

2013 AACTA AWARDS

RULE BOOK

AFI
AUSTRALIAN
FILM INSTITUTE



AACTA
AWARDS

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Introduction

The AACTA Awards are a continuum of the proud tradition of celebrating Australia's screen excellence and heritage established by the Australian Film Institute's (AFI) Awards. The AFI Awards became known as the AACTA Awards when the AFI launched AACTA – Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts – on 18th August 2011. More information on AACTA can be found at www.aacta.org.

In addition to awarding screen excellence, AACTA also functions as the industry engagement arm of the AFI, and operates as the peak industry body for Australia's screen professionals.

A not-for-profit, membership based organisation, AACTA comprises practitioners from a cross-section of the screen industry including production, distribution, exhibition and television networks, as well as from each of the crafts. AACTA aims to attract a diverse range of members, spanning various age groups, levels of experience and cultural backgrounds.

The [AFI](#) also continues its important remit of connecting the screen loving public with fantastic Australian content, and membership is open to anyone with an interest in Australian film and television.

Part One

Rule 1 - Common Definitions

- 1.1 **AACTA** means the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts.
- 1.2 **AACTA Member** means a member of AACTA that has paid AACTA's annual membership fee and has met AACTA's criteria for membership (as published on the AACTA website) and has been registered as such by AACTA.
- 1.3 **AFI** means the Australian Film Institute (ACN 006 725 266).
- 1.4 **AFI Member** means any member of the general public who has paid the AFI's annual membership fee and has been registered by the AFI as such.
- 1.5 **Award Candidate** means an individual:
- (a) in the case of the Outstanding Achievement in Short Film Screen Craft and Outstanding Achievement in Television Screen Craft Awards, selected by the relevant jury; or
 - (b) for all other Awards, listed on a Form as eligible to receive an Award.
- 1.6 **Award Category** means
- Feature Film
 - Documentary
 - Short Animation
 - Short Fiction Film
 - Television
 - Additional Awards.
- 1.7 **Awards** means the annual awards established by the AFI and now continued by AACTA to recognise and honour outstanding achievement in the Australian film and television industry.

- 1.8 **Awards Ceremony** means any event at which the winners of the Awards are announced and may consist of more than one ceremony or event to be held at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA.
- 1.9 **Awards Nominations Announcement** means the event at which the nominees for the Awards are announced.
- 1.10 **Awards Screenings** means the film screenings organised by the AFI and AACTA for AACTA and AFI members to view Productions submitted for the Award Categories to be voted on by AACTA and AFI members, to assist AACTA and AFI members to decide how to vote.
- 1.11 **Board** means the board of directors of the AFI elected in accordance with the Articles of Association of the AFI.
- 1.12 **Capital City** means any of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, Hobart, Canberra or Darwin.
- 1.13 **Closing Date for Entry** means the last day by which a Form must be delivered to the AFI. The specific date and address details will be published on the AFI and AACTA websites and on the Form for each Award Category. These details may vary from year to year.
- 1.14 **Closing Date for Materials** means the last day by which any Supporting Materials relevant to a particular Award Category must be delivered to the AFI. The specific date and address details will be published on the AFI and AACTA websites and on the Form for each Award Category. These details may vary from year to year.
- 1.15 **Entrant** means the person(s) entering a Production into the Awards.
- 1.16 **Form** means the online form, which the Entrant completes to submit a Production for consideration for the Awards. Each Award Category will have a separate and distinct Form.
- 1.17 **Fee** means the sum of money in Australian dollars inclusive of Goods and Services Tax payable by the Entrant at the time of submitting a Form to the AFI. The fees payable in relation to each Award Category will be stated on the AFI and AACTA websites and the Form relevant to the Award Category and may change from year to year.
- 1.18 **International Award** means any of the Awards presented pursuant to Rule 14 and **International Awards** means all of those Awards.
- 1.19 **Key Creative Person** means in relation to a Production, the Producer, the director or the writer.
- 1.20 **Nomination/Nominee/Nominate** means the selection of a Production or an Award Candidate considered eligible to receive an Award.
- 1.21 **Production** means a film or television program falling within one of the Awards Categories.
- 1.22 **Producer** means the person or persons credited as the producer(s) of a Production and for the purposes of a Nomination, excludes the executive producer, line producer, co-producer or associate producer only in respect of the following Award Categories:
- Best Film
 - Best Short Fiction Film
 - Best Short Animation
 - Best Feature Length Documentary

- Best Documentary Under One Hour
- Best Documentary Series
- Best Children’s Television Drama
- Best Children’s Television Animation
- Best Television Comedy Series
- Best Television Drama Series
- Best Light Entertainment Television Series
- Best Reality Television Series
- Best Telefeature or Mini Series

- 1.23 **Rule Book** means the rules appearing in this document as supplemented by any information posted on the AFI website, AACTA website and/or Forms clarifying the process to enter a Production into the Awards.
- 1.24 **Scrutineer** means the independent agency or body appointed by the AFI from time to time to ensure the voting process is conducted in a fair and transparent manner.
- 1.25 **Supporting Materials** means the materials required to be provided to the AFI to support the entry of a Production as set out on the AFI and AACTA websites and the Form from time to time.
- 1.26 **Voting Member** means, in relation to each Award, a member of AACTA or the AFI whose terms of membership bestow voting rights upon that member in respect of that Award.

Rule 2 - Awards Categories

The AFI and AACTA provides for the following Awards within each of the Award Categories.

2.1 Feature Film

- Best Film (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Direction
- Best Original Screenplay
- Best Adapted Screenplay
- Best Cinematography
- Best Editing
- Best Sound
- Best Original Music Score
- Best Production Design
- Best Costume Design
- Best Lead Actor
- Best Lead Actress
- Best Supporting Actor
- Best Supporting Actress

2.2 Documentary, Short Animation, Short Fiction Film

- Best Feature Length Documentary (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Documentary Under One Hour (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Documentary Series (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Short Animation (awarded to the Producer and Director)
- Best Short Fiction Film (awarded to the Producer and Director)
- Best Screenplay in a Short Film
- Best Direction in a Documentary
- Best Editing in a Documentary
- Best Sound in a Documentary
- Best Cinematography in a Documentary
- Outstanding Achievement in Short Film Screen Craft. (This Award may only be presented to Short Fiction and Short Animation Films. The Award is given at the jury's discretion and excludes producing, directing and screenplay.)

2.3 Television Program

- Best Television Drama Series (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Telefeature or Mini Series (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Children's Television Drama (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Children's Television Animation (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Television Comedy Series (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Light Entertainment Television Series (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Reality Television Series (awarded to the Producer)
- Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama
- Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama
- Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama
- Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama

- Best Performance in a Television Comedy
- Best Direction in Television
- Best Screenplay in Television
- Outstanding Achievement in Television Screen Craft. (This Award is given at the jury's discretion and excludes acting, direction, producing and screenplay.)

2.4 **Other Awards**

- AACTA Raymond Longford Award
- Byron Kennedy Award
- Best Young Actor
- Best Visual Effects
- Audience Choice Award
- AACTA International Award for Best Film
- AACTA International Award for Best Direction
- AACTA International Award for Best Screenplay
- AACTA International Award for Best Actor
- AACTA International Award for Best Actress
- Other Awards at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA.

Rule 3 - Making an Entry to the Awards

3.1 How to make a valid entry to the Awards

- (a) In order for a Production to be eligible for nomination (other than in relation to the International Awards), the Production must:
 - (i) contain "significant Australian content" for the purposes of section 376-65(2)(a)(i) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* regardless of whether the Production satisfies the thresholds for "qualifying Australian production expenditure" as set out in section 376-65(6) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*; or
 - (ii) have been made under an arrangement entered into between the Commonwealth or an authority of the Commonwealth and a foreign country or an authority of the foreign country for the purposes of section 376-65(2)(a)(ii) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*; or
 - (iii) in relation to a Children's Television Animation, Feature Film which is an animation, Short Animation or Documentary, be an "Australian program" as defined by Part 3 of the *Broadcasting Services (Australian Content) Standard 2005*; or
 - (iv) otherwise satisfy the AFI and AACTA that the Production is an Australian Production.
- (b) The Entrant must be the Producer of the Production, and where there is more than one Producer for a Production, must be all of the Producers of the Production.
- (c) A Production which has been previously entered into the Awards is ineligible for entry into the current or any future Awards.
- (d) The Entrant agrees that in order to make a valid entry to the AACTA Awards, the Entrant must:
 - (i) comply with all the rules in:
 - A. Part One of the Rule Book; and
 - B. Part Two of the Rule Book in respect of the relevant Award Category;
 - (ii) submit a fully completed Form and Fee by the Closing Date for Entry;
 - (iii) submit a Production within one of the Award Categories in the format required by Part Two of the Rule Book;
 - (iv) submit a Production which includes credits;
 - (v) submit all Supporting Materials by the Closing Date for Materials as per clause 3.2; and
 - (vi) pay all transport and freight costs associated with making an entry to the Awards.
- (e) Subject to Rule 4.1(a)(v), the Entrant must select on its Form the most appropriate Award Category where a Production satisfies the eligibility criteria for more than one Award Category.

- (f) The Entrant is responsible for ensuring that all eligible Award Candidates are listed on the Form. Only persons named in the credits of a Production may be Award Candidates.
- (g) If more than one person is credited in a particular position (e.g. writer), the Entrant may select up to four Award Candidates to be eligible to receive the Award, with the exception of Sound, where up to six Award Candidates may be selected.
- (h) By submitting a Form the Entrant enters the Production for every Award applicable to the relevant Award Category unless otherwise specified on the Form.
- (i) A Production may only be entered into one Award Category.
- (j) If an actor aged under 18 years at the conclusion of filming appears as a Lead, Guest or Supporting Actor, that actor may be recommended by the Entrant for both the Young Actor Award and another eligible acting Award.
- (k) An Entry may only be withdrawn in exceptional circumstances and where an entry is withdrawn:
 - (i) at any time prior to the Closing Date for Entry for the particular Award Category, the AFI will refund the full amount of the Fee; or
 - (ii) at any time between the Closing Date for Entry and the Awards Nominations Announcement, the AFI may at its discretion refund up to one half of the Fee.
- (l) An entry may not be withdrawn after the Awards Nominations Announcement by the AFI.
- (m) The AFI reserves the right to charge an administrative fee on any changes to a Form or Entry made after the Closing Date for Entries.

3.2 **Materials to be submitted by the Entrant**

- (a) The Entrant must supply, by the Closing Date for Materials all the Supporting Materials required for an entry within the relevant Award Category.
- (b) The Entrant shall ensure in respect of the Supporting Materials that:
 - (i) any film prints are on reels stored in shipping cases or cans;
 - (ii) any videotapes are clearly marked on both the tape and covers;
 - (iii) any DVDs are clearly marked on both the DVD and covers;
 - (iv) any portable hard drives are correctly formatted and clearly labelled; and
 - (v) any other required materials are supplied in the format specified on the AFI website, AACTA website and/or on the Form appropriate for the Award Category.
- (c) The Entrant acknowledges that during the judging process:
 - (i) the AFI will retain possession of the Supporting Materials; and
 - (ii) neither the Entrant, the Producer, distributor nor any other person associated with the Production can access the Supporting Materials.

- (d) The Entrant acknowledges that, in respect of the return of the materials submitted with an entry:
- (i) all printed materials, discs and one of the DVDs submitted with an entry are the property of AFI;
 - (ii) in the case of a Feature Film; a copy of the final draft script will be lodged with the AFI Research Collection at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology;
 - (iii) neither the AFI nor AACTA shall be responsible for any loss or damage to prints or tapes or other materials submitted with an entry whether in the AFI or AACTA's possession or the possession of any screening facility or cinema;
 - (iv) the balance of the submitted materials (including portable hard drives or Digital Betacam tapes and film prints) will be returned to the Entrant after the Awards Ceremony; and
 - (v) the AFI will pay for any freight and handling charges or the airfreight charges in the case of film prints, portable hard drives or Digital Betacam tapes and DVDs for return to the Entrant at a location within Australia.

3.3 Warranties of the Entrant

- (a) By submitting a Form the Entrant warrants:
- (i) it has the unrestricted authority to grant the rights specified in this Rule Book whether in the Entrant's own right or on behalf of any third party directly or indirectly associated with the Production;
 - (ii) it has obtained the consent of each individual member of the cast and crew to:
 - A. the Entrant making disclosure to the AFI of the individuals' contact details, whether work or personal telephone number, work or personal email address or work or personal street address; and
 - B. the AFI making contact with any individual member of the cast or crew by using the personal information provided by the Entrant to AFI and AACTA as set out in paragraph 3.3(a)(ii)A above;
 - (iii) the accuracy of any written or verbal declaration made to AFI in connection with the Awards; and
 - (iv) the Production, including a series or part of a series, has not previously been entered into the Awards.
- (b) The Entrant agrees to grant to AFI a non-exclusive, non-transferable, royalty-free licence:
- (i) to publicise the Production by any means, which the AFI considers appropriate;
 - (ii) to use any or all of the Supporting Material submitted with an entry;
 - (iii) to use all, part or selected excerpts of a Production for the purposes of the Awards Screenings (including by digital distribution to all jurors or members eligible to vote in respect to the Entrant's entry and by or in association with any of the AFI's opposed or appointed sponsors or

supporters of any of those events), the Awards Nominations Announcement, and the Awards Ceremony, the television broadcast of the Awards Ceremony, or the publicity of the Awards and the Awards Ceremony through any medium whatsoever including by digital distribution;

- (iv) to make and to provide watermarked DVD copies of the Production within Australia and overseas; and
 - (v) to screen any Production.
- (c) The Entrant agrees to indemnify AFI for any loss or damage arising from any inaccurate, misleading or false declarations.
- (d) The Entrant agrees that, where any Award includes a cash prize or prize other than a trophy, the Award recipient will comply with any terms and conditions attached to that prize as a condition of accepting that prize. Terms and conditions of any prize will be notified to an Award recipient before such prize is presented to that Award recipient.

Rule 4 - The Role of the AFI

4.1 Powers of the AFI

- (a) The AFI reserves the right:
- (i) to rely solely on the information and material submitted with an entry without any obligation or expectation on the AFI to make further inquiries or communications with the Entrant or any other third party;
 - (ii) to determine whether an entry is validly made in accordance with the Rule Book;
 - (iii) to reject an entry not validly made in accordance with the Rule Book;
 - (iv) to determine what process, if any, it may adopt to resolve the validity of any entry;
 - (v) to determine the appropriate Award Category for any Production and override the selection of the Award Category made by the Entrant;
 - (vi) to select any excerpt from a Production for screening at AACTA Awards Nominations Announcement or the Awards Ceremony other than those excerpts referred to by the Entrant in the Form;
 - (vii) to determine the eligibility of an entry for an Award by reference to the credits either as they appear on the screen or as certified by the Entrant on the Form;
 - (viii) to select the membership of a jury, and where appropriate, to determine a jury's processes and whether a jury may make a Nomination or determine a winner of an Award;
 - (ix) to exercise a casting vote if a particular jury is unable to decide the winner of an Award;
 - (x) to vary any of the rules in the Rule Book at any time prior to the Closing Date for Entries. The AFI will endeavour to publicise any such variations on the AFI website and/or AACTA website;
 - (xi) to allow or refuse an Entrant to make an amendment to the Form after the Closing Date for Entry or to the Supporting Materials after the Closing Date for Materials;
 - (xii) to decline to give an Award in any given year, or to merge two or more Awards, where in the absolute discretion of the AFI and AACTA, the quantity or quality of entries do not warrant the giving of an Award (provided that where Awards are merged, Award Candidates for the affected Awards will be automatically entered into the merged Award);
 - (xiii) to delegate any power, right or discretion to the Board or its delegate(s); and
 - (xiv) to consult as required with the Scrutineer about any aspect of the application of the Rule Book.
- (b) The AFI may, at its discretion waive compliance with the rules in relation to Release Periods, Completion Periods or Broadcast Periods if it is satisfied that an Entrant is genuinely unable to comply with the Closing Date for Materials or

meet any of the other eligibility criteria in the appropriate year having regard to its release, broadcast or completion date(s).

- (c) Neither the AFI nor AACTA will enter into any dispute between Producers or any Producer and a third party in relation to the entry of a Production into the Awards or any other matter.
- (d) The AFI will only act upon a Form agreed to by all of the Producers of a Production.
- (e) The AFI and AACTA will present one trophy to the winner of each Award Category. If there is more than one winner, the AFI and AACTA may arrange at their discretion the purchase of any additional trophies (at the expense of the Entrant).
- (f) Awards will only be presented to the individuals named as winners of the Award. Awards will not be presented to corporate entities that produce the Production.
- (g) The decisions of the AFI and AACTA, including the decision of any jury, shall be final.
- (h) The AFI and AACTA retain a general right of discretion in relation to all matters relating to the Awards, notwithstanding any other provision of the Rule Book.

4.2 Licence of AFI and AACTA Logo

A Production that receives a Nomination in respect of any Award may apply to the AFI and AACTA for permission to use an approved AACTA Awards logo on the Production's promotional material subject to any terms and conditions imposed by the AFI and AACTA in respect of the use of that logo.

4.3 Ownership of AACTA Award statuettes

The AACTA Award statuette remains the property of the AFI. Possession of the statuette is to remain with the AACTA Award winner to whom it is presented and that person's heirs and descendants. Should the Award leave the care of the AACTA Award winner or his or her heirs and descendants, the Academy reserves the right to repurchase the AACTA Award statuette for a fee of \$1.00. Under no circumstances are Awards to be sold to third parties, but the AFI will consider applications to transfer possession of an AACTA Award statuette to an appropriate museum, gallery or other not-for-profit institution.

Part Two

Rule 5 - Special Conditions for Feature Film

5.1 Definitions relevant to this Rule:

Release Period means the period during which a Feature Film must be first released in order to qualify for the Feature Film Award Category as specified on the AFI and AACTA websites and in the Form from year to year.

5.2 Eligibility to enter a Feature Film

- (a) A Production must be a film consisting of a dramatised story of at least 70 minutes duration in order to be eligible for the Feature Film Award Category.
- (b) In order to be eligible a Feature Film must be:
 - (i) **(direct eligibility)** publicly exhibited during the Release Period for paid admission in a commercial cinema, for a run of at least seven consecutive days, in a minimum of five Australian Capital Cities - including Sydney and Melbourne; or
 - (ii) **(pre-selection)** both:
 - A. publicly exhibited during the Release Period for paid admission in a commercial cinema, for a run of at least seven consecutive days, in a minimum of two Australian Capital Cities with one city being Melbourne or Sydney; and
 - B. approved for eligibility by the AFI and AACTA and the Feature Film pre-selection jury.
- (c) The AFI and AACTA shall have absolute discretion in relation to the pre-selection of Feature Films.
- (d) Entrants that enter Productions pursuant to rule 5.2(b)(ii) may, at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA, be required to pay only part of the Fee at the time of submitting the Form. In such cases, the remainder of the Fee will be required to be paid upon the Production receiving approval for eligibility.
- (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules a Feature Film is not eligible to enter through direct eligibility pursuant to clause 5.2(b)(i) if it was created in the course of, as a result of, or predominantly for the purposes of, completing a course at a school or tertiary institution or any other educational program. Such Productions are required to enter through pre-selection.

5.3 Making an entry for a Feature Film

- (a) The Entrant must ensure sufficient copies of a Feature Film are made available at the screening venues for the AACTA Awards Screenings. The Entrant will take steps to ensure the distributor liaises with the AFI and AACTA over the specific arrangements for each screening venue.
- (b) The Entrant may be offered the opportunity to make the film available for online streaming through the AFI and AACTA's secure online streaming room to AFI and AACTA members solely for the purposes of judging the film. Participation is

optional and the Entrant should indicate on the Form whether it intends to participate.

- (c) The Entrant should, if possible supply the copies of the Production referred to in clause 5.3(a) in DCP or 35mm print, but if this is not possible the Entrant must liaise with AFI to determine an alternative format.

5.4 Special Rules for Best Film

The Producer(s) is the Nominee for this Award Category.

5.5 Special Rules for Screenplays

- (a) A screenplay must have been written directly and originally for the screen in order to be eligible for the Best Original Screenplay Award.
- (b) A screenplay must have been based on material previously released or published in order to be eligible for the Best Adapted Screenplay Award.

5.6 Special Rules for Acting Awards

- (a) The Entrant must select the most appropriate Award for a particular Award Candidate (e.g. Lead or Supporting Actor).
- (b) Award Candidates for the Best Lead Actor and Best Lead Actress Awards cannot also be Award Candidates for the Best Supporting Actor or Best Supporting Actress Awards in the same year for the same Production.
- (c) Award Candidates for the Best Lead Actor and Best Supporting Actor Awards must be human and male.
- (d) Award Candidates for the Best Lead Actress and Best Supporting Actress Awards must be human and female.

5.7 Special Rules for Sound Credits

Notwithstanding Rule 3.1(g), if more than one person is credited for positions relating to sound (e.g. sound mixer, sound engineer, sound editor), the Entrant may select up to six Award Candidates to be eligible to receive the Best Sound Award.

5.8 Special Rules for Voting and Judging

The process for voting and eligibility for voting will be determined by the AFI and AACTA and publicised via the AFI and AACTA website.

Rule 6 - Special Conditions for Documentary

6.1 Definitions relevant to this Rule:

Completion Period means the period during which a Documentary must be completed in order to qualify for the Documentary Award Category as specified on the AFI and AACTA websites and Form.

Documentary Series means a Television Program consisting of a potentially unlimited number of episodes but not less than two episodes that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine or infotainment program, Light Entertainment Series (refer to Rule 8) or Reality Television Series (Refer to Rule 8). This definition includes programs that consist of the Producers setting up a premise or initial situation that is then observed with minimal further intervention by the Producers.

Feature Length Documentary means a single self-contained non-fiction film or Television Program (that is not a Documentary Series) longer than 60 minutes in duration, that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, magazine or infotainment program, sports coverage, or Light Entertainment Series (refer to Rule 8).

Documentary Under One Hour means a self-contained non-fiction film or Television Program equal to or less than 60 minutes in duration that is a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine or infotainment program, Light Entertainment Series (refer to Rule 8) or Reality Television Series (Refer to Rule 8).

Television Program means a Production broadcast in Australia produced for television broadcast on free to air or subscriber television, but excluding broadcasts made on community television networks.

6.2 Eligibility to enter a Documentary

- (a) A Production must be a Feature Length Documentary, a Documentary Under One Hour or Documentary Series, in order to be eligible for the Documentary Award Category.
- (b) A Production must be completed during the Completion Period in order to be eligible for entry in the Documentary Award Category. Whether a Production is complete is to be determined by the Entrant.
- (c) In relation to Documentary Series', the Entrant may submit up to a maximum of:
 - (i) two episodes; or
 - (ii) 120 minutes of materialwhichever is the shorter.

6.3 Nomination of a Documentary Film

If the Feature Length Documentary jury Nominate a Production in the category of Best Feature Length Documentary, the Entrant shall:

- (a) ensure that sufficient copies of the Production are made available for the duration of the AACTA Awards Screenings; and

- (b) make the film available for online streaming through the AFI and AACTA's secure online streaming room to AFI and AACTA members for the purposes of judging the film.

6.4 Special Rules for the Best Documentary Award Categories

The Producer(s) is the Nominee for each of the Best Feature Length Documentary Award, Best Documentary Under One Hour Award and Best Documentary Series Award.

6.5 Special Rules for Sound Credits

Notwithstanding Rule 3.1(g), if more than one person is credited in positions relating to sound (e.g. sound mixer, sound engineer, sound editor or composer), the Entrant may select up to six Award Candidates to be eligible to receive the Best Sound in a Documentary Award.

6.6 Special Rules for Judging and Voting

The process for voting and eligibility for voting will be determined by the AFI and AACTA and publicised via the AFI and AACTA website.

Rule 7 - Special Conditions for Short Fiction Film and Short Animation

7.1 Definitions relevant to this Rule:

Completion Period means the period during which a Production must be completed in order to be eligible for the Short Animation or Short Fiction Film Award Categories as specified on the AFI and AACTA websites and the Form.

Director means the person or persons credited with the direction of a Short Animation or Short Fiction Film.

7.2 Eligibility to enter a Short Fiction Film and Short Animation Film

- (a) A Production must be completed during the Completion Period in order to be eligible to enter in the Short Fiction Film and Short Animation Award Categories. Whether a Production is complete is to be determined by the Producer.
- (b) A Production must be a self-contained and continuous fiction or experimental film, recorded primarily in live action, of less than 40 minutes' duration in order to be eligible for entry in the Short Fiction Film Award Category.
- (c) A Production must be a self-contained and continuous animated film of short fiction or documentary of less than 40 minutes in duration in order to be eligible for entry in the Short Animation Award.
- (d) If a program is part of a series, a single program must remain self contained in respect of its content at all times and not be part of a series that has a continuous theme or story-line in order to be eligible in the Short Fiction Film and Short Animation Award Categories.
- (e) The Entrant may submit up to a maximum of three programs from the one series provided that each of the programs otherwise complies with the rules relevant to that Award Category and remains self contained in respect of its content.
- (f) The AFI and AACTA shall treat each program entered from the one series as a separate entry and a separate Fee shall apply to each entry.

7.3 Special Rules for the Nomination in the Best Short Fiction Film and Best Short Animation Film Award Categories

- (a) If the Short Fiction Film and Short Animation jury Nominate a Short Fiction Film or Short Animation for the Awards of Best Short Fiction Film or Best Short Animation respectively, the Entrant shall:
 - (i) ensure that sufficient copies of the Production are made available for the duration of the AACTA Awards Screenings; and
 - (ii) make the film available for online streaming through the AFI and AACTA's secure online streaming room to AFI and AACTA members for the purposes of judging the film.
- (b) The Award Candidates for the Best Short Fiction Film and Best Short Animation Awards may be any four of the Producer(s) or Director(s) of the Production, as selected by the Entrant and listed on the Form.

7.4 **Special Rules for Judging and Voting**

The process for voting and eligibility for voting will be determined by the AFI and AACTA and publicised via the AFI and AACTA website.

Rule 8 - Special Conditions for Television Programs

8.1 Definitions relevant to this Rule:

Broadcast Period means the period during which a Television Program (or the first episode of a series of programs) must be broadcast in Australia in order to be eligible for the Television Program Award Category as specified on the AFI and AACTA websites and the Form for this Award Category.

Children's Drama Series means a Television Program that is a drama made predominantly for viewing by children, consisting of a potentially unlimited number of episodes but no fewer than five episodes, comprising either:

- (a) a series of self-contained stories, which can be screened in any order; or
- (b) a number of interweaving and overlapping plots continuing from one episode to the next.

Children's Mini Series means a Television Program that is a series of between 2 and 4 episodes made predominantly for viewing by children which is less than 4 television hours in total length, wherein individual episodes are not less than one quarter television hour and consists of a complete dramatised story with an ongoing interweaving and overlapping plots forming a single narrative.

Children's Telefeature means a Television Program that is single, self-contained and continuous drama made predominantly for viewing by children.

Children's Television Animation means a Children's Drama Series, a Children's Mini Series or a Children's Telefeature which is created using animation.

Children's Television Drama means a Children's Drama Series, a Children's Mini Series or a Children's Telefeature which is primarily recorded in live action.

Light Entertainment Television Series means a Television Program that is a variety style, quiz, infotainment, lifestyle, magazine, game show or other substantially non-scripted program, which comprises at least four episodes of no less than one half television hour in length. This definition excludes news and current affairs programs, Reality Television Programs and Documentary Series (refer to Rule 6).

Mini Series means a Television Program that is less than 13 hours in total length, which consists of a complete, self-contained dramatised story with a major continuous plot for which there is an expectation of an ending resolving the major plot tensions. For the avoidance of doubt, only 'one-off' series are eligible for this category. A production which:

- (a) has had previous seasons; or
- (b) is reasonably expected by the Producers to return for further seasons;

in which substantially the same characters and/or narrative setting will appear, is not eligible.

Reality Television Series means a substantially non-scripted Television Program which:

- (a) involves participants being placed in an environment or format in which the premise, circumstances or situations they encounter are manipulated for the purposes of creating the program; and

- (b) consists of no less than four episodes, each of which is no less than one half television hour in length; and

specifically excludes news and current affairs programs, Light Entertainment Television Series or Documentary Series (refer to Rule 6). For the avoidance of doubt, this definition does not include substantially non-scripted programs that consist of the Producers setting up a premise or initial situation that is then observed with minimal further intervention by the Producers (refer to Rule 6 - Documentary Series).

Telefeature means a Television Program that is a single, self-contained and continuous drama made for television that is no less than one television hour in length or, in the case of predominantly animated programs, not less than one half television hour in length.

Television Comedy Series means a Television Program that is a situation comedy or sketch series comprising at least four substantially scripted episodes of no more than one television hour in length, of either:

- (a) self-contained stories or a continuing story with an ongoing plot and characters; or
- (b) a series of unrelated sketches.

Television Drama Series means a Television Program that is a drama of a potentially unlimited number of episodes but no fewer than five episodes, comprising either:

- (a) a series of self-contained stories, which can be screened in any order; or
- (b) a number of interweaving and overlapping plots continuing from one episode to the next, and

specifically excludes a Telefeature or Mini Series.

Television Program means a Production broadcast in Australia produced specifically for television broadcast on free to air or subscriber television, but excluding broadcasts made on community television networks.

8.2 Eligibility to enter a Television Program

- (a) A Production must be a Television Program in order to be eligible for the Television Program Award Category.
- (b) Where a Production consists of a single program, that Production must be broadcast for the first time in Australia during the Broadcast Period in order to be eligible for the Television Program Award Categories.
- (c) Where a Production consists of a series of programs, the first program in that series of programs must be broadcast for the first time in Australia during the Broadcast Period in order to be eligible for the Television Program Award Categories.

8.3 Special Rules for a Telefeature or Mini Series

- (a) A Production must be a Telefeature or Mini Series in order to be eligible for the Best Telefeature or Mini Series Award.
- (b) A Telefeature or Mini Series is not eligible for entry if it is a continuation of, and features substantially the same characters and/or narrative setting as, a Telefeature or Mini Series entered in a previous year. This does not disqualify a Telefeature or Mini Series from entering as a Television Drama Series.

- (c) In the case of Telefeature, the Entrant must submit the entire production for judging.
- (d) In the case of Mini Series, the Entrant must submit two episodes to be judged as a single entry for the Best Telefeature or Mini Series Award.
- (e) In the case of Mini Series, each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the following Awards:
 - (i) Direction in Television;
 - (ii) Screenplay in Television;
 - (iii) Lead Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (iv) Lead Actress in a Television Drama;
 - (v) Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (vi) Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama; and
 - (vii) Young Actor.

8.4 Special Rules for a Television Drama Series

- (a) A Production must be a Television Drama Series in order to be eligible for the Television Drama Series Award.
- (b) Both of the submitted episodes will be judged as a single entry for the Best Television Drama Series Award.
- (c) Each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the following Awards:
 - (i) Direction in Television;
 - (ii) Screenplay in Television;
 - (iii) Lead Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (iv) Lead Actress in a Television Drama;
 - (v) Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (vi) Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama; and
 - (vii) Young Actor.

8.5 Special Rules for Children's Television Animation

- (a) A Production must be a Children's Television Animation in order to be eligible for the Best Children's Television Animation Award.
- (b) In the case of a Children's Television Animation that is a Children's Telefeature, the Entrant must submit the entire production for judging.
- (c) In the case of a Children's Television Animation that is a Children's Drama Series or Children's Mini Series, the Entrant must submit two episodes to be judged as a single entry for the Best Children's Animated Series Award.

- (d) In the case of a Children's Television Animation that is a Children's Drama Series or Children's Mini Series, each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the following Awards:
 - (i) Direction in Television;
 - (ii) Screenplay in Television;
 - (iii) Lead Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (iv) Lead Actress in a Television Drama;
 - (v) Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (vi) Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama; and
 - (vii) Young Actor.

8.6 Special Rules for Children's Television Drama

- (a) A Production must be a Children's Television Drama in order to be eligible for the Best Children's Television Drama Award.
- (b) In the case of a Children's Television Drama that is a Children's Telefeature, the Entrant must submit the entire production for judging.
- (c) In the case of a Children's Television Drama that is a Children's Drama Series or a Children's Mini Series, the Entrant must submit two episodes to be judged as a single entry for the Best Children's Television Drama Award.
- (d) In the case of a Children's Television Drama that is a Children's Drama Series or Children's Miniseries, each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the following Awards:
 - (i) Direction in Television;
 - (ii) Screenplay in Television;
 - (iii) Lead Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (iv) Lead Actress in a Television Drama;
 - (v) Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (vi) Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama; and
 - (vii) Young Actor.

8.7 Special Rules for Television Comedy Series

- (a) A Production must be a Television Comedy Series in order to be eligible for the following Awards:
 - (i) Best Television Comedy Series Award; and
 - (ii) Best Performance in a Television Comedy.
- (b) The Entrant must submit two episodes of the Production for judging.

- (c) The Entrant may list up to 8 Award Candidates on the Form for consideration for the Best Performance in a Television Comedy Award.
- (d) Both of the submitted episodes will be judged as a single entry for the Best Television Comedy Series Award.
- (e) Each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the following Awards:
 - (i) Best Performance in a Television Comedy;
 - (ii) Direction in Television; and
 - (iii) Screenplay in Television.

8.8 Special Rules for Light Entertainment Television Series

- (a) A Production must be a Light Entertainment Television Series to be eligible for the Best Light Entertainment Television Series Award.
- (b) The Entrant must submit two episodes of the Production for judging.
- (c) Both of the submitted episodes will be judged as a single entry for the Best Light Entertainment Television Series Award.
- (d) Each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the following Awards:
 - (i) Direction in Television; and
 - (ii) Screenplay in Television.

8.9 Special Rules for Reality Television Series

- (a) A Production must be a Reality Television Series to be eligible for the Best Reality Television Series Award.
- (b) The Entrant must submit two episodes of the Production for judging.
- (c) Both of the submitted episodes will be judged as a single entry for the Best Reality Television Series Award.
- (d) Each of the two submitted episodes will be judged individually for the Direction in Television.

8.10 Award Specific Rules

- (a) In order to be eligible for the following Awards:
 - (i) Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama;
 - (ii) Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama;
 - (iii) Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama; and
 - (iv) Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama
 the Award Candidate must have performed in a:
 - (v) a Television Drama Series;

- (vi) a Mini Series;
 - (vii) a Telefeature; or
 - (viii) a Children's Television Animation; or
 - (ix) a Children's Television Drama.
- (b) Award Candidates for the Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama and Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama Awards cannot also be Award Candidates for the Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama or Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama Awards in the same year for the same production.
 - (c) Award Candidates for the Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama or Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama Awards must be human and male.
 - (d) Award Candidates for the Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama or Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama Awards must be human and female.

8.11 Special Rules for Sound Credits

Notwithstanding Rule 3.1(g), if more than one person is credited in positions relating to sound (e.g. sound mixer, sound engineer, sound editor or composer), the Entrant may select up to six Award Candidates to be eligible to receive the Best Sound in Television Award.

8.12 Special Rules for Judging and Voting

The process for voting and eligibility for voting will be determined by the AFI and AACTA and publicised via the AFI and AACTA website.

Rule 9 - AACTA Award for Best Young Actor

The AACTA Award for Best Young Actor is presented at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA to an outstanding actor or actress in a Lead, Guest or Supporting Actor role under the age of 18 at the conclusion of filming. Nominees are selected from the Award Categories of Television, Feature Film and Short Fiction Film.

Rule 10 - AACTA Raymond Longford Award

The AACTA Raymond Longford Award is presented at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA to an individual who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment over many years to excellence in the film and television industries and has, through their body of work to date, contributed substantially to the enrichment of Australian culture. A call for recommendations is issued to the general public and further Awards Candidates are selected at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA without the need for an Entry.

Rule 11 - Byron Kennedy Award

The Byron Kennedy Award is presented at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA for outstanding creative enterprise within the film or television industries. This Award is given to an individual, usually early in their career, whose quality of work embodies the qualities of Byron Kennedy: innovation, vision and the relentless pursuit of excellence. The Award is presented by Kennedy Miller in association with the AFI and AACTA, and includes a cash prize of \$10,000 (subject to certain terms and conditions). A call for recommendations is issued to the general public and further Award Candidates are selected at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA without the need for an Entry.

Rule 12 - AACTA Award Best Visual Effects

- 12.1 The AACTA Award for Best Visual Effects is presented at the discretion of the AFI and AACTA to a Production that has demonstrated innovation and outstanding achievement in Visual Effects.
- 12.2 Nominees are selected from across all Award Categories, including Feature Film, Television Program, Documentary, Short Fiction Film and Short Animation.
- 12.3 Entrants wishing to propose an Award Candidate from a Television Program or Documentary Series for the AACTA Award for Best Visual Effects must submit up to two episodes of the Television Program or Documentary Series and must specify up to three Visual Effects sequences within those episodes to be judged as a single entry for the AACTA Award for Best Visual Effects. The episodes submitted do not have to be the same two episodes submitted for judging in relation to the Television or Documentary Categories.

Rule 13 - Audience Choice Award(s)

The Audience Choice Award(s) is a popular choice award decided by the general public. The process for voting and eligibility for voting will be determined by the AFI and AACTA and publicised via the AFI and AACTA Website.

Rule 14 - AACTA International Awards

The AACTA International Awards are presented at the discretion of AFI and AACTA to recognise film excellence regardless of geography. AACTA International Awards may be presented in respect of Productions regardless of whether they comply with Rule 3.1(a). The nature of the AACTA International Awards to be presented and the process for voting and eligibility for voting will be determined by the AFI and AACTA and publicised via the AFI and AACTA Website.

Rule 15 - Other Awards

The AFI and AACTA may from time to time at their discretion present an award for any contribution or achievement to the Australian film and/or television industry.