



Australian
Directors' Guild

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2018 ADG AWARDS

SUBMISSION RULES & REGULATIONS

A. INTRODUCTION

The ADG Awards were established in order to celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions by Australian Directors.

The annual Australian Directors Guild Awards are the only peer-judged awards for directors in Australia. These prestigious Awards cover the breadth of screen directing, with categories across feature film, documentary, television, Subscription Video on Demand, commercial, short film, animation, online and music video.

B. KEYDATES

Early Birds open	8 December 2017
Regular submissions open	22 December 2017
Regular submission closes	26 January 2018
Extended Submission closes	16 February 2018
Nominees Announcement	March 2018
2018 ADG Awards	May 2018

C. ELIGIBILITY & CATEGORIES

1. To be eligible for the 2018 Australian Directors' Guild (ADG) Awards, the Director of the project **must be a current member of the ADG.**

A current member refers to a member who has paid a membership fee to the Guild at least up to 30 June 2018.

2. For non members / those who are not current members of the ADG that wish to submit projects to the 2018 ADG Awards can apply/renew membership here: <https://adg.org.au/membership>

3. For projects with multiple directors, they only need to be entered once. However, should the film get nominated and eventually win an ADG Award, only the director/s who is/are current member of the ADG attached to the project will be acknowledged as Nominee/s and as Winner/s.
4. Every project submitted for the ADG Awards must have **publicly screened for the first time between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017** in order to be eligible for entry in the 2018 ADG Awards.
 - a. A **public screening** denotes the **selection** of the work to be screened on any platform by a third party. Platforms include, but are not strictly limited to, cinema, television, subscription video on demand (SVOD), DVD, web/online and film festivals.
 - b. Every applicant must be able to submit first public screening proof / evidence as part of the submission process.
 - c. **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ONLINE PROJECTS (BOTH DRAMA AND COMEDY)**: Entries must be live and available on the Internet from 1 July 2016 – 31 December 2017, and accessible via http and standard Web browsers.
 - d. **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS** – Each submission must be accompanied by a signed letter from the client / production company, authorising the works entry in to the Awards and *confirming the dates the work was/is intended to be first aired*, in order to be eligible for entry to the awards. The project must have intended to be aired between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.
 - e. **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENT FILM PROJECTS** - Projects eligible in the **Best Direction of a Student Film category** must have been **completed** between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017, and applicants must be able to provide some written reference / confirmation from the director's respective tertiary institution confirming that the project/s were made whilst studying at the institution.
5. Once a project has been accepted as a valid entry to the ADG Awards, it is ineligible to be re-submitted to the Awards in future years.

6. The 2018 ADG Awards has 17 categories:
- 1) *Best Direction of a Feature Film*
 - 2) *Best Direction of a Short Film*
 - 3) *Best Direction of a Student Film*
 - 4) *Best Direction of a Documentary Feature*
 - 5) *Best Direction in a Documentary Series*
 - 6) *Best Direction of a Documentary Short Subject*
 - 7) *Best Direction of a Film made for TV or SVOD*
 - 8) *Best Direction of a Children's TV or SVOD Drama Program episode*
 - 9) *Best Direction of a TV or SVOD Drama Series episode*
 - 10) *Best Direction of a TV or SVOD Drama Serial episode*
 - 11) *Best Direction of a TV or SVOD Mini Series*
 - 12) *Best Direction of a TV or SVOD Comedy Program episode*
 - 13) *Best Direction of a Online Drama Project*
 - 14) *Best Direction of a Online Comedy Project*
 - 15) *Best Direction of an Animation Project*
 - 16) *Best Direction of Commercial Content*
 - 17) *Best Direction of a Music Video*
7. Some categories are only open to Full Members, whilst others are open to all.

Membership Type	Eligible Category/s
Full Members	ALL category, <u>EXCEPT</u> for Best Direction of a Student Film
Associate Individual Members	Only eligible on the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Direction of a Short Film • Best Direction of a Online Drama Project • Best Direction of a Online Comedy Project • Best Direction of an Animation Project • Best Direction of Commercial Content • Best Direction of a Music Video
Associated Student Members	ONLY eligible for Best Direction of a Student Film

8. CHOOSING A CATEGORY – to choose a category, it must be based on what distribution channel/platform it is intended to be screened on.
i.e. A feature length project can be intended for SVOD distribution but have a theatrical premiere. In this case, the project should be considered as TV/SVOD category instead of Feature Film. If you are unclear about the category prior to

submission please contact the ADG office for clarification.

9. Members can enter different, eligible works into different categories. Where a member has different and separate works that are eligible for the same category (i.e. an episode from TV Series A and an episode from TV Series Z), each work will be considered separately and on its own. If more than one category may be applied to an entry, the onus is on the entrant to submit to the category that they feel is the most appropriate.

10. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

a) Best Direction in a Feature Film

- A scripted/dramatised film with a duration of 75 minutes or more that is intended to be distributed via cinematic release/s – including film festival circuits.
- Any feature length project that was originally released on Television or SVOD, is not eligible for this category and must be submitted under *Best Direction of a Film made for Television or SVOD* category.

b) Best Direction in a Short Film

- A scripted/dramatised film with a maximum duration of 45 minutes as a complete story in a single screening; that has had or intended to be distributed via cinematic release/s – including film festival circuits.

c) Best Direction in a Student Film

- The Student category is for a production of any length or format made by full time or part time student whilst at a tertiary institution.
- Projects must have been completed between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017 to be eligible for submission.
- Applicants must be able to provide some written reference / confirmation from the director's respective tertiary institution confirming that the project/s were made whilst studying in the institution.

d) Best Direction in a Documentary Feature Film

- A project that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine, infotainment or light entertainment program.
- A film that is primarily a promotional film, an industrial or instructional film, or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.
- A feature length documentary with **duration of 75 minutes or more**, made for cinematic, DVD, television, SVOD or online release.

e) Best Direction in a Documentary Short Subject

- A project that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine, infotainment or light entertainment program.
- A film that is primarily a promotional film, an industrial or instructional film, or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.
- A documentary program with duration of **less than 75 minutes** for television, DVD, SVOD and online release.

f) Best Direction in a Documentary Series

- A project that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine, infotainment or light entertainment program.
- A film that is primarily a promotional film, an industrial or instructional film, or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.
- A documentary series applies to a series of documentary programs made for television, DVD or SVOD release of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- Only individual episodes of a series are to be submitted, not the complete series.
- An entry in this category requires a specific episode to be nominated. The episode entered must have gone to air FOR THE FIRST TIME between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.

g) Best Direction of a Film made for Television or SVOD

- A feature length drama/scripted program of 75 minutes or more which tells a complete story in a single screening and made for screening by Television or SVOD broadcast.
- Films that have theatrical release (both commercial or festival screenings) but get aired on Television or SVOD are not eligible for this category and will need to be submitted under Best Direction in a Feature Film.

h) Best Direction of a Children's TV or SVOD Drama Program

- Any fiction Television or SVOD series and/or standalone must be made specifically for children or groups of children, be entertaining and well produced with high production standards, and enhance a child's understanding and experiences as is appropriate.
- Animated programs may choose to enter the animation category instead.
- For series program - it requires a specific episode to be submitted. The episode entered must have gone to air FOR THE FIRST TIME between 1

July 2016 and 31 December 2017.

i) Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Drama Series

- TV or SVOD Drama Series is a series of drama programs made for television or SVOD release, of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- An entry in this category requires a specific episode to be nominated. The episode entered must have gone to air FOR THE FIRST TIME between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.
- Entries for a Television or SVOD Series should be limited to one episode per director from each specific production. Only individual episodes of a series are to be nominated, not the complete series.

j) Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Drama Serial

- A TV or SVOD Drama Serial is a series of programs made for television or SVOD release of over 40 hours in a consecutive 12 months period.
- An entry in this category requires a specific episode to be nominated. The episode entered must have gone to air FOR THE FIRST TIME between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.
- Entries for a Television or SVOD Drama Serials should be limited to one episode per director from each specific production. Only individual episodes of a series are to be nominated, not the complete series.

k) Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Mini-series

- A series of drama programs made for television or SVOD broadcast with total of no more than 7 hours in length, screens in a consecutive period (e.g. weekly or daily) can be considered as TV or SVOD Mini Series.
- An entry in this category requires the entrant to submit one episode to be judged as a single entry.
- The episode entered must have gone to air for the first time between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.

l) Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Comedy

- An episode for a comedy series or a standalone comedy television or SVOD production is eligible to enter into this category.
- The episode/s entered must have gone to air for the first time between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.

m) Best Direction in an Animation Project

- An animated project is defined as a motion picture created with a significant number of the major characters animated, and in which animation comprises no less than 70% of the film's running time.
- Animated productions made for cinematic, television, DVD, SVOD and online release are all eligible for Animation category.
- Feature length Animation works will also be eligible in the Feature category.

n) Best Direction in a Web Drama Program

- Web Drama Series is a series of drama programs made for web release of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- Web denotes free online access including free online streaming access including Ad-Supported Video on Demand (i.e. YouTube, Snagfilms, smh.tv and many more) and Catch-up TV sites (i.e. iView, SBS on Demand) – with note that it is only applied to a program that only available through that particular online platform.
- Television program reruns are not considered for this category.

o) Best Direction in a Web Comedy Program

- Online Comedy Series is a series/one off of comedy programs made for web release of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- Web denotes free online access including free online streaming access including, but not limited to: Ad-Supported Video on Demand (i.e. YouTube, Snagfilms, smh.tv and many more) and Catch-up TV sites (i.e. iView, SBS on Demand) – with note that it is only applied to a program that only available through that particular online platform. Therefore television program reruns are not considered for this category.
- Comedy can include parody, mockumentary and/or satire.
- Television program reruns are not considered for this category.

p) Best Direction of a Commercial Content Project

- A project can be considered as Commercial Content when its content designed for the purposes of educating consumers or promoting a specific idea, product, event or place. A work can be on any duration and make for screening on any platform.
- The project must be first screened publicly between the dates of 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2017.

q) Best Direction in a Music Video

- A music video is made with the purpose of promoting complete piece of music/song, which accompanies it.

D. ENTRY PROCESS AND SUBMISSION FEE

1. All entries should be made via the 2018 ADG Awards competition entry page – <https://adg.org.au/competitions/2018-adg-awards>
2. Applicants are required to submit basic production information about the project:
Project title, running time, synopsis, production year, first public screening proof, short director’s biography, directors’ headshot.
3. Applicants are required to submit full-length screeners as **digital link** only. DVD screeners and cinema screening passes are not acceptable. Please contact awards@adg.org.au for any concern or queries regarding screeners.
4. A signed copy of Authority to Compete and Copyright License Agreement must be submitted as part of the submission process (uploaded via the online form). This requires signatures from ADG Member who directed the project and Producer/Owner/Copyright holder of the project.
5. In the case that any third party requires online access on behalf of the ADG member, the relevant ADG member must email awards@adg.org.au to give written authorisation for the third party to gain access.
6. All applicants must pay the appropriate fee in full in order for the submission to be accepted by the ADG. Below is the submission fee based on the category and submission period. *Please note that deadline is subject to change. Always check the deadline before submitting a project.*

CATEGORY	EARLY BIRD Deadline: 22 Dec 2017	REGULAR SUBMISSION Deadline: 26 Jan 2018	EXTENDED SUBMISSION Deadline: 16 Feb 2018
Feature Film	\$90	\$120	\$132
Documentary Feature Film	\$90	\$120	\$132
Documentary Series	\$90	\$120	\$132
Documentary Standalone	\$90	\$120	\$132
Movie made for Television or SVOD	\$90	\$120	\$132
Children's Television or SVOD Drama Program	\$90	\$120	\$132

TV or SVOD Drama Series	\$90	\$120	\$132
TV or SVOD Drama Serial	\$90	\$120	\$132
TV or SVOD Mini Series	\$90	\$120	\$132
TV or SVOD Comedy	\$90	\$120	\$132
Animation	\$82.50	\$110	\$120
Web Drama	\$82.50	\$110	\$120
Web Comedy	\$82.50	\$110	\$120
Commercial Content	\$82.50	\$110	\$120
Music Video	\$82.50	\$110	\$120
Short Film	\$67.50	\$90	\$100
Student Film	\$67.50	\$90	\$100

7. All the prices stated above are inclusive of GST.

IMPORTANT:

Correct entry information is the responsibility of the applicant. The ADG is not liable for errors in listing that are the result of incorrect information being submitted on the entry form. The ADG cannot be held responsible for projects being entered in the wrong categories.

E. JUDGING PROCESS

1. The ADG Events Committee reserves the right to determine which submissions qualify in all categories. Requested variations to category eligibility may be considered in exceptional circumstances.
2. Wherever possible, ADG members will be given the first opportunity to participate as judges. Directors deemed most appropriate for experience and merit in their applicable genre or category are approached to judge the ADG Awards.

F. NOMINATION STAGE

Should the project got nominated, ADG Secretariat will contact applicant on the day of the Nominees Announcement to obtain the following materials:

1. Excerpts of the project in high resolutions (broadcast quality) film clips – maximum length 30 seconds for feature length film / mini series, and 15 seconds for others. Files need to be in digital format (quick time or MP4)
2. Film stills in high resolutions (no less than 300dpi, minimum size of 40mm x 40mm)
3. Press kit (production notes, key credits, director/s' biography)
4. It is the applicant's responsibility to cover any additional costs associated with submitting the require clips to the ADG Awards. This include, but are not limited to, shipping/ mailing cost, editing cost, and more.
5. All materials must be submitted within 10 working days after the 2018 ADG Awards Nominees Announcement. Date of announcement to be confirmed by ADG Secretariat at the earliest convenience.

G. COPYRIGHT CLEARANCE

1. Applicants acknowledge and agree that they are solely responsible for obtaining all necessary authorisation and/or licenses relating to the use of copyright material and material containing the intellectual property rights of any person in the nominees materials.
2. The ADG will not be responsible for paying any fees or copyright royalties in relation to the nominee's materials that are used as part of the ADG Awards ceremony broadcast.