

# The Canadian Screen Music Awards

## Rules and Eligibility

to be presented on  
September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

### AWARD ELIGIBILITY:

1. Categories are open to SCGC members and non-members.
2. The submitted work shall have been composed by Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents of Canada. In the instance of a team submission, at least 50% of the onscreen composer credits must be Canadian citizens or Permanent resident composers.
3. All works submitted must be the composer/lyricist's original\*\* work. Work must be the result of the creative interaction between the filmmaker(s) and the composer(s).  
*\*\*An original work is deemed to be a work composed as a result of the creative interaction between the filmmaker(s) and the composer(s) in direct reference to the final audio-visual product. Music commissioned for the film but not scored "to-picture" is considered to be eligible. Previously written music for other purposes and synchronized to picture shall not be deemed eligible and will not count toward score duration calculations. Previously written compositions must be indicated as such on the submitted cue sheet.*
4. The work must have been for a production that received its first public screening, broadcast, or release in the period January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to May 31<sup>st</sup> 2022. If awards are hosted in subsequent years, and the ceremony is in the latter half of the year, the eligibility period will be from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. In the case in which a series is being considered, the initial release of the first episode of the series should fall within this date range.
5. All nominees must have received an on-screen composer credit in the category in which they are entered (with the exception of the Best Original Main Title Theme Music category). Only the principal composer(s) responsible for the conception and execution of the work as a whole shall be eligible for an award. The original score must account for at least 40% of the total duration of the music on the cue sheet (with the exception of the Best Original Main Title Theme Music category). For series awards, the composer must ensure they are credited with 40% of the music on the cue sheets for the entire season. There is no maximum number of principal composers or songwriters per production entry.
6. Only productions & episodes that have not been submitted for consideration by the Awards Committee in previous years are deemed eligible. Best Original Main Title Theme Music re-applicants must demonstrate that the composition has been significantly changed, adapted, re-orchestrated, re-arranged, covered, or re-mixed to be considered eligible again in a subsequent year.
7. The SCGC Award for Distinguished Services to the Industry is determined by the SCGC Awards Committee and the SCGC Board of Directors.

## **CATEGORIES:**

The following are the categories under award consideration.  
For full category definitions and eligibility please see Program Award Definitions below.

### Film

***Best Original Score for a Narrative Feature Film***  
***Best Original Score for a Documentary Feature Film***  
***Best Original Score for a Short Film***

### Television

***Best Original Score for a Television Special***  
***Best Original Score for a Series or Limited Series***  
***Best Original Score for a Nonfiction Series or Limited Series***  
***Best Original Score for a Children's and Youth Program or Series***

### Interactive

***Best Original Score for Interactive Media***

### Theme

***Best Original Main Title Theme Music***

### Industry

***The SCGC Award for Distinguished Service to the Industry***  
*(To be awarded by the Screen Composers Guild of Canada Board of Directors)*

*\*Animated productions should choose their category depending on their format and intended audience (for example, an animated feature, an animated short film, & an animated children's series will be entered into different categories)*

*\*\*Productions whose primary purpose is the advertisement of a company, product or service are ineligible for the SCGC awards at this time.*

## **ENTRY FEES AND PROCEDURES:**

1. The deadline for entries is 5pm EDT on Friday May 27th, 2022. Submissions are accepted online at the [www.screencomposers.ca/awards](http://www.screencomposers.ca/awards). All required materials must be submitted by the deadline.
2. Submission fees for each category entry will be \$35 for SCGC members and \$60 for non-members. All members on the entry must be active SCGC members to receive the membership discount. There is no limit to the number of eligible productions a composer can submit for consideration.
3. We welcome entries from the project's credited composer(s), director(s), producer(s), distributor(s), or a duly authorized representative of the above. Incomplete submissions will be deleted without consideration. Incomplete submissions may be resubmitted in future years, provided the premiere/distribution date of that production still falls within the dates indicated in the eligibility rules above.

4. Official music cue sheets that include composers shares and durations must be submitted. The cue locations should be provided on the cue sheet using video playback time, or if timecode is provided, using timecode locations. (i.e. SOCAN format, start time, and out time clearly marked). You must indicate the cues which should be counted toward the eligible score duration of the submission for the award committee's verification of eligibility. (Please see paragraph 3 under Award Eligibility above for the definition of original music)
5. Entries must include a link to an online hosted copy of the video production available to the Jury during the viewing period May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. A password-protected link to a video host such as Vimeo is recommended. Jury members should not have to download a file to view it. Jury members should not be required to have a paid subscription to access material (ie. Netflix).
6. Series nominations may only submit one episode per composer (or composer team). The SCGC Awards Committee will randomly choose one episode if multiple episodes are submitted in error.
7. Submissions must include the entire film or episode that is to be under consideration for the award. Exceptions include:
  - i. Interactive submissions: A video and audio screen capture that is 25 minutes or less with a maximum of 4 scenes of gameplay should be provided. Additionally, a download of the official application can be provided if possible, but platform accessibility on the part of the jury is not guaranteed.
  - ii. Main Title Theme Music submissions: The submitted video should include the full main title and at least one minute of the production before and/or after the main title theme.
8. Upon receiving a nomination, entrants will be asked to request permission from the copyright owner of the video via a release form (to be completed by the authorized representative of the production upon nomination). Nominees should be able to provide supporting video and audio clips in a timely fashion to the awards committee for inclusion in the awards ceremony visual presentation.

#### **PROGRAM AWARD DEFINITIONS:**

- **Best Original Score for a Narrative Feature Film** is defined as an original score composed for a single dramatic motion picture of at least 75 minutes in length that represents a complete story and whose main audience and initial distribution is intended for theatrical release.
- **Best Original Score for a Documentary Feature Film** is defined as an original score composed for a nonfiction motion picture of at least 75 minutes in length, designed to inform the audience about a person, place, or situation and whose main audience and initial distribution is intended for theatrical release.
- **Best Original Score for a Short Film** is defined as an original score composed for a dramatic or factual motion picture less than 59 minutes in length and whose main audience and initial distribution is intended for theatrical release. Individual episodes of series production are not eligible in this category.
- **Best Original Score for a Television Special** is defined as an original score composed for a single narrative or nonfiction program with a runtime of at least a standard broadcast hour (60 minutes) that represents a complete story and whose main audience and initial distribution is streaming or broadcast. The program must have a maximum of 2 parts. This category includes

TV Movies & Movie-of-the-Week productions. “One-off” episodes of Anthology series are included in this category (ie. Single episodes of ongoing series where each episode is made by different teams of creators).

- **Best Original Score for a Series or Limited Series** is defined as an original score composed for a series of dramatic programs intended for streaming or broadcast, with the same title or topic. Series and Limited Series must have a minimum of 3 episodes. Series intended as web-only series are included in this category.
- **Best Original Score for a Nonfiction Series or Limited Series** is defined as an original score composed for a nonfiction series of programs intended for streaming or broadcast, designed to inform the audience about a person, place, or situation. This could also include programs that convey information dealing with topics such as lifestyle, celebrity, cultural or social issues. Series entries must have a minimum of 3 episodes. Series intended as web-only series are included in this category.
- **Best Original Score for a Children’s and Youth Program or Series** is defined as an original score composed for a single program or series of programs that are clearly intended for the entertainment and/or education of children or youth. This includes fiction and nonfiction Preschool (ages 2-5) up to Young Adult (ages 12-18). The main audience and initial distribution is intended for streaming or broadcast. Web-only productions are included in this category.
- **Best Original Score for Interactive Media** is defined as an original score composed for a fiction or nonfiction interactive Program, Series, or Project, of which the first public exhibition is intended for a digital platform other than television. This category is intended for projects where the user is central to the progression of the narrative.
- **Best Original Main Title Theme Music** is defined as an original score or song composed for and intended to be the main signifier for any film, series or project. The music must be at least 15 seconds in length and no longer than 3 minutes in length and be located within a reasonable proximity to the opening or closing of the series or film, typically over the on-screen credits. The submitted video should include the full main title and approximately 1 minute of the production before and/or after the main title theme. Submissions with lyrics should include the lyricist in the award submission. The composers and lyricists for this category do not require a main composer on-screen credit but should have an on-screen music department credit.
- **The SCGC Award for Distinguished Service to the Industry** is an award given to individuals or companies who have made significant contributions to the screen composing industry in Canada, including but not limited to the advocacy and promotion of Canadian screen composers. The recipients of this award have demonstrated the highest ethics and respect for Canadian screen composers rights and working conditions and have shown dedication to the advancement of screen music in Canada or Internationally. *(To be awarded by the Screen Composers Guild of Canada Board of Directors)*

\*\*\*The SCGC awards committee reserves the right to make exceptions and assign any entry into an above category in situations where an eligible production’s format or duration does not expressly fall under any of the above category definitions.

## **JURY PROCESS:**

1. A call for Jurors is made to the Screen Composers Guild membership. Selected respondents will sit on the Juries, and be responsible for selecting the Nominees and Winners in each Award Category. An award jury may not include any member who has submitted an entry for consideration in the category. Every effort will be made by the SCGC Awards committee to select qualified, diverse and unconflicted juries. To avoid additional conflicts, those tasked with selecting the jurors will not be permitted to provide jury selection input for categories they will be submitting an application to. The SCGC Awards Committee reserves the right to select or veto any/all jury members to ensure diverse and relevant deliberation, and to maintain transparency should conflicts of interest or undue bias arise. Juries are drawn from across the country.
2. Each Jury is chaired by, and includes screen music industry professionals with expertise in the particular categories for which the Jury is responsible, as well as members with expertise in different but related areas of audiovisual production.
3. Typically, there is one jury group per Category. In some cases, the same jury or jury member will judge two categories, if those categories receive a minimal number of entries. A maximum of seven and a minimum of five Jurors will serve on each Jury, unless an alternate number of jurors is deemed acceptable by the SCGC Awards Committee. All Juries must watch a minimum of 50% of each Program submitted.
4. Each juror will pre-screen all entries and score the submissions based on predetermined criteria. When meeting, Jurors will come to a consensus on the five nominees, and personally rank each choice 1st to 5th by secret ballot. All submissions for nominations will be assessed based on their compositional craft, creativity, originality and excellence. Music will be evaluated based on composition, lyric (when applicable), quality of production, performance, and music-to-picture enhancement.
5. All Jury deliberations are confidential. The SCGC does not reveal which Juror sat on which Jury. The Jurors may not reveal which Jury they have served on nor discuss the Jury screenings outside of the Jury session.
6. Scoring ballots are confidential and will be sent directly to the individual Jury Chair and the SCGC Awards coordinator, Alison Dowler. The nominee receiving the highest score in the respective categories will be the winner.
7. Policy on Conflicts of Interest Each jury member is required to sign a Conflict of Interest form prior to the commencement of judging. While the SCGC makes every effort to resolve direct conflicts of interest before the Juries sit, some indirect conflicts cannot be avoided. If a situation exists wherein an indirect conflict presents itself, the SCGC Awards committee will try to minimize conflicts and balance the interests of all parties. If an undisclosed conflict of interest should become known, the jury member in question will be disqualified from scoring on the jury.
8. All results remain confidential to the respective Jury Chair, SCGC Awards Coordinator Alison Dowler & the AV presentation designer until the envelopes are opened at the Awards presentation.
9. A maximum of 5 entries will be selected for nomination in each category. The number of nominations varies according to the number of submissions received. The jury reserves the right to select less than five entries per category if they so choose.
10. All nominations will be announced in alphabetical order by last name.
11. In case of a tie, the tied nominees will be resubmitted to the jury for an extra voting round. If the tie remains after the extra voting round, both tied nominees will be named as awarded

winners in the category.

### **CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:**

- 1) The Entrant warrants that the production is eligible in accordance with the SCGC Awards Rules and Regulations. In any case in which the SCGC determines that the information required to be provided by the Entrant is inaccurate or incomplete, and the production is therefore incorrectly entered, the SCGC reserves the right to declare the production ineligible to be submitted for nominations for any SCGC Award.
- 2) There will be no refunds on submission fees.
- 3) Under no circumstances are members to promote themselves for award consideration on the SCGC's discuss list, or on the pages of the SCGC social media accounts.
- 4) In the event a nominated achievement is declared ineligible by the Awards Committee after the nominations are announced, it shall not be replaced and the category will remain with one less nomination. The jury reserves the right to nominate any entry into another category if it deems that category more suitable.
- 5) The jury reserves the right to investigate the eligibility of the entries including but not limited to examining the project's cue sheet, requesting on-screen credit verification, researching the production on IMDb, and contacting the producer. The Entrant agrees that the SCGC Awards Committee, subject to the approval of the SCGC Executive Board, will rule on any dispute in matters relating to the entry, eligibility, nominations, appeals and/or election of any production for a SCGC Award. The Entrant acknowledges that the SCGC Executive Board's decision shall be final.
- 6) The Entrant acknowledges and agrees that the SCGC may, in its sole discretion, determine that no Awards be given in any category in which the productions entered do not meet the highest professional standards.
- 7) The Entrant acknowledges that the SCGC Awards Committee reserves the right to amend or modify the rules contained herein at their discretion, subject to the approval of the SCGC Executive Board, or at the sole discretion of the SCGC Executive Board. All Errors and Omissions are Excepted.
- 8) The Entrant and all individuals submitted for consideration herein release the SCGC and its officers, directors, Awards Committee members and Awards Jury members, employees, representatives and agents from all liability for any reason whatsoever (including, without limitation, for any incidental and consequential damages) in respect of the Entry and its consideration for any Award, including, without limitation, for any negligence or omission in the processing of the Entry or in its consideration for an Award, however caused.