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Directors Guild Awards open: Six new categories announced

Six new categories have been announced for this year's Australian Directors Guild Awards, with entries for 2010 now open.

Three of the new categories are for digital work, which was previously represented with only one award category.

The ADG has also extended the eligibility period for entries. This year, works screening in the 18 months from January 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 will be eligible for entry. Previously, the eligibility period was a 12 month window from July to June.

The Australian Directors Guild Awards celebrate the creative achievement of directors in film, television and new media platforms.

New categories introduced this year for traditional delivery forms are in the areas of documentary features, children's TV and TV reality/light entertainment. The three new digital categories are for interactive branded entertainment, cross platform interactive and also original online programs.

"Directors are in the business of telling stories on screen: on the traditional areas of features, documentary and TV drama and, increasingly, via new delivery platforms, such as online sites and interactive media. Our members' work is reaching audiences on screens large and small, from cinema to mobile phone, through games and on your TV," the ADG's president Ray Argall said.

"The awards celebrate excellence in a director's creative work and, most importantly, will be judged by their peers: other directors. We're encouraging all members to enter their best work and make our awards night another great event on the industry calendar," he said.

A highlight of the 2009 awards was Geoffrey Rush presenting director Scott Hicks with the Outstanding Achievement Award for an outstanding body of work.

Entries close on Monday July 5, 2010. To enter visit www.adg.org.au/awards.aspx and for the full list of categories, visit the ADG website at www.adg.org.au

Winners will be announced at the Australian Directors Guild 2010 Awards dinner at the Star City Astral Room in Sydney in September.

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