

## Edinburgh TV Awards Rules and Guidelines 2023

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. <a href="#">INTRODUCTION and TIMETABLE</a> .....	2
B. <a href="#">ELIGIBILITY</a> .....	3
C. <a href="#">ENTRY</a> .....	4
D. <a href="#">TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION</a> .....	10
E. <a href="#">AWARD CATEGORIES</a> .....	11
• BREAKTHROUGH TALENT.....	11
• BEST TV ACTOR – DRAMA.....	11
• BEST TV ACTOR – COMEDY.....	11
• BEST TV PRESENTER.....	11
• BEST DRAMA.....	11
• BEST COMEDY SERIES.....	11
• BEST DOCUMENTARY.....	12
• BEST ENTERTAINMENT SERIES.....	12
• BEST POPULAR FACTUAL SERIES.....	12
• BEST INTERNATIONAL DRAMA.....	12
• CHANNEL OF THE YEAR.....	12
• BEST ON DEMAND SERVICE.....	12
• PRODUCTION COMPANY OF THE YEAR.....	13
• SMALL INDIE OF THE YEAR.....	13
• PRODUCTION GROUP OF THE YEAR.....	13
• CLIMATE IMPACT AWARD.....	13
F. <a href="#">VOTING PROCESS</a> .....	14
G. <a href="#">NOMINATIONS AND WINNERS</a> .....	14
H. <a href="#">CLIP USAGE – NOMINATED TELEVISION PROGRAMMES</a> .....	15
I. <a href="#">LOGOS</a> .....	15
J. <a href="#">PIRACY</a> .....	16
<a href="#">CONTACT LIST</a> .....	16



## **A. INTRODUCTION and TIMETABLE**

The Edinburgh TV Awards are presented annually to recognise and reward outstanding achievement in television.

The Awards categories reflect the outstanding talent, and incredible breadth of creativity that broadcasters, production companies and platforms produce year after year.

The Festival also honours individuals with awards in recognition of their contribution to the television industry. These awards are approved by the Advisory Board.

### **2023 DATES & DEADLINES**

<b>Wednesday 1 March</b>	Entries for the TV Awards can be submitted through <a href="http://edtvawards.thetvfestival.com/entrant/">edtvawards.thetvfestival.com/entrant/</a>
<b>Thursday 20 April</b>	First submission deadline – 30% Early Bird discount ends
<b>Thursday 11 May</b>	Final Submission deadline
<b>Monday 15 May</b>	Round 1 Voting opens
<b>Wednesday 31 May</b>	Round 1 Voting closes
<b>W/C 19 June</b>	Jury deliberation
<b>Thursday 24 August</b>	The Edinburgh TV Awards Ceremony

## B. ELIGIBILITY

Programmes must have had their first transmission in the UK between April 1 2022 and March 31 2023 on terrestrial, cable, satellite or digital channels, including web-based broadcasters that commission content (e.g. Netflix, Amazon, YouTube Originals).

Programmes may be regional or networked.

Unless otherwise specified in the rules of the individual category, all programmes must have a minimum scheduled running time of 20 minutes, not including any commercial breaks.

For a programme to qualify for the Edinburgh TV Awards, **it must have had the worldwide premiere transmission in the UK**. The only exception to this relates to the International Drama and Climate Impact categories.

The programme should have been initiated and developed in the UK; with creative control residing within the UK and/or a UK broadcaster must have the primary editorial control over the programme.

**If a programme falls outside of this eligibility, it can only be considered in the International or Climate Impact categories.**

Programmes that are self-commissioned and self-published are not eligible for the Edinburgh TV Awards.

If you are in any doubt about the eligibility for your programme, please contact the Awards team at [awards@thetvfestival.com](mailto:awards@thetvfestival.com)

### C. ENTRY

All entries should be made via <https://edtvawards.thetvfestival.com/entrant/>, more information about the video specifications can be found on page 10 of this document.

The Edinburgh TV Awards Entry site will be open for entries from 10:00 Wednesday 1 March until midnight on Thursday 13 May 2023. Entries will not be accepted after this date. **All supporting evidence including videos must also be uploaded by this date.**

### PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

On the entry site, you will be required to upload a recent bio and/or list of performance credits and enter a 300-word supporting statement detailing why the eligibility period of 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023 has been one of particular success for this person.

Please upload an **episode** that best represents the entrant's performance in the eligibility period for judging purposes. Please upload this as an MP4/Quicktime file.

Please provide a recent, high-res headshot. Please ensure all images are cleared for use before submission.

There is a fee per entry of £255.00 + VAT for Breakthrough Talent

There is a fee per entry of £360.00 + VAT for Best TV Actor and Best TV Presenter

**Be prepared! If shortlisted we will require a 20 second version of the programme episode for use at the Awards Ceremony. This must be captioned for D/deaf viewers.**

## PROGRAMME CATEGORIES

On the entry site, you will be required to enter up to 500 words stating why the programme or series should be considered for the award - please include evidence of meeting the channel remit, use of innovation, overcoming production / budgetary challenges etc.

Please pick **one** episode that you feel best represents the series as a whole and upload as an MP4/Quicktime file. Please upload an image of a programme still or title card which can be used in the event of a nomination. Please ensure all images are cleared for use before submission.

Images must be landscape, high resolution JPEG files, and no smaller than 1280 x 960px.

**Stills representative of the final broadcast production are preferable over promotional photography, or artwork.** By providing the images, you grant The Edinburgh TV Festival all necessary rights and consents (including but not limited to rights of publicity and privacy) to enable The Festival to use the imagery in whole, or in part, and to edit the same, in such manner and for such purpose as is relevant to the nomination, including, but not limited to, broadcast, online, social media, print and advertising.

You may include up to two additional short supporting clips (up to 30s), and up to 3 additional pieces of non-video evidence to support your entry. These could include (though aren't limited to): reviews, social media reaction/engagement or other screenshots.

There is a fee per entry of £286.00 + VAT

The fee per entry for the International Drama category is £360.00 + VAT

Any entry can also be submitted for the Climate Impact Award for an additional £85

Entries for the programme categories can be submitted by broadcasters, independent production companies and distributors.

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.

**Awards will be presented to the submitting party.**

**Be prepared! If shortlisted we will require a 20 second version of the programme episode for use at the Awards Ceremony. This must be captioned for D/deaf viewers.**

## CHANNEL AND PLATFORM CATEGORIES

On the entry site, you will be required to describe the following:

- The channel's/platform's remit and how this has been delivered during the eligibility period.
- Evidence of success of both original commissions and acquisitions
- How you have grown existing or long-running shows, as well as promoting new talent, both on and off screen
- How the company has built a positive reputation as a good company to work for.
- The channel's key demographic and how you've successfully appealed to your audience across linear and digital channels
- The channel's/platform's previous weak spots and how they have been tackled
- How the channel/platform delivered value for the audience (for PSBs/subscription based services) or advertisers (for commercial broadcasters/ad based services)

Please upload a 2-3min showreel presenting the channel highlights from April 1 2022 - March 31 2023 as an MP4/Quicktime file. Please upload a high-res jpg or PNG of the Channel/platform logo. Please ensure all images are cleared for use before submission.

By providing the images, you grant The Edinburgh TV Festival all necessary rights and consents (including but not limited to rights of publicity and privacy) to enable The Festival to use the imagery in whole, or in part, and to edit the same, in such manner and for such purpose as is relevant to the nomination, including, but not limited to, broadcast, online, social media, print and advertising.

There is a fee per entry of £690.00 + VAT

**Be prepared! If shortlisted we will require a 20 second version of the programme episode or showreel for use at the Awards Ceremony. This must be captioned for D/deaf viewers.**

## PRODUCTION CATEGORIES

On the entry site, you will be required to describe the following:

- Number of broadcast hours
- Number of existing series and new commissions during the qualifying period
- The success of new and existing series
- Details of any overseas sales (where applicable)
- Details on how the indie has grown in the past year and any key expansion plans
- Describe how the company has built a positive reputation as a good production company to work for.

Please upload a 2-3min showreel presenting the production highlights from April 1 2022 - March 31 2023 as an MP4/Quicktime file. Please upload a high-res jpg or PNG of the company logo. Please ensure all images are cleared for use before submission.

By providing the images, you grant The Edinburgh TV Festival all necessary rights and consents (including but not limited to rights of publicity and privacy) to enable The Festival to use the imagery in whole, or in part, and to edit the same, in such manner and for such purpose as is relevant to the nomination, including, but not limited to, broadcast, online, social media, print and advertising.

You may include up to two additional short supporting clips (up to 30s), and up to 3 additional pieces of non-video evidence to support your entry. These could include (though aren't limited to): reviews, social media reaction/engagement or other screenshots.

There is a fee per entry of £430.00 + VAT

The entry fee for the Small Indie of the Year category is £200 + VAT

**Be prepared! If shortlisted we will require a 20 second version of the programme episode or showreel for use at the Awards Ceremony. This must be captioned for D/deaf viewers.**

## **PRODUCTION GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD**

On the entry site, you will be required to describe the following:

- Evidence of creative and commercial success
- Number and details of production labels
- Number of UK broadcast hours
- Number of existing series and new commissions during the qualifying period
- The success of new and existing series
- Details on how the group has grown in the past year and any key expansion plans
- Describe how the company has built a positive reputation as a good company to work for.
- Other notable achievements in the eligibility period.

Please upload a 2-3min showreel presenting the company highlights from April 1 2022 - March 31 2023 as an MP4/Quicktime file. Please upload a high-res jpg or PNG of the company logo. Please ensure all images are cleared before submission.

By providing the images, you grant The Edinburgh TV Festival all necessary rights and consents (including but not limited to rights of publicity and privacy) to enable The Festival to use the imagery in whole, or in part, and to edit the same, in such manner and for such purpose as is relevant to the nomination, including, but not limited to, broadcast, online, social media, print and advertising.

You may include up to two additional short supporting clips (up to 30s), and up to 3 additional pieces of non-video evidence to support your entry. These could include (though aren't limited to): reviews, social media reaction/engagement or other screenshots.

There is a fee per entry of £690.00 + VAT

**Be prepared! If shortlisted we will require a 20 second version of the programme episode or showreel for use at the Awards Ceremony. This must be captioned for D/deaf viewers.**



## CLIMATE IMPACT AWARD

On the entry site you will be required to submit up to 500 words stating why the programme or series should be considered for this award - please include evidence of use of innovation, overcoming production / budgetary challenges, development of the climate/sustainability theme.

Please pick **one** episode that you feel best represents the series as a whole and upload as an MP4/Quicktime file. Please upload an image of a programme still or title card which can be used in the event of a nomination. Please ensure all images are cleared for use before submission.

Images must be landscape high resolution JPEG files, and no smaller than 1280 x 960px.

**Stills representative of the final broadcast production are preferable over promotional photography, or artwork.** By providing the images, you grant The Edinburgh TV Festival all necessary rights and consents (including but not limited to rights of publicity and privacy) to enable The Festival to use the imagery in whole, or in part, and to edit the same, in such manner and for such purpose as is relevant to the nomination, including, but not limited to, broadcast, online, social media, print and advertising.

You may include up to two additional short supporting clips (up to 30s), and up to 3 additional pieces of non-video evidence to support your entry. These could include (though aren't limited to): reviews, social media reaction/engagement or other screenshots.

There is a fee per stand-alone entry of £200.00 + VAT

Any Programme Category entry can also be submitted for the Climate Impact Award for an additional £85

Entries for this category can be submitted by broadcasters, independent production companies and distributors.

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.

**Awards will be presented to the submitting party.**

**Be prepared! If shortlisted we will require a 20 second version of the programme episode or showreel for use at the Awards Ceremony. This must be captioned for D/deaf viewers.**

#### D. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

The Edinburgh TV Awards Entry website aims to provide the best possible viewing experience for your content. In order to achieve this, we request that you provide a high-quality version of your file.

If your original best quality video is in another format, we would prefer to receive it with minimum encoding to preserve quality. Please upload your video(s) as soon as possible so any viewing issues can be resolved before entries close.

**Video evidence must be captioned for D/deaf viewers. Captions can be burnt in OR provided via .vtt files. If you are unable to provide captions in time for submission, please be prepared to provide a captioned version if required by the jury.**

We require all 20 second clips of shortlisted entries to be in H.264 or Apple Pro Res format. **These clips must include full subtitled captions without exception.** We also require split track audio for our edit to enable audio to be taken off /altered for our nominations play-in during the ceremony. Therefore, please ensure that your clips are supplied with separate audio stems.

Please contact [awards@thetvfestival.com](mailto:awards@thetvfestival.com) with any questions.

## **E. AWARD CATEGORIES**

### **PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES**

#### **1. BREAKTHROUGH TALENT**

This award recognises emerging and breakout on-screen talent in either scripted or unscripted programming who have had standout success in the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

#### **2. BEST TV ACTOR - DRAMA**

The award will be given to the actor – male or female – that has electrified audiences with a standout on-screen performance in a drama series on UK television. Open to lead and supporting roles, the winner will have had the nation talking as a result of their performance.

#### **3. BEST TV ACTOR – COMEDY**

The award will be given to the actor – male or female – that has electrified audiences with a standout on-screen performance in a comedy series on UK television. Open to lead and supporting roles, the winner will have had the nation talking as a result of their performance.

#### **4. BEST TV PRESENTER**

The winner will be an established or emerging presenter OR presenting team that has delivered standout work on a series or recurring programme. The category is open to presenters of a mainstream or specialist show, and the winner will have an authentic voice that has resonated with viewers.

### **PROGRAMME CATEGORIES**

#### **5. BEST DRAMA**

This award will go to an outstanding UK drama – whether a one-off, a miniseries, or a full series.

#### **6. BEST COMEDY SERIES**

This award will go to a standout UK comedy series. It is open to new projects and established series that have had notable success and/or been genre-defining.

#### 7. BEST DOCUMENTARY

This award will go to the outstanding documentary programme of the year. It is open to one-off projects and series.

#### 8. BEST ENTERTAINMENT SERIES

This award will go to an outstanding Entertainment Series. It is open to new projects and established series that have had notable success and/or been genre-defining.

#### 9. BEST POPULAR FACTUAL SERIES

This award will go to an outstanding popular factual series. The winner will be a popular factual project that is entertaining and/or tackles issues that have become a talking point for the audience and the nation.

#### 10. BEST INTERNATIONAL DRAMA

Judges will be looking for a series that has been a standout hit in two or more territories and will be looking for an original script, high production values and outstanding performances.

### **CHANNEL AND PLATFORM CATEGORIES**

#### 11. CHANNEL OF THE YEAR

This award will go to the channel that best connects with its audience through a range of high-quality content across different genres.

#### 13. BEST ON DEMAND SERVICE

This award will go to an on-demand platform that has had a standout year. It is open to subscription and ad-supported services, as well as those launched by broadcasters. The winner will have connected with UK viewers through fantastic content, platform design, and marketing.

## **PRODUCTION CATEGORIES**

### **14. PRODUCTION COMPANY OF THE YEAR**

The award will go to a production company with an annual turnover of over £5M and is open to specialists at the top of their game and companies that have excelled across a range of genres.

### **15. SMALL INDIE OF THE YEAR**

The award will go to an indie with an annual turnover of £5M or less. The award is open to specialist at the top of their game and companies that have excelled across a range of genres.

## **SPECIAL AWARDS**

### **16. PRODUCTION GROUP OF THE YEAR**

The award will recognise the role played by Production Groups in fostering creative environments. Open to a group with an established UK presence, comprising at least 5 Production Companies, the winner will have produced a wealth of storytelling across genres.

### **17. CLIMATE IMPACT AWARD**

The climate impact award will go to the show featuring storytelling that best motivates, enables, and/or educates audiences to engage with the transition to a sustainable future in the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The category is open to any show eligible for any of the other programme categories.

Where the minimum number of entries in any category is not reached, The Edinburgh TV Festival, at its discretion, may choose not to present any of the above awards at the TV Awards ceremony, or announce fewer nominations in any category.

The Edinburgh TV Festival is the arbiter of all eligibility.



## **F. VOTING PROCESS**

Nominations and winners of all awards are decided by invited voting groups and by juries.

Voting is conducted online. Prior to the first round of voting, all voting groups are informed of voting rules and must vote or register their abstention. The top six entries in each category go forward for jury consideration.

Where a category receives fewer than 10 entries, we may choose not to present the award at the TV Awards ceremony, or announce fewer nominations in that category. Any category proceeding with fewer than 10 entries will not go to a round 1 vote and will instead go straight to jury consideration.

Voting in Round One is restricted to registered voters.

## **G. NOMINATIONS AND WINNERS**

The nominations for each category will be listed in alphabetical order. Shortlists will be announced in July 2023.

The winners list and winners press release is the definitive source of award winners' information.

The Edinburgh TV Awards or logo may not be reproduced or used in any commercial manner unless prior permission has been obtained from The Edinburgh TV Festival.

The Festival will present one award per category, however additional awards may be ordered following the ceremony at an additional cost.

## H. CLIP USAGE – NOMINATED TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

Clips from nominated programmes may be shown at the Edinburgh TV Awards ceremony, and these clips may form part of the online broadcast of the ceremony in the UK and around the world.

Upon entering a programme via <https://edtvawards.thetvfestival.com/entrant/> for the Edinburgh TV Awards, the entrant will be asked to confirm that all information and video content is correct and approved for judging.

All entries are kept confidential and are circulated only to a carefully selected industry panel.

Shortlisted entries will be contacted ahead of the ceremony in August for approval of show reels and clips.

If you foresee any problems with the granting of this license, please contact [awards@thetvfestival.com](mailto:awards@thetvfestival.com) before entering.

## I. EDINBURGH LOGOS

All requests for logos should be made via [awards@thetvfestival.com](mailto:awards@thetvfestival.com)

Entrants may use the 'Edinburgh TV Awards Nominee' and 'Edinburgh TV Awards Winner' logos online, in print and in broadcasts only once a programme has been nominated for, or won, an award.

Logos will be provided by The Festival before the nominations and winners announcements for advance artwork preparation but **may only be used if the programme or individual receives a nomination or wins an award.**

**Cropping or altering the artwork in any way is prohibited.**

Each instance of logo use must be approved by The Festival, with proofs of the logos in situ sent by email.

Contact Luan Leer (see Contact List) for more information.



## **J. PIRACY**

The Festival takes a very serious view of piracy and will work with broadcasters and production companies to help prevent it.

All Edinburgh TV Awards voters sign up to a code of conduct setting out their responsibilities regarding piracy. This code is available upon request from Bianca Newby (see Contact List) for more information.

## **CONTACT LIST**

Bianca Newby  
Operations Director  
awards@thetvfestival.com  
General enquiries, Awards entry and rules, Voting procedures and Juries, Nominees

Luan Leer  
Marketing & Design Manager  
awards@thetvfestival.com  
Logos and permission agreements

The Edinburgh TV Festival  
117 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3BX  
T +44 (0)207 278 9515 W [www.thetvfestival.com](http://www.thetvfestival.com)