

2024 AIDC AWARDS

Submission Guide

Want to submit to the 2024 AIDC Awards? This guide provides you with all the information you need.

The 2024 AIDC Awards recognise the outstanding work of new Australian documentary and factual content. The Awards cover six categories:

- Best Feature Documentary
- Best Documentary/Factual Series
- Best Documentary/Factual Single
- Best Short-Form Documentary
- Best Audio Documentary
- Best Interactive/Immersive Documentary

Each category is designed to celebrate the talent and expertise of Australian content creators across long and short form documentary and factual content, as well as non-traditional areas of audio documentary and other forms of documentary storytelling through new and emerging media.

AIDC is inviting documentary and factual entries across the six categories. All entries must be able to demonstrate a **public release** - which is considered a premiere in Australia - between **1 February 2023 and 1 February 2024**. **AIDC may make exceptions for entries whose release dates have been affected by COVID-19**. Entries that have had an international premiere within these dates but which have not yet premiered in Australia are also eligible.

Each category will be judged by an independent jury. The 2024 AIDC Awards will be presented at AIDC 2024 on Wednesday 6 March 2024.

Opening Date: Wednesday 4 October 2023 at 9:00 AEDT

Regular Closing Date: Wednesday 8 November 2023 at 23:59 AEDT

Late Closing Date: Wednesday 15 November 2023 at 23:59 AEDT

Applications must comply with the [AIDC Awards Terms and Conditions](#). Applications will not be accepted after the late closing date. Once submitted, applications can no longer be amended.

To make an application visit [AIDC Awards](#).

For all questions, please contact awards@aidc.com.au.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- To be eligible for the 2024 AIDC Awards, applicants will need to demonstrate a **public release** (i.e. a premiere in Australia or internationally) which is being defined as any of the following:
 - Broadcast on a commercial or public broadcaster in Australia or internationally
 - Broadcast on a cable service in Australia or internationally
 - Available on a streaming platform as an acquisition or commissioned work
 - Screening at a film festival in Australia or internationally
 - For audio documentaries, commissioned for a streaming service or curated platform, or a demonstration of a commission will be acceptable; and/or
 - For interactive/immersive works, a public release will be considered as any curated release including displays in galleries, museums, festivals, online etc.

AIDC recognises the myriad of ways in which a public release can be defined and that the above may not cover all curated forms of public release particularly for less traditional forms. If you are in doubt about whether or not your release platform is eligible, please contact the AIDC team via awards@aidc.com.au prior to submission.

- At least one key creative (producer, director, writer) on the production must be a current AIDC member. A current AIDC member is anyone who attended the conference either in the previous year (AIDC 2023) or has purchased a pass for the current year (AIDC 2024). Alternatively, you can become a member by submitting an [AIDC Member Application Form](#), along with a membership fee of \$38.50 (GST inclusive) plus a 2.5% credit card fee added at checkout. Once processed, payment confirmation will be sent to you via email and your membership will be valid for one calendar year from the date of payment. Please note that membership does not grant access to AIDC 2024.
- Applications can include official and unofficial co-productions, including projects that are 100 percent foreign funded. However, the production must include one Australian citizen or permanent resident as a key creative. For your application to be valid, proof of citizenship may be requested. Proof of citizenship includes: Australian passport issued in your name on or after 1 January 2000 that was valid for at least 2 years; Australian citizenship certificate in your name; or valid proof of permanent residency.
- By default, each 2024 AIDC Award will recognise the title and production company as an entity. Alternatively, up to three people can be nominated to be recognised for the award (in addition to the production company). In this situation, AIDC encourages teams to include the key creatives. Where the production is a co-production, AIDC will recognise all production companies involved.

CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

AIDC defines documentary and factual as a creative treatment of actuality other than a news, current affairs, sports coverage, magazine, infotainment or light entertainment program. See the [Australian Communications and Media Authority](#) documentary guidelines for further information. Other areas that are not eligible include live-performances with no creative treatment, talk shows, instructional and/or promotional programs. This definition will be applied across all categories of the 2024 AIDC Awards, including one-off titles and series, as well as less traditional forms.

Additional descriptions for individual categories are included below, however, if you are unsure if your submission is eligible, please contact the AIDC team via awards@aidc.com.au.

Best Feature Documentary

An individual, stand-alone documentary, that is 60 minutes or more in length.

Best Documentary/Factual Series

Episodic series, or multi-part documentaries of no less than two episodes. Episodes should be more than 20 minutes in length (series with episodes shorter than 20 minutes in length are eligible for the Short-Form category). This excludes programs such as talk shows, reality television series, competition programs or programs that consist primarily of news reporting. Up to three individual episodes of a series can be submitted, not the complete series. Series entries are eligible if any episode has screened in the release window listed in the eligibility criteria. Standalone programs from a curated strand should be submitted in the Best Documentary/Factual Single category.

Best Documentary/Factual Single

An individual, stand-alone documentary or factual program of between 40 and 59 minutes. Please note: this category includes stand-alone episodes in a curated strand.

Best Short-Form Documentary

Individual documentary or factual program under 40 minutes, including short documentaries within a curated series. For a series, episodes must be under 20 minutes. For a series, up to three individual episodes can be submitted, not the complete series.

Best Audio Documentary

All audio documentary entries including singles or series that demonstrate the creative treatment of documentary. For series, up to three individual episodes can be submitted, not the complete series. Submissions of audio documentaries that are predominantly news reporting, fictional or conversational/entertainment or repackaged broadcast programs are not eligible.

Best Interactive/Immersive Documentary

Entries spanning non-traditional formats driven by emerging technology platforms including but not limited to virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), mixed reality (MR), interactive web series and the Internet of Things (IoT).

APPLICATION FEES & SUBMISSION PROCESS

To be eligible, the following application fees apply, plus a 2% credit card fee to be charged at checkout.

APPLICATION FEE	Regular Closing Date (8 November 2023)	Late Closing Date (15 November 2023)
Best Feature Documentary	AUD \$185 (inc GST)	AUD \$280 (inc GST)
Best Documentary/Factual Series		
Best Documentary/Factual Single		
Best Short-Form Documentary*	AUD \$110 (inc GST)	AUD \$175 (inc GST)
Best Audio Documentary		
Best Interactive/Immersive Documentary		

HOW TO SUBMIT

To submit an application to **Best Feature Documentary**, **Best Documentary/Factual Series** or **Best Documentary/Factual Single**, please submit a [Long Form Project application](#).

For categories including **Best Short-Form Documentary**, **Best Audio Documentary** or **Best Interactive/Immersive Documentary**, please submit a [Short Form & Other Project application](#).

Please Note: To access the form, you will be prompted to log in to or create a free MY AIDC account. Please follow the prompts and email info@aidc.com.au if you have any issues.

*Delegates who attended AIDC in 2023 as part of the Leading Lights program are eligible to receive a 50% discount on the **Best Short-Form Documentary** application fee. To obtain a discount link, please contact info@aidc.com.au.

A sample of the submission questions can be found on Page 7 of this document.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS

In order for applications to be considered, AIDC requires the following materials:

- An online screener or link containing the **publicly released** version of the production. For environmental reasons, AIDC will not be able to accept physical screeners. Screeners (including password-protected links) must remain live until Saturday 9 March 2024. Please include the title of your production in the name of the digital file provided.
 - For film and television entries, please submit your production as a link that can be streamed or downloaded in full HD 1920 x 1080 with stereo audio as a MPEG-4 (.mp4) .
 - For audio documentary productions, please submit link/s that can be streamed or downloaded in .mp3 file format.
 - For immersive/interactive productions, please contact AIDC if the above is not suitable for your project and you'd like to submit in another way.
- Proof of public release (or the postponement of a release due to COVID-19) within the release dates outlined by AIDC.
- A 30-second key scene/audio clip from the production (no trailers) that can be downloaded in full HD 1920 x 1080 with stereo audio as a MPEG-4 (.mp4).
- At least one key promotional image of the production for publicity that can be downloaded as a print resolution JPEG, saved at 300 dpi, A3 size, 297 x 210mm (file size between 2-5 MB).

JUDGING PROCESS

- Judges will be selected by AIDC on their merit within the category that they are adjudicating.
- The judges will either be currently working in the area they are evaluating or have significant experience in the field.
- Judges will be vetted for all conflicts of interest prior to selection.
- Judges will be announced alongside the nominated entries.
- Each category will have three judges unless otherwise specified.
- Judges for short-form categories will evaluate all entries in their category.
- Judges for long-form categories will view shortlisted projects in their category.
- Judges will only review the version/s submitted in the original submission. New or revised versions will not be accepted.
- An AIDC convenor will moderate all judging deliberation sessions.
- AIDC may amend some or all of the pre-selection and judging criteria and processes as required.

PRE-SELECTION PROCESS

Applications for long-form categories including **Best Feature Documentary**, **Best Documentary/Factual Series** and **Best Documentary/Factual Single** will be shortlisted by an AIDC appointed pre-selection committee.

Pre-selection committee members will be required to select a shortlist of applications for each category. Shortlisted applications will be assessed by the relevant Judging Panel for each category.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Judges will be asked to deliberate against the following criteria:

- Originality of the subject
- Creative treatment of the subject
- Quality of the storytelling (including emotional engagement)
- Integration of craft & technical elements (editing, sound, design, etc.)

NOTIFICATION AND ANNOUNCEMENT PROCESS

Applicants will be notified via email by mid-February 2024 if they have or have not been nominated in their category. Applicants have the opportunity to decline their nomination within a three-day period after being notified of their nomination.

Nominees will be announced in a press release and invited to attend the AIDC Awards Presentation at ACMI on Wednesday 6 March 2024.

KEY DATES

Opening Date: Wednesday 4 October 2023 at 09:00 AEDT

Regular Closing Date: Wednesday 8 November 2023 at 23:59 AEDT

Late Closing Date: Wednesday 15 November 2023 at 23:59 AEDT

Applicants & Nominees notified: by mid-February 2024

AIDC Awards Presentation: Wednesday 6 March 2024

For all enquiries, please contact: awards@aidc.com.au

PREVIEW - AIDC AWARDS APPLICATION FORM

The following provides a preview of the AIDC Awards application form and may be used as a guide to drafting your application before making a submission.

1. INTRODUCTION

This section provides a description of the categories for either:

- A. Short Form & Other Projects
- B. Long Form Projects

2. APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

Review and select one or more (as appropriate) of the following:

- a. You or someone on your team is a current AIDC member.
- b. One key creative is an Australian citizen/permanent resident.
- c. The production has had a public release between 1 February 2023 and 1 February 2024 in accordance with AIDC's guidelines.

3. CATEGORY

Select the category you are entering.

4. YOUR SUBMISSION

Complete the following information:

- YOUR NAME
 - Email Address
 - Mobile Number
 - Country
- YOUR ROLE IN THE SUBMITTED PROJECT ROLE:
 - Director
 - Producer
 - Writer
 - Financier/Broadcaster/Distributor
 - Other
- YOUR COMPANY/ORGANISATION



AUSTRALIAN
INTERNATIONAL
DOCUMENTARY
CONFERENCE

- PROJECT TITLE

- IF A SERIES, HOW MANY EPISODES?

This applies only to:

- Best Documentary/Factual Series
- Best Audio Documentary; and
- Best Interactive/Immersive Documentary

- LENGTH (IN MINUTES)

If series, please enter the average length of an episode.

- PRODUCTION COMPANY/COMPANIES

- COUNTRY/COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION

- IF AUSTRALIA - PLEASE LIST ALL STATES OR TERRITORIES OF PRODUCTION

- LOGLINE (up to 30 words)

- SYNOPSIS (up to 100 words)

- Select: IS YOUR ENTRY IN ENGLISH OR SUBMITTED WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES?

5. MATERIALS

Please Note

All links must remain live until Saturday 9 March 2024.

For **film and television** entries, please submit your project as a link that can be streamed in full HD 1920 x 1080 with stereo audio as a MPEG-4 (.mp4).

For **audio documentary** entries, please submit links that can be streamed or downloaded in .mp3 file format.

For **immersive/interactive** entries, please contact AIDC if the above is not suitable for your project and you'd like to submit in another way.

- SCREENER LINK 1

- PASSWORD (IF REQUIRED)

*Only one link can be submitted for **Best Feature Documentary** and **Best Documentary/Factual Single**. Up to three links can be submitted for all other categories.*

- SCREENER LINK 2
- PASSWORD (IF REQUIRED)

- SCREENER LINK 3
- PASSWORD (IF REQUIRED)

- DOWNLOADABLE 30 SECOND CLIP (NO TRAILERS, TITLES OR BRANDING)

- PASSWORD (IF REQUIRED)
Please upload a downloadable HD 1920 x 1080 with stereo audio as a .mp4 or .mp3 file for audio docs.

- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

- PROMOTIONAL IMAGE
Please upload an image which can be downloaded as a print resolution JPEG, saved at 300 dpi, A3 size, 297 x 210mm (file size between 2-5 MB) Please ensure no branding on image.

5a. PROOF OF PUBLIC RELEASE

- DATE OF RELEASE
*Date of first public release must fall within **1 February 2023** and **1 February 2024**.*

- RELEASE PLATFORM
 - Broadcaster
 - Theatrical release
 - Streaming service
 - Film Festival
 - Other

- PDF DEMONSTRATING PUBLIC RELEASE.
Please upload a .pdf demonstrating public release or postponement of a release due to COVID-19).

6. AWARD ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The AIDC Award is by default awarded to the title and production company listed above. Alternatively, please list the three roles to be recognised alongside the title, should the award be shortlisted. (Please note, in this case, the production company will not be recognised on the award).

- ROLE 1:
 - Select Role on Project
 - Name

 - ROLE 2:
 - Select Role on Project
 - Name

 - ROLE 3:
 - Select Role on Project
 - Name
-

7. AGREEMENT

By selecting "I agree" the applicant is agreeing to the AIDC Awards Terms and Conditions for applying to the AIDC Awards as outlined on the AIDC Awards webpage, and to completing the payment information on the next page. Submissions cannot be processed until the payment is complete.

8. BILLING INFORMATION

Payments vary according to the category selected.

- COMPANY NAME
 - FIRST NAME
 - LAST NAME
 - ADDRESS LINE 1
 - ADDRESS LINE 2
 - ZIP CODE
 - CITY
 - STATE
 - COUNTRY
 - ABN
-

PAYMENT

Once you have completed the form and made payment you will receive a confirmation email and a link to your tax receipt (it's recommended that you check your spam or junk mail account if you do not receive these details via your nominated email address). If you do not receive this email within 24 hours, please contact info@aidc.com.au.



IMPORTANT - Once your application has been 'submitted', you will be unable to return to amend it, so please submit only when you have prepared your full submission.