they are part of the creative production team. Commissioning editors and executives who work within the broadcaster commissioning teams will not be accepted.
 - If it is not possible to decide upon four names, you may opt to list 'Production Team' as the nomination credit. In this case, you will be asked to supply up to four names of representatives from the team, along with their role on the project. These representatives will be the person/s who receives the nomination certificate/s and, should the programme go on to win, they will also be presented with the winner certificate/s and award/s. Please note that these individuals will not be able to refer to themselves as BAFTA winners: the programme will be BAFTA-winning, not the individuals.

Performance Categories

- There is no entry fee for performance categories.
- Entries for the performance categories can be submitted by producers, directors, broadcasters, independent production companies and BAFTA members. Entry deadline is **17:00 on Friday 5 December** except for BAFTA members, who have until **Tuesday 6 January 2015** to make an entry.
- For the Lead and Supporting Actor and Actress categories, the category in which individuals are placed is determined by the voters' selection in Round One voting: the performer will be placed in the category in which they received the largest proportion of votes. All votes cast for that individual in both the supporting and leading categories will be counted.

- Our voting system does not permit voters to cast more than one vote per performer (i.e. place a performer in both the leading and supporting categories). The entrant may indicate which category they wish a performer to be considered for on the entry form and this may be taken into consideration.

MAKING PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE TO VOTERS AND JURORS

Round One Voting

- Entrants may make their programmes available to BAFTA members for review via BAFTA's viewing and voting website. DVD screeners may not be sent to voters.
- The viewing site is available to BAFTA members from Monday 10 November 2014. We strongly encourage all entrants to upload videos supporting their entries as early as possible, as this will give BAFTA members a greater opportunity to view all material under consideration.
- The viewing site is username and password-protected and is only accessible by BAFTA members eligible to vote in the Television Awards. Video may be available to either stream or download until Thursday 29 January 2015. After this date, video will only be available to BAFTA jurors. For further information on the security controls in place to protect streamed and downloaded content, please visit www.bafta.org/television.

Jury Shortlist

If shortlisted for jury consideration, programmes **must** be made available to jurors via the viewing site by **Thursday 5 February 2015**.

Technical Specification

The BAFTA Awards voting and viewing website aims to provide the best possible viewing experience for your content. To achieve this a set of viewing versions optimised to a range of platforms is created. In particular, we aim to support the following:

- Online viewing within a modern web browser
- Viewing on a local device, such as a tablet

In order to achieve this, we request that you provide a high quality version of your file. Our preferred video specification, along with alternative specifications we are able to accept, is shown below:

	Preferred specification
File format	.mp4 / .mov Supported alternatives: .wmv, .avi, .dv, .vob, .m2ts, .m4v, .mkv
Video codec	H.264 (AVC)
Audio codec	Stereo, 48Khz audio is preferred, in formats: AAC (256k or higher), Linear PCM, or Apple Lossless
Bit rate	8 – 10 mbps
File size	File sizes up to 40 Gigabytes are supported
Frame rate	Frames per second: 24, 25 or 30
Note	Please DO NOT add letter-box or pillar-box to your video. All videos will display correctly.

Please use our preferred specification where possible, however if your original best quality video is in another format, we would prefer to receive it with a minimum of transcoding to preserve quality.

BAFTA accepts no liability for any file created to the wrong specification and is therefore not available to be viewed in the viewing or voting site. It is the entrant's responsibility to make sure the file is created to the correct format and to check their video once it has transcoded

D. AWARD CATEGORIES

AWARDS IN THE GIFT OF THE ACADEMY

These awards are presented at the discretion of the Television Committee; therefore they may not all be presented in any given year.

1. FELLOWSHIP

- The Fellowship is the highest accolade the Academy can bestow. It is presented to an individual with a substantial body of work in recognition of an outstanding and exceptional contribution to television.

2. WRITER AWARD

- The purpose of the award is to honour the talents of individuals who have made a significant writing contribution to television.
- Presented in honour of Dennis Potter.

3. OUTSTANDING CREATIVE CONTRIBUTION TO TELEVISION

- Presented in honour of Alan Clarke.

4. MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION ON-SCREEN IN FACTUAL TELEVISION

- The purpose of the award is to honour the year's most important contribution on screen in factual television.
- Presented in honour of Richard Dimbleby.

PRODUCTION CATEGORIES

5. SINGLE DRAMA

- This should be a single, self-contained drama, with a minimum running time of 30 minutes.
- When part of a strand, the umbrella title should also be listed.
- The full programme should be uploaded for viewing purposes.

6. MINI-SERIES

- A drama of between two and five episodes.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

7. DRAMA SERIES

- A drama of between six and nineteen episodes.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

8. SOAP & CONTINUING DRAMA

- A drama transmitted for a minimum of 20 episodes throughout the year.
- Up to four episodes of a series may be entered and uploaded for members' viewing. A programme should be entered from each quarter of the calendar year and supplied as broadcast (without commercial breaks)
- One episode submitted may be a special

- The episodes submitted must not be consecutive episodes
- A supporting statement of up to 1000 words should also be provided. This statement should include a précis of the year, including the context of the storyline(s) submitted, the challenges faced and any other information relevant to the creative achievement over the past 12 months.

9. INTERNATIONAL

- For a single programme or series of any genre acquired from the international marketplace.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

10. FACTUAL SERIES

- More than one factual programme linked through a unified approach, narrative or the thematic development of a subject matter.
- Includes 'reality' programmes where the formatting consists only of setting up an initial situation, which is then observed unfolding without further intervention.
- Excludes 'reality' programmes which employ further rules, intervention and/or introduces challenges. These 'reality' programmes should be entered in to the Reality & Constructed Factual category.
- Excludes strands such as Cutting Edge or One Life (individual episodes of strands can be entered for the Single Documentary category).
- Excludes arts, history, natural history and science series which are eligible in the Specialist Factual category.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

11. SPECIALIST FACTUAL

- Specifically for arts, religion, history, natural history and science programmes or series and includes both factual and performance programmes.
- Excludes entire strands such as The South Bank Show or Horizon but includes individual programmes from those strands.
- 'Factual drama' is only admissible when the drama content closely and accurately recreates specific historical events and identified individuals.
- Dramas that are presented as 'factual' on the basis they broadly represent historical events should be entered into the drama categories.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

12. SINGLE DOCUMENTARY

- For one-off documentaries only.
- Includes individual episodes of documentary strands (such as Cutting Edge or One Life).
- Excludes individual episodes of documentary series; these should be entered in to the Factual Series category.
- If shortlisted, the full programme should be uploaded for jury consideration.

13. FEATURES

- Includes factual programmes not included in any other categories including cookery & cookery competitions, gardening, property, fashion and all other lifestyle programming and studio discussions.

- Excludes 'reality' programmes in which the formatting consists ONLY of setting up an initial situation which is then observed unfolding without further intervention, such as The Family which would be eligible in the Factual Series category.
- Excludes overall strands.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

14. REALITY & CONSTRUCTED FACTUAL

- Programmes where participants are put into an environment or format and then observed interacting in situations devised by the producer. This can include anything from shows where in a single episode subjects act according to format rules (e.g. Don't Tell the Bride) to longer form real life soap operas when there is significant production intervention or staging (e.g. The Only Way Is Essex) to bigger scale formats where large casts of contestants perform elaborate tasks often living together within a constructed universe (e.g. I'm a Celebrity.... Get Me Out of Here!, The Apprentice)
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

15. CURRENT AFFAIRS

- For single films, or films from a strand that are primarily concerned with unfolding current affairs.
- The winner will demonstrate a commitment to original journalism of the highest order and will aim to provide revelation, fresh insight and analysis. It will have moved on the agenda and debate. It will promote new understanding through analysis or reportage, and will be representative of journalism that makes a difference.
- It may or may not have an on-screen reporter.
- In the event of being shortlisted the complete single film or one episode from the strand must be provided.

16. NEWS COVERAGE

- An individual news programme in its entirety.
- In the case of 24-hour news channels, the broadcaster is permitted to submit news programming of up to one hour's duration, running continuously without any internal editing.
- If shortlisted, one hour of the coverage can be uploaded for jury viewing.

17. SPORT & LIVE EVENT

- For the television coverage of sporting events and other large scale outside broadcast events.
- If shortlisted, one hour of the entered programme must be uploaded for jury viewing with a 1000 word supporting statement. This statement should include the techniques used, whether the footage is taken from a feed and any other relevant production information that will assist the juries. You cannot include any quotes or ratings about the programme.
- The hour footage must be unedited and as broadcast.

18. ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME

- Includes quizzes, game shows, talent shows, music specials and all general entertainment programmes e.g. Strictly Come Dancing, X Factor, Pointless, Million Pound Drop and The Cube.
- Comedy based panel and chat shows should be put forward for Comedy and Comedy Entertainment Programme e.g. Alan Carr Chatty Man, Have I Got News for You.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

19. COMEDY & COMEDY ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME

- This includes programmes that capture the idea of comedy being central to the editorial of the programme and includes panel-led shows, chat shows where comic content plays a big part, stand-up and comedy clip shows, e.g. A League of Their Own, The Graham Norton Show, Alan Carr Chatty Man.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

20. SCRIPTED COMEDY

- This covers both situational comedies and scripted comedy sketch shows.
- Only one episode of a series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

E. PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

In all cases, where a performer appears in a series, only one episode of that series may be entered and uploaded for viewing.

21. LEADING ACTRESS

22. LEADING ACTOR

23. SUPPORTING ACTOR

24. SUPPORTING ACTRESS

- All individual performers are eligible for consideration in these categories
- The category in which individuals are placed is determined by the voters' selection in Round One voting: the performer will be placed in the category in which they received the largest proportion of votes. All votes cast for that individual in both the supporting and leading categories will be counted.
- Our voting system does not permit voters to cast more than one vote per performer (i.e. place a performer in both the leading and supporting categories). The entrant may indicate which category they wish a performer to be considered for on the entry form and this may be taken into consideration.

25. ENTERTAINMENT PERFORMANCE

- Includes stand-up.

26. FEMALE PERFORMANCE IN A COMEDY PROGRAMME

- Includes comedy programmes, sketch shows and situation comedies.

27. MALE PERFORMANCE IN A COMEDY PROGRAMME

- Includes comedy programmes, sketch shows and situation comedies.

The BAFTA Television Committee is the arbiter of all category eligibility and at its discretion may choose not to present any of the above awards at the Television Awards Ceremony.

F. VOTING PROCESS

- The Fellowship, Writer Award, Outstanding Creative Contribution to Television and award for Most Important Contribution On-Screen in Factual Television are in the gift of the Academy and are not open to voting by members at any stage.
- Nominations and winners of all other awards are decided by the television voting members and by juries.
- Prior to the first round of voting, all voting members are informed of voting rules and must vote or register their abstention. They may vote for up to six programmes/individuals per category but may register their abstention from any category where they feel unqualified to vote. The top six go forward for jury consideration.
- Voting in Round One is restricted to registered voters. Voting is conducted online.
- All voting is authenticated by BAFTA's appointed scrutineers.
- If there are eight entries or fewer in any category then this will not go to a membership vote. Instead the category will go straight to jury consideration.

Broadcaster Entries

After the first round of voting each broadcaster has the opportunity to enter an additional programme per category, per terrestrial channel. In the case of terrestrial channels that have digital channels, the broadcaster can only choose one of their digital channels in which to put a programme forward; this does not affect their right to enter their terrestrial channels. The deadline for this entry is **Monday 2 February 2015**. Broadcaster entries will not be accepted in categories that go direct to jury for consideration. For further information on entering please contact Kelly Smith (see [Contact List](#)).

Juries

The top six, as voted for by the membership, is compiled with the broadcaster entries to form the jury shortlist. The juries then decide the four nominations and overall winner in each category.

All decisions made by BAFTA and its juries are final and no correspondence will be entered into as to why particular entries were or were not nominated

G. LONGLIST, NOMINATIONS AND WINNERS

- The nominations for each category will always be listed in alphabetical order.
- Nominations will be announced approximately four weeks before the ceremony.
- The winners press release is the definitive source of award winners information.
- All individual named nominees will receive a certificate of nomination.
- All individuals named as award winners will receive a BAFTA award and a winner's certificate.
- The BAFTA award or logo may not be reproduced or used in any commercial manner unless prior permission has been obtained from BAFTA.
- The BAFTA award remains the property of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, to remain in the care of the recipient or his/her descendants. Should the award leave the care of the recipient or his/her descendants, the Academy reserves the right to purchase the award back for a fee of £1. The award must not be sold on to any third party.
- Award winners unable to collect their BAFTA award(s) on the night of the ceremony must arrange collection from BAFTA within 12 months of the ceremony.
- BAFTA does not issue replicas of the award.
- Certain companies directly involved with the winning programmes in certain categories could be eligible to purchase a duplicate winner certificate so that they can have a record of their involvement. No duplicate nomination certificates can be issued.

H. CLIP USAGE – NOMINATED TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

An important part of BAFTA's charitable remit is to promote excellence in television production to as large an audience as possible. BAFTA will show clips of nominated programmes at the awards ceremony and these clips may form part of its television and online broadcast in the UK.

In the event of your programme being nominated for a BAFTA, you undertake to deliver to the Academy's joint production companies, BAFTA Productions and Whizz Kid, the following: two programme clips of up to 30 seconds each and if you have more than one nomination, you undertake to supply different clips for each nomination on HDCAM or Digital Betacam with a viewing copy on DVD with burnt-in timecode; and a completed BAFTA Productions license, which includes permission for two BBC transmissions, use on the BBC iPlayer and on BAFTA's website together with a warranty that the licensee is responsible for third party rights. The completed BAFTA Productions license must be accompanied by copies of any necessary permissions and receipts of any costs paid.

By entering your programme for consideration, you are consenting to any clips (including any accompanying soundtrack synched with the clips) to be made available on BAFTA's websites and social media channels for non-commercial purposes in the context of the Awards for one year from 10 May 2015.

I. BAFTA LOGOS

- You may use the BAFTA logo online, in print and in broadcast once you have received a nomination and signed a BAFTA permission agreement.
- Logos and permission agreements will be provided by BAFTA before the nominations are announced for the purpose of advance artwork preparation, but may only be used if the programme receives a nomination.
- The official event logo must be used; use of the mask alone is not permitted.
- Please contact Nick Williams (see Contact List) for permission to use the BAFTA event logo.

J. PIRACY

- The Academy takes a very serious view of piracy and will work with broadcasters and production companies to help prevent it.
- All BAFTA voters sign up to a code of conduct setting out their responsibilities regarding piracy. This code is available upon request from Jim Bradshaw (see Contact List).

K. CONTACT LIST

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TV entry and rules

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