



RULES AND GUIDELINES

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DEFINITION OF TERMS:

- 1) **DSAC:** Department of Sport, Arts and Culture
- 2) **The department:** DSAC
- 3) **CCI:** Cultural and Creative Industry
- 4) **LACA:** The Limpopo Arts and culture Awards
- 5) **Entities:** Departmental institutions/entities
- 6) **UNESCO:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



1.LIMPOPO ARTS AND CULTURE AWARDS BACKGROUND

CELEBRATING AND HONOURING EXCELLENCE

- The Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards(LACA) is a premier annual event designed to recognize, celebrate, and promote artistic excellence and cultural diversity across the Limpopo province. The awards serve as a platform to honor outstanding individuals, groups, and organizations that have made significant contributions to the development, preservation, and promotion of arts, culture, and heritage in the province. Limpopo province is a vibrant melting pot of diverse cultures, languages, traditions, and creative expression. From the rhythms of Bapedi drums and Xitsonga dance to Tshivenda storytelling and contemporary visual arts, the province is home to a wealth of artistic excellence and cultural heritage. Despite this richness, many creatives in the province remain under-recognized. The Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards (LACA) seeks to change that by creating a prestigious platform to acknowledge and celebrate the unique contributions of Limpopo's artists and cultural practitioners.
- The Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards is an annual programme that recognise and honour individuals and organisations who have demonstrated excellence, innovation, and impact in the fields of arts, culture, and heritage within Limpopo. This glamorous, high-profile event also serves as a platform to promote social cohesion, stimulate the creative economy, and preserve indigenous knowledge systems.
- The 2025/2026 edition of the Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards will be held on [20 November 2026] at Bolivia Lodge, Polokwane bringing together artists, cultural practitioners, community leaders, government stakeholders, and the private sector. LACA will be hosted by Limpopo Department of Sport, Arts and Culture in collaboration with National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and Limpopo Arts and Culture Council.



- The overall objective of The Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards is not to only recognize high achievers but to further propel their stature as heroes/heroines for the citizenry in the Creative Sector.
- The 2nd edition of The Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards is planned to take place On 20 November 2026.

2.THE TROPHY/AWARD

- All LACA Award winners are presented with the official LACA Award.
- If it is a team it will be awarded only one trophy.

3.JUDGING GUIDELINES & ADJUDICATION PROCESS

The department together with its entities put together The Limpopo Arts and Culture Awards judging guidelines in consultation with industry experts and reviewed by Independent Auditors. The guidelines ensure that there is a structured and consistent criterion.

THE MANDATE AND LIMITATIONS OF PANEL

Judges can't individually or collectively add or subtract award categories: - categories are created through engagement, debate and collective agreement by representative bodies of sectors and sub- sectors (DSAC Mandated Entities) as approved custodians of the cultural and creative sector on behalf of government of South Africa.

- Panel members may only give expert counsel or opinions for list certification on established list.

This rule book was finalised in consultation with the following departmental Entities:

- Limpopo Film & Video Foundation
- Limpopo Heritage Council
- Limpopo Library Board
- Limpopo Heritage of SA
- Limpopo Arts and Culture Council
- Design Committee
- Art Bank of South Africa
- The **LACA** organizing committee accepts no responsibility for entrants missing deadlines.
- Final decisions regarding the eligibility of content submitted are made by the LACA Committee or its representative.
- The **LACA** Committee is not liable for errors in listings that are the result of incorrect information being submitted.
- The committee cannot be held responsible for content being submitted to incorrect categories.
- All categories which receive 3 or fewer entries shall be at the Judge's discretion as to whether proceed to the judging phase and potentially, therefore, may not result in an award in that year.

The relevant entries may be re-directed at the judges' discretion, to the closest appropriate category. If there is no other suitable category for the entry, the entry will not be eligible for judging.



ADJUDICATION AND JUDGING PROCESS

The judging process will take place in October 2026 and an announcement of winners to be made on 20 November 2026.

Announcement of Nominees:

The LACA's Nominees will be made public upon conclusion of the judging and audit process.

The LACA Awards Ceremonies:

The award ceremony will take place on 20 November 2026.

NOTE: Any entry that does not follow the entry requirements which results in a dispute will be automatically disqualified

4. LIST OF AWARDS

The LACA Awards comprise of Seven (7) categories and thirty awards (30)

1. The Heritage Site Category (x3 Awards)
2. The Visual Arts & Craft Category (x4 Awards)
3. The Literary Works Category (x4 Awards)
4. The Audio Visual & Interactive Media Category (x6 Awards)
5. The Design & Creative Services (x4 Awards)
6. The Performing Arts Category (x6 Awards)
7. The MEC (Discretionary Category) (x3 Awards)

LIST OF AWARDS PER CATEGORIES	
Heritage Site	1. Outstanding Museum Award 2. Outstanding Archaeological & Historical Site Award 3. Outstanding Cultural Landscape Award
Visual Arts & Crafts	1. Outstanding Visual Artist Award 2. Outstanding Curator Award 3. Outstanding Crafter Award 4. Outstanding Art Gallery Award
Literary Works	1. Outstanding Children's Fiction Book 2. Outstanding Book, Fiction Award 3. Outstanding Book, Non-Fiction Award 4. Outstanding Publisher Award
Audio Visual & Interactive Media	1. Outstanding Film Fiction Award 2. Outstanding Documentary Film Or Tv/Radio Series Award 3. Outstanding Tv/Radio Drama Award 4. Outstanding Actor Tv/Radio and Film Award 5. Outstanding Animation Award



Design & Creative Services	1. Outstanding Fashion And Textile Designer Award 2. Outstanding Graphic & Multimedia Designer Award 3. Outstanding Product Award 4. Outstanding Architecture And Interior Designer Award
Performing Arts Category	1. Outstanding Theatre Production Award 2. Outstanding Dance Production Award 3. Outstanding Musician Award 4. Outstanding Actor In Theatre Award 5. Outstanding Performance Award - Poet 6. Outstanding Performance Award - Comedian
MEC Of Sport, Arts and Culture Awards (Discretionary Awards)	1. Internationally Recognized Artist/Group Award 2. Artist With Disability Award 3. LACA Lifetime Achievement Award 4. LACA Posthumous Awards



5. DEFINITION OF AWARDS

THE HERITAGE SITE CATEGORY	
1.Outstanding Museum awards	Awarded to a museum rendering outstanding service to society through researching, conserving, and exhibiting tangible and intangible heritage and making this accessible and inclusive to a diverse audience.
2.Outstanding Archaeological & Historical site award	Awarded to an archaeological and historical site that excels in the preservation of evidence of past activity and its contribution to research and the interpretation of tangible and intangible heritage.
3.Outstanding Cultural Landscape award	Awarded to a cultural landscape, space or area that reflects and represents cultural identity excellently and significantly contributes to our current understanding and use of spaces of culture in Limpopo
THE VISUAL ARTS & CRAFT CATEGORY	
1.Outstanding Visual Artist award	Awarded to a contemporary visual artist of substantial standing, national and/or international recognition, whose work showcases excellent technical experimentation, has aspects of new media technology and conceptual accomplishment significant to the South African context.
2.Outstanding Curator award	Awarded to influential curators who have made the best attempt to reflect the state of the country/world, to pre-empt new directions in the art sector, to give a voice to a diverse scope of artists, and to play a part in critically addressing the social and political climate of the time.
3.Outstanding Crafter award	Awarded to a crafter who has consistently created and showcased craft objects of technical and aesthetic excellence.
4.Outstanding Art Gallery award	Awarded to a gallery that has consistently presented impactful exhibitions, significantly contributed to the career development of artists, and whose influence is felt globally, must provide clear evidence of these achievements eg: press reviews, collector



	acquisition, curatorial collaborations, presentation at art fairs, market and institutional recognition etc
THE LITERARY WORKS CATEGORY	
1.Outstanding Children's fiction book award	Awarded to Children's fiction book that is creative and imaginative and must be written and published by a South African.
2. Outstanding book, Fiction award	The award is awarded to any book that is Fiction (Poetry, or Young People's Literature are eligible) and must be written and published by a South African.
3.Outstanding book, Non-Fiction award	The award is awarded to any book that is Nonfiction (Poetry, or Young People's Literature are eligible) and must be written and published by a South African.
4.Outstanding Publisher award	The award is awarded to any independent publishers, traditional publishers, university presses, self-publishers and independent authors throughout South Africa, as well as authors who publish books in all 11 South African languages.
THE AUDIO VISUAL & INTERACTIVE MEDIA CATEGORY	
1.Outstanding Film Fiction award	Awarded to the producer(s) for outstanding achievement in the overall realization, production, and success of a full-length film or short film with a running time of a minimum of 60 minutes (full -length) and or a duration of no more than 40 minutes (Short-length) across fiction- nonfiction and animation.
2.Outstanding Documentary Film/TV /Radio series award	Awarded to a documentary film or TV/Radio series that demonstrates exceptional storytelling, research and impact.
3.Outstanding TV/Radio Drama award	Awarded to the producer(s) for outstanding achievement in the overall realization, production, and success of a serialized drama programme, episodic and daily show and a scripted programme aimed at light entertainment. Includes: Mini-Series, Full Length drama series, Soapies, Telenovela's and Comedy
4.Outstanding Actor-TV/Radio & Film award	Awarded to an actor (Male/Female) in television or film, who delivers an exceptional performance that captivates, moves and resonates with the audience.
5.Outstanding Animation award	Awarded to the director and / or producer(s) for outstanding achievement in the realization, production and overall success of an



	animated film, or programme including traditional 2D, 3D, clay animation, or any other form of animation, done shooting frame by frame, created entirely in the digital domain on computer, or a combination of techniques to create an animated character and/or performance.
THE PERFORMING ARTS CATEGORY	
1.Outstanding Theatre Production award	Awarded to the "Best production of a play". For outstanding achievement in the overall aspects of the production.
2.Outstanding Dance Production award	Awarded to the "Best Production: Traditional African Dance, Contemporary Dance, Ballet and Pantsula etc. For outstanding achievement in the overall aspects of a dance productions, this may include traditional dance production e.g. contemporary dance, pantsula, ballet , Latin, bujwa, etc.) key elements of the production must include storytelling through dance/ensemble with a clearly articulated choreography.
3.Outstanding Musician award	Awarded to the "Best Solo Musician". For outstanding achievement as a solo performer. With a body of work that includes an officially released single or album. The single or album must be available for purchase (Online or Registered music outlets). Must be registered with legislated South African Music Rights Organisations.
4.Outstanding Actor in Theatre award	Awarded to the "Best leading actor in a play (Male or Female) for outstanding achievement as an actor in a theatre play portraying a leading role.
5.Outstanding Performance award-Poet	Awarded to the "Best performance in a Solo or an ensemble poetry show. For outstanding achievement in the overall presentation of the poetry show. The content must be authentic



	and original and should not be a presentation of somebody else work.
6.Outstanding Performance award-Comedy	Awarded to the best performance in a solo stand-up Comedy show for outstanding achievement in the overall presentation of the stand-up comedy show. The content must be authentic and original and should not be a presentation of somebody else work. To be considered the solo performer present a duration of one hour or more.
THE DESIGN & CREATIVE SERVICES CATEGORY	
1.Outstanding Fashion & Textile designer award	This is granted to Award winning Fashion Designs that are original, innovative, aesthetic as well as functional and ergonomic.
2.Outstanding Graphic & Multimedia designer award	This award is conferred upon South African graphic designers who have made a recognizable contribution to South African graphic design through exemplary work, service to the country and communities, and/or the enablement of young up-and-coming designers entering the industry.
3.Outstanding Product award	Awarded to a member of a creative team for the most effective creation of a physical atmosphere and visual look that conveys the story and its characters. This includes set design, choice of location, props, textures, and colors. Production designers and Art Directors will be considered within this category.
4.Outstanding Architecture and Interior designer award	This award is conferred upon an outstanding South African architect with exceptional interior design, who has made a recognizable contribution to the South African built environment through exemplary work, service to the country, communities they live and work in, environmental rehabilitation, and sustainable architectural solutions. The award further recognizes originality, innovation, and architectural solutions that are best in its class.



6. HOW TO ENTER

1. You will be required to utilize the DSAC website (www.sac.limpopo.gov.za) and open a link to the awards, to submit your entry or that of the person you wish to nominate.
2. You will be required to familiarise yourself with the rules and eligibility criteria (Found in this document.)
3. You will require a South African ID copy/ proof of citizenship/permanent residency
4. Producers need to submit signed indemnity when entering their body of work. If the artist has full ownership of the content, written proof needs to be submitted in a form of an affidavit, letter of confirmation from an approved entity or any other legal document that can prove ownership.
5. If you do not own the rights for the body of work, a letter of permission is required.
6. Uploading of video content is done on the submission portal.
7. Each Entry is required to be subtitled in English (applicable to film & TV). Content already in English does not require subtitles
8. Where content is released in more than one language, only one language version can be entered, and this should be the original language version.
9. For Film entries one full film must be submitted for consideration
10. For TV/Radio Programme 2 - 3 episodes per TV/Radio Programme must be submitted for consideration
11. Applicants will be ineligible to be nominated if they fail to meet any of the requirement(s) - Please refer to your category for specific requirements.

7. ENTRY GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY: GENERAL

- **The LACA's** are open to all legal Limpopo citizens and official permanent residents of the Limpopo Province.
- **The LACA's** are open to all companies registered in accordance with the laws of the Republic of South Africa, whose majority shareholding is held by Limpopo citizens.
- Content and works of art must be submitted for consideration to be eligible for the **LACA's**. Only Limpopo content and works of art will be considered for the **LACA's**. Content and works



of art will be eligible based on the eligibility date/ period of 1 April 2025 till 31 March 2026.

- The LACA Nominees need to abide by the pillars in the UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics, (2009). Each nominee is required to have at least one (1) of the three (3) requirements. Namely:
 - Education & Training
 - Archiving & Preserving
 - Equipment & Supporting Materials

In case of single category awards, the primary Producer and or content creator must have Limpopo residency to qualify.

7.1 ELIGIBILITY: HERITAGE SITE CATEGORY

- **Museums:** All museums (including virtual museums), privately owned or public entities, that are not-for-profit, permanent institutions (building or web space, functioning as a museum for at least one year), in the service of society that research, collect, conserve, interpret and exhibit tangible and intangible heritage. They should be open to the public, accessible and inclusive, and foster diversity and sustainability.
- **Archaeological & Historical Sites:** All archaeological and historical sites (or a group of physical sites), privately owned or public entities, in which evidence of past activity is preserved (either prehistoric or historic or contemporary). The site should be in the service of society and should contribute to research and the interpretation of tangible and intangible heritage. At least some areas should be open and accessible to the public.
- **Cultural Landscapes:** All cultural landscapes that are landscapes or spaces that embody associations and uses that reflect cultural identity over a period of time. They can be landscapes or spaces that are still in use and functional for significant cultural activities, living traditions, and events. All currently functioning areas, institutions that can be defined as cultural landscapes, are eligible for nomination.

CRITERIA

- **Education & Training:** The nominated sites or historic places should have the capacity to educate and train their personnel to undertake all their duties with the utmost diligence; to educate the population of South Africa about their own heritage resources (site), and to share and pass on the knowledge they have acquired about the heritage site or historic places.
- **Archiving & Preserving:** The nominated sites or historic places should practice the best-known procedures according to international standards to conserve the heritage



or historic site, preserve the heritage collections/objects from these sites, as well as those curated at museums; and archive all records of these heritage resources.

- Equipment & Supporting Materials: The nominated museums, heritage sites or historic places should have the necessary equipment and supporting materials to fulfil the above two criteria

NB: The museums, heritage sites or historic places will be ineligible to be nominated if they fail to meet any of the requirement(s) above.

7.2 ELIGIBILITY: THE VISUAL ARTS & CRAFT CATEGORY

- All visual art and craft productions submitted under the Visual Art and Craft category by curators, visual artists and crafters- must have been produced within the Limpopo Province between 1 April 2025- 31 March 2026. (compulsory)

- Productions submitted must have been produced in relation to local and/or international exhibitions, fairs, biennials, and festivals of national and international significance. (Compulsory)

- Productions must have been publicly exhibited and supported by documentation such as artist or curatorial statement, media coverage, scholarly articles, catalogues, monographs and/or published books. (Compulsory)

- Where multiple iterations of an exhibition (e.g. touring exhibition) are presented, the version that achieved the widest reach and critical acclaim during the eligibility period should be submitted.

- Entries must be accompanied by a letter from the exhibitor confirming the exhibition dates. (Compulsory)

- Intellectual property and/or ownership of the production must be clearly defined. If the production includes contributions from other artists or collaborators, their roles and level of involvement must be explicitly stated and supported by a written agreement.

- If an artwork is inspired by or incorporates photography or images created or sourced from others, this must be clearly declared and all copyright issues must be properly resolved (e.g. visual art that relies on another's photography, or image usage releases) (Compulsory)

- AI Generated productions will not be eligible.

Consideration to the commercial success [SM1] of the production such as sales or other relevant metrics must be made.

- Cultural Impact and Community Engagement: Visual art and Craft productions that have had a meaningful cultural contribution, sparked critical dialogue, raised awareness on important social



issues, or positively influenced the creative sector and broader society may be considered for qualification.

- Outstanding gallery: A gallery that has consistently presented impactful exhibitions, significantly contributed to the career development of artists, and whose influence is felt globally, must provide clear evidence of these achievements: e.g press reviews, collector acquisition, curatorial collaborations, presentation at art fairs, market and institutional recognition.
- There is no limit to the number of entries that may be submitted.

7.3 ELIGIBILITY FOR LITERARY WORKS CATEGORY

Outstanding Book Award: Children's Fiction

- The Best Book award in this sub-category is awarded to any independent publishers, university presses, self-publishers and independent authors throughout South Africa. Limpopo Authors are welcome to enter their books themselves.
- The Best Book Award is awarded to any book that is creative and imaginative fiction and must be written and published by a Limpopo Citizen.
- The book must have been published for the first time between 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026
- The book should meet the highest standard in terms of grammar, spelling, copy editing, the structure of thought and ideas, and style.
- An awarded book should also be more significant compared to the other books in its category. Significance includes insightfulness, unique and original contribution to its field of study or interest and reader impact.
- The categories are open to books in all 11 South African Languages written by Limpopo Citizen.

Outstanding Book Award: Fiction

- The Best Book award in this sub-category is awarded to any independent publishers, university presses, self-publishers and independent authors throughout South Africa. Limpopo Authors are welcome to enter their books themselves.
- The Best Book Award is awarded to any book that is Fiction (Poetry, or Young People's Literature are eligible) and must be written and published by a Limpopo Citizen.
- The book must have been published for the first time between 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026
- The book should meet the highest standard in terms of grammar, spelling, copy editing, the structure of thought and ideas, and style.



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- An awarded book should also be more significant compared to the other books in its category. Significance includes insightfulness, unique and original contribution to its field of study or interest and reader impact.

- The categories are open to books in all 11 South African Languages.

Outstanding Book Award: Non-Fiction

- The Best Book award in this sub-category is awarded to any independent publishers, university presses, self-publishers and independent authors throughout South Africa. Authors are welcome to enter their books themselves.

- The Best Book Award is awarded to any book that is Nonfiction (Poetry, or Young People's Literature are eligible) and must be written and published by a South African. (Compulsory)

- The book must have been published for the first time between 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026 (Compulsory)

- The book should meet the highest standard in terms of grammar, spelling, copy editing, the structure of thought and ideas, and style.

- An awarded book should also be more significant compared to the other books in its category. Significance includes insightfulness, unique and original contribution to its field of study or interest and reader impact.

- The categories are open to books in all 11 South African Languages.

Submission Requirements: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Children's Books

- The full text of the book must be submitted in pdf format. Partial texts will be ineligible
- If the book contains illustrations or graphics of any kind, these must be included in the submission
- The book must be published for the first time between 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026
- The author must be a Limpopo citizen
- Authors may make their own submission to the awards for consideration

Outstanding Publisher Award

- The Best Publisher is awarded to any independent publishers, traditional publishers, university presses, self-publishers and independent authors throughout South Africa, as well as authors who publish books in all 11 South African languages. Limpopo Authors are welcome to enter their books themselves.

- The publishing house must have evidence of supporting indigenous languages and local authors

Submission Requirements: Publisher



- A PowerPoint or equivalent presentation of your publishing company, your personnel, your publications and industry achievements
- If a copy of your book is available at the Provincial and National Library of South Africa please indicate this in your submission.
- Screenshots of book covers showing titles, authors and languages.
- The book/s must be published for the first time between 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026

NB: Applicants will be ineligible to be nominated if they fail to meet any of the requirement(s) above

7.4 ELIGIBILITY: AUDIO VISUAL & INTERACTIVE MEDIA CATEGORY

Film, television, Radio and Animation

- In the case of a South African Co-production, all the Producers involved must consent/submit for the work to be eligible.
- All submissions in which intellectual property rights are jointly owned must be submitted with the full written consent of all joint rights holders concerned.
- Official Co-productions shall only be eligible if they have been certified by the National Film and Video Foundation and can be eligible for the LACA category.
- Co-productions with other Provinces Producers and Foreign Producers shall only be eligible if at least 50% of the copyright is held by Limpopo owned company. This clause is subject to review by the judging committee.
- Other Provinces, Foreign talent and crew featured in or participating in a qualifying co- production submitted for consideration shall not be eligible for a LACA.
- All content must be submitted on an online submission platform.
- Next of kin may submit content or works of art on behalf of a deceased relative, provided that the deceased relative is the copyright owner of the submitted content or work of art. Proof of relation, proof of ownership or consent of copyrights owner and a death certificate is to accompany the submission.
- NB: all content of art must be submitted by the owner or permission must be given by the content owner.

Submission requirements



- Film: Full original film, with subtitles and the original and translated script if its content is non-English.
- Actor: Performer showreel which shows variety and range of the actor/actress. 3-6 mins per performer. For feature film performer submission, the full film should be submitted for performer consideration.
- NB: Performers may make their own submission into the awards for consideration.
- Actors -Television/Radio or Series :1 full showreel inclusive of Lead actors/actresses from one show/production
- NB: Actor submissions should be released from content within the qualifying time.
- Drama: 3 full episodes to be submitted from each show for consideration. If not in English, subtitles are required, supported by an original script matching each submitted episode. Scripts not in English must be accompanied by a translated script.
- Non-Fictional Film or Programme: Full original film, with subtitles and the original and translated script if its content is non-English. Episodic content, 3 episodes to be submitted for consideration.
- Animation: Full original film, with subtitles and the original and translated script if its content is non-English. Episodic content, 3 episodes to be submitted for consideration.

NB: Applicants will be ineligible to be nominated if they fail to meet any of the requirement(s) above.

Qualifying platforms:

Theatrical and non-theatrical:

- Films must have been exhibited publicly to an audience in cinema in South Africa by Limpopo Film Makers for a minimum of 2 consecutive days (1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026)
- It is the intention that the contents submitted for consideration should have been screened to the widest South African audience prior to the ceremony.
- Qualifying content should not be screened purely to qualify them for the LACA's.
- VOD platforms such as Netflix, Showmax, Hulu, and Amazon as well as the DSTV Box office shall be considered.
- Films which are filmed versions of theatre or other live performances shall not be eligible.
- Where multiple versions of a film (e.g. extended or reduced cuts) are released, the version which had the widest theatrical release within the eligibility period should be submitted.

TV/Radio - Broadcast/Streamers

- All South African television content submitted for consideration for a LACA must be produced and broadcast on a nationally- accessible television/ radio channel (e.g. SABC, ETV, Dstv and RADIO) in the Republic of South Africa between 01 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.



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- Television/Radio content can only be entered once in its lifespan except for a new season or a sequel as per eligibility dates. No re-runs will be eligible.

- The content exhibited via subscription-based streaming services (S-VOD, subscription video on demand) in South Africa (e.g Netflix, Showmax, Amazon) for the first time between 01 April 2025 and 31 March 2026 are eligible for entry.

Actor

Any Limpopo actor can enter if it is for a lead role in a Film or TV/Radio Drama that has been produced and released in the qualifying period.

The script should accompany the entry alongside the full film or 3 episodes of a TV/Radio series.

Animation – Criteria

- There must be local artists and animators. In the event of co-production, only work created and produced by Limpopo citizens will be eligible.
- Entries submitted must be from productions that were released or aired in SA between 01 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.
- Must be for completed material – broadcast or released
- In event of Animation & Live footage – animation needs to be a minimum of 75%
- No AI generated animation will be considered at this stage
- The script must accompany the entry.

7.5 ELIGIBILITY: THE DESIGN & CREATIVE SERVICES CATEGORY

FASHION & TEXTILE DESIGNER

- The collection can be created by an individual or can be collaborative.
- Products could, for example, demonstrate a coherent design outcome from storyboarding, developing tech packs, and conceptualization to the final garment or range.
- Work must be original designs by the person or persons whose name/s appear/s in the “NOMINEE” section of the entry form found on the website.
- The submission should be well articulated with high-quality images of the work being submitted.

GRAPHIC & MULTIMEDIA DESIGNER

- Designs can be created by an individual, a creative team, or a collaborative.
- There is no limitation to the number of entries allowed per individual, company, or collaborative.
- There is no age limit.
- Relevant considerations for design submissions can, for example, focus on creativity, innovation, circularity, human-centeredness, and South African values and aesthetics.
- Work must be original designs by the person or persons whose name/s appear/s



in the “NOMINEE” section of the entry form found on the website

- The submission should be well articulated with high-quality images of the work being submitted.

ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR DESIGNER

- This award is open to all firms and individuals in architecture whose buildings also embody outstanding interior design.
- Entries should show how they creatively transform mundane spaces into visually stunning and functional environments.
- Submissions should demonstrate a deep understanding of the latest trends in materials and technology whilst seamlessly integrating aesthetics and functionality.
- Designs can be created by an individual, a creative team, or a collaborative.
- There is no limitation to the number of entries allowed per individual, company, or collaborative.
- Entries are accepted from senior-level architecture students, young graduates and professionals.
- There is no age limit.
- Relevant considerations for submissions can, for example, focus on creativity, innovation, circularity, human-centeredness, and South African values and aesthetics.
- Work must be original designs by the person or persons whose name/s appear/s in the “NOMINEE” section of the entry form found on the website.
- The judging panel has the right to disqualify any entries that are deemed to not fit within the guidelines.
- The submission should be well articulated with high-quality images of the work being submitted.

PRODUCT DESIGN

- Designs can be created by an individual, a creative team, or a collaborative.
- There is no limitation to the number of entries allowed per individual, company, or collaborative.
- There is no age limit.
- Relevant considerations for design submissions can, for example, focus on creativity, innovation, circularity, human-centeredness, and South African values and aesthetics.
- Work must be original designs by the person or persons whose name/s appear/s

in the “NOMINEE” section of the entry form found on the website.

- The submission should be well articulated with high-quality images of the work being submitted.

NB: Applicants will be ineligible to be nominated if they fail to meet any of the requirement(s) above.



7.6 ELIGIBILITY: THE PERFORMING ARTS CATEGORY

- An artist or artistic organization should have a substantial body of work.
- Active in the arts in the past 5 years
- Only Limpopo citizens are eligible for a nomination.

THEATRE PRODUCTION

- Only professionally staged productions will be considered between 1 April 2025 until 31 March 2026.
- Submit a 15- 20-minute video or link to the video
- Requirements for a professionally staged production should comprise of a professional creative team.
- New and original works to be considered. (Re-staging of classical works will not be considered).
- Productions to be considered must be from Limpopo.
- For productions to be eligible they need to have had a professional run with an official opening night attended by the public including a closing night.
- Productions are required to have presented 4 or more performances.
- Productions must reflect Limpopo stories which may have functional elements that appeal to different types of audiences.
- Collaborations between local, National and international productions will be considered but should reflect Limpopo creatives
- Productions to be considered must have been presented in conventional spaces, theatres, including established local and international festivals.
- The production should show professional technical ability (merits).

DANCE PRODUCTION

- A dancer / Dance organization must have a body of work, produced 01 April 2025 till 31 March 2026.
- Submit a 5- 10 minute video or link to the video
- The dancer or dance organization should have a track record which shows participation in national and international platforms.
- Previous works created should have an element of collaborative and solo creation.
- For indigenous dance pieces, the works should have a narrative of telling the indigenous stories of Limpopo both locally and internationally.



- Productions to be considered must have been presented in conventional spaces, theatres, including established local and international festivals.

MUSICIAN

- Both male and female artist are eligible for this award
- Must have a body of work – e.g., official release of a song or album.
- Song or Album must be registered with the South Africa Music Rights Organization.
- Entries will be open to Recording Industry of South Africa (RISA) members and non- Risa members.
- Body of work to be accessible online including credited music outlets.
- The works should be owned by Limpopo artist, entity and have control of the master recordings relating to the considered entry.
- For verification processes artists may be required to submit their South African identification document.
- Only music released between 1 April 2025 till 31 March 2026 will be considered.

ACTOR IN THEATRE

- Both male and female artists are eligible for this award
- To be eligible, the performer who is nominated must portray a lead role (Male/or Female in a Theatre play or Musical Theatre Play)
- Must have performed in South African including international stages between 1 April 2025 till 31 March 2026. (Festival, theatre, site –specific spaces).
- Portray the lead role during the opening night.

PERFORMANCE POET

- Must have a body of work (Authentic original content) officially released.
- Performed a set (Duration 1 hour or above).
- Must have performed in South African including international stages between 1 April 2025 till 31 March 2026. (Festival, theatre, site –specific spaces).

PERFORMANCE COMEDIAN

- Must have a body of work (Authentic original content) officially released.
- Performed a set (Duration 1 hour or above).
- Must have performed in South African including international stages between 1 April 2025 till 31 March 2026. (Festival, theatre, site –specific spaces).



- **NB: Applicants will be ineligible to be nominated if they fail to meet any of the requirement(s) above.**

8.MEC of Sport, Arts and Culture Awards (Discretionary Awards)

These awards are awarded at the discretion of the MEC and will be announced at the award ceremony.

MEC'S AWARDS	DESCRIPTION
Internationally Recognized Artist / Group Award MEC Discretion	This Award is presented to an artist or group that has received international recognition, exhibited and performed on international platforms for 5 years and more.
Artist With Disability Award MEC Discretion	This award is awarded to a person with a disability who has achieved excellence in their craft.
LACA Lifetime Achievement Award MEC Discretion	This award is presented to an individual with 20 years of documented achievements and outstanding contribution over the individual's whole career to the South African creative Industry and internationally.
LACA Posthumous Awards MEC Discretion	This award acknowledges the contributions, achievement or sacrifices made by the individual during their lifetime especially in cases where their work had a last impact or they died before they could be formally recognized.