

ELIGIBILITY & CATEGORIES

- To be eligible for the 2022 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 31 Dec 2023.
- Every project submitted for the ADG Awards must have been completed time between 1 January 2022 and 30 June 2023 in order to be eligible for entry in the 2022 ADG Awards.

**For non-members / those who are not current members of the ADG that wish to submit projects to the 2023 ADG Awards can apply/renew membership with our Membership Coordinator, Paula at paula.baxter@adg.org.au

The 2023 ADG Awards has 20 categories

- Best Direction in a Debut Feature Film
- Best Direction in a Narrative Feature Film (Budget \$1M or over)
- Best Direction in a Narrative Feature Film (Budget under \$1M)
- Best Direction in a Short Film
- Best Direction in a Student Film
- Best Direction in a Documentary Feature
- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Documentary Series Episode or Documentary One-Off
- Best Direction in a Documentary Short Subject
- The Esben Storm Award for Best Direction in a Children's TV or SVOD Series Episode
- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Drama Series Episode
- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Comedy Series Episode
- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Miniseries Episode
- Best Direction in an Online Series Drama Episode
- Best Direction in an Online Series Comedy Episode
- Best Direction in a Mobile-First Online Series Episode
- Best Direction in Animation
- Best Direction in a Commercial Advertisement
- Best Direction in Commercial Content
- Best Direction in a Music Video
- Best Direction in an Interactive or Immersive Project

Established Full Members

ALL categories, EXCEPT for Best Direction of a Student Film

Emerging Full Members

Eligible on the following categories:

- Best Direction in a Debut Feature Film
- Best Direction in a Narrative Feature Film (Budget under \$1M)
- Best Direction in a Short Film
- Best Direction in a Documentary Feature
- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Documentary Series Episode or Documentary One-Off
- Best Direction in a Documentary Short Subject

- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Drama Series Episode
- Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Comedy Series Episode
- Best Direction in a Online Series Episode
- Best Direction in a Online Mobile-First Series Episode
- Best Direction in Animation
- Best Direction in a Commercial Advertisement
- Best Direction in Commercial Content
- Best Direction in a Music Video
- Best Direction in an Interactive or Immersive Project

Associate Members

Eligible for the following categories:

- Best Direction in a Short Film
- Best Direction in a Music Video
- Best Direction in a Documentary Short Subject
- Best Direction in a Online Mobile-First Series Episode

Student Members

ONLY eligible for Best Direction of a Student Film

KEY DATES:*

Submissions Open: 4 July 2023, 9:00am AEST

Submissions Close: 15 August, 2023, 11:59PM AEST

Nominees Announcement: October, 2023

2023 ADG Awards Ceremony: Late November/Early December 2023

The ADG reserves the right to vary opening and closing submission, nominee announcement and award ceremony dates at its sole discretion. In this event the ADG will endeavour to publicise any such variations on the ADG website and social media channels.

Best Direction in a Mobile-First Online Series Episode

- Mobile-First Online Episode is a series of programs, both scripted and un-scripted, that is consumed on mobile devices, meaning it is shot in portrait mode.
- Projects are eligible that have been uploaded to social platforms (Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat etc.)
- There is no duration constraints.
- Other free online streaming access platforms (Youtube, Vimeo, Snagfilms) and Catch-up TV Sites (ABC iView, SBS On Demand) do not count as a mobile-first platform. Refer to our other web/online categories if your entry uses these sites.
- Only individual episodes can be submitted, not a complete series. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series permissible.

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.
- Content which is primarily for promotional purposes, to an industrial or instructional in nature or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.
- A feature length documentary with a duration of 60 minutes or more, made for cinematic, television, SVOD or online release.

Best Direction in a Student Film

- The Student category is for a short film with a maximum duration of 45 minutes as a complete story in a single screening made by a full time or part time student whilst at a tertiary institution.
- The film can be both narrative and/or non-fiction. It doesn't have to just be scripted/dramatized.
- Projects must have been completed between 1st January 2022 and 30th June 2023 to be eligible for submission.
- Entrants must be able to provide written reference / confirmation from the director's respective tertiary institution confirming that the project/s were made whilst studying in the institution.

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 or distributed via online (third party platform).

Best Direction of a Commercial Advertising

- A project can be considered as Commercial Advertisement when its content is designed for the purposes of educating consumers or promoting a specific idea, product, event, or place.
- A work must be less than 15 minutes in length and made for screening on any platform.

Best Direction in a Debut Feature Film

- The first feature film made by the director/s with a duration of 75 minutes or more that is made for cinematic, television, SVOD or online release.
- The director/s can have credits on other formats but cannot have directed a feature.
- The feature may be of any genre and form. It can be non-fiction, narrative, scripted, animated or children's content.
- Director/s may enter their work in the debut feature category AND the other feature categories (Narrative Feature/Documentary Feature/Animation etc.). They even potentially could get nominated/win two categories.
- Directors must provide documentary evidence such as a Statutory Declaration, Completion Guarantor Letter or equivalent confirming the final budget. This will be held commercial-in-confidence.

Best Direction of a Commercial Content

- 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 must be 15 minutes or more in length and made for screening on any platform.

Best Direction in a Feature Film (Budget under \$1M)

- A scripted/dramatised film with a duration of 75 minutes or more that is made for cinematic, television, SVOD or online release.
- The project must be produced with a total budget under \$1M.
- Directors must provide documentary evidence such as a Statutory Declaration, Completion Guarantor Letter or equivalent confirming the final budget. This will be held commercial-in-confidence.

Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Drama Series episode

- TV or SVOD Drama Series Episode includes both a series of drama programs made for television or SVOD release, of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period. As well as a TV or SVOD Drama Serial which is a series of programs made for television or SVOD release of over 40 hours in a consecutive 12-month period.
- Only individual episodes from a series can be submitted, not a complete series. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series or serial permissible.

Best Direction of a Children's TV or SVOD Drama Series Episode

- Any fiction television or SVOD series and/or standalone program 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 in Children's TV and/or the Animation category. Director/s can choose to enter their work in both categories.
- Only individual episodes from a series can be submitted, not a complete series. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series permissible.

Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Documentary Series episode or Documentary One-Off

- A project that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine, infotainment, or light entertainment program.
- Content which is primarily for promotional purposes, or industrial, or instructional in nature or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.
- A documentary series applies to a series of documentary programs made for television or SVOD release of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- A documentary 'One-off' applies to a single, TV one-hour made for television or SVOD release and which tells a complete story in a single screening.
- Only individual episodes from a series can be submitted, not a complete series. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series permissible.

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.
- Content which is primarily for promotional purposes, or industrial, or instructional in nature or essentially an unfiltered record of a performance is not eligible.

- A documentary program with duration of less than 45 minutes for television, SVOD, film festivals and/or online release.

Best Direction in a Music Video

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

Best Direction in Animation

- 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.
- This category allows for animation works of any format. From Children's TV to Music Video to a Feature Film. Animation projects can also be entered into other categories as well as the animation category. For instance, an animated short film can be entered both into animation and short film.
- However, animated student films can only be entered into the student category.

Best Direction in an Online Series Episode

- Online Series is a series/one off comedy programs made for web release of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- Online 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., ABC iView, SBS on Demand) – with note that it is only applied to a program that is only available through that broadcaster's online platform and not also broadcast on a broadcaster's primary channels.
- Television programs rerun on online channels are not considered for this category.
- Comedy can include parody, mockumentary and/or satire.
- Only individual episodes from a series can be submitted, not a complete series. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series permissible.

Best Direction in a Online Drama Series Episode

- Online Drama Series is a series of programs made for web/online release of up to 24-hrs airtime in a consecutive 12-month period.
- Online denotes free online access including FREE online streaming access including Ad-Supported Video on Demand (i.e., YouTube, Vimeo, Snagfilms, smh.tv and many more) and Catch-up TV sites (i.e., ABC iView, SBS on Demand) – with note that it is only applied to a program that is only available through that broadcaster's online platform and not also broadcast on a broadcaster's primary channels
- Television programs rerun on online channels or screened on SVOD platforms are not considered for this category.
- Stand-alone online drama projects can be entered under short film category.
- Only individual episodes from a series can be submitted, not a complete series. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series permissible.

Best Direction in a Television or SVOD Comedy Series Episode

- An episode for a comedy series or a standalone comedy television or SVOD production is eligible to enter this category.
- Comedy can include parody, mockumentary and/or satire.
- Only individual episodes from a series can be submitted, not a complete series or serial. Series Entries are limited to one episode per director with separate entries of multiple single episodes from a series or serial permissible.

Best Direction in a Feature Film (Budget \$1M or over)

- A scripted/dramatised film with a duration of 75 minutes or more that is made for cinematic, television, SVOD or online release.
- The project must be produced with a total budget \$1M or more.
- Directors must provide documentary evidence such as a Statutory Declaration, Completion Guarantor Letter or equivalent confirming the final budget. This will be held commercial-in-confidence.

Best Direction in a TV or SVOD Mini-series Episode

- A series of drama programs made for television or SVOD broadcast with only one stand-alone season can be considered as TV or SVOD Miniseries.
- An entry in this category requires the entrant to submit one episode to be judged as a single entry.

Best Direction in an Interactive or Immersive Project

- Work in any interactive or gaming format (including video games, 360 video, VR experience, location-based experience) will be considered across any digital platform.
- An entry in this category requires the entrant to submit sufficient material for experience design and storytelling to be appraised (e.g., online store activation code, private download link, video playthrough). Video marketing trailers or teasers that do not clearly show the user experience are not sufficient.
- Entrants must have helmed and had primary responsibility for the creative storytelling and experience in the title to qualify.