



ASCAP SCREEN MUSIC AWARDS
OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
2021

These Official Rules and Regulations (the “Rules”) govern the 2021 ASCAP Screen Music Awards (individually and collectively, the “Awards”), including, but not limited to, eligibility, winner selection process, and award criteria. **BY PARTICIPATING IN THE AWARDS PROCESS AND AWARDS CELEBRATION, ALL PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, NOMINATORS, NOMINEES, VOTERS, AND AWARD RECIPIENTS (“PARTICIPANTS”) AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THESE OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS AND THE DECISIONS OF ASCAP, WHICH ARE FINAL AND BINDING IN ALL RESPECTS. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED.**

1. PRESENTER

The Awards are presented by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (“ASCAP”), 250 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10107.

2. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

A. Who is Eligible

The following composers, songwriters or lyricists (collectively referred to as “composers”) are eligible (each, an “Eligible Composer”) for Awards consideration:

- A composer member of ASCAP in good standing as of April 5, 2021 (the “Date of Determination”); and
- A composer member of an Affiliated Society (as defined below) in good standing within the meaning of such Affiliated Society’s rules and regulations as of the Date of Determination.

To be in good standing, an ASCAP member must have been elected to membership in ASCAP, be eligible to vote at General Meetings of ASCAP and have not resigned from membership. An “Affiliated Society” is a performing rights organization with a principal office outside of the United States with whom ASCAP has a written and binding agreement that authorizes ASCAP to license musical compositions owned or controlled by such entity to licensees in the United States on a non-exclusive basis. Publisher members of ASCAP or Affiliated Societies are not eligible for the Awards.

B. What Works are Eligible

To be eligible for Awards consideration, a musical composition (each, an “Eligible Work”) must, as of the date of Determination, (i) be in the ASCAP Repertory (as defined in the Compendium of ASCAP Rules and Regulations, and Policies Supplemental to the Articles of Association, which is available on ASCAP’s website) and (ii) have at least one Eligible Composer with an interest in such musical composition who is then licensing their interest in such musical composition through ASCAP for the territory of the United States.

In addition, a musical composition will no longer be an Eligible Work if, at any time prior to the start of the Awards Celebration, ASCAP has received effective notice(s) from Eligible Composer(s) of their intent to remove such musical composition from the ASCAP Repertory and, after giving effect to such notice, ASCAP would no longer have a licensable interest in such musical composition.

C. Disqualification

At any time prior to the start of the Awards Celebration, ASCAP may, in its sole discretion, disqualify from Awards contention: (i) any composer member of ASCAP who has either resigned from membership or delivered an effective notice of intent to resign from membership; (ii) any composer member of an Affiliated Society from Awards contention who is no longer in good standing with such Affiliated Society; (iii) any composer member of ASCAP or an Affiliated Society whose relevant interest in an Eligible Work is no longer in the ASCAP Repertory, or if ASCAP receives effective notice of the intent to remove such relevant interest in an Eligible Work from the ASCAP Repertory; or (iv) any Eligible Work from Awards contention that no longer satisfies the eligibility criteria set forth in Section 2.B.

In addition, if there is a dispute in ASCAP’s records with respect to all or any portion of an interest in any Eligible Work and ASCAP has concluded that there is a reasonable basis for such dispute, then ASCAP may, in its sole discretion, remove such Eligible Work from consideration for the Awards. ASCAP encourages Participants to resolve disputes over any potentially winning Eligible Works on or before the Date of Determination.

D. Changes in Registration

In connection with a change to a work registration affecting the composer(s) of a musical composition (i.e., the inclusion of a new ASCAP-licensed composer or the removal of an existing ASCAP-licensed composer), a composer will be considered as having an interest in such musical composition for purposes of the Awards if the change in registration is submitted, and all paperwork substantiating such change is provided to ASCAP, on or before the Date of Determination.

3. MOST PERFORMED THEME AND UNDERScore AWARDS

The Most Performed Theme and Underscore Awards honor the top Eligible Composers ranked first through tenth determined based on the cumulative number of ASCAP credits (as defined below) earned by each such Eligible Composer for distributions made during the period from July 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 for performances in the United States for all such composer's Eligible Works used as Theme or Underscore (as defined below). If two or more Eligible Composers are tied for the tenth highest number of credits for performances in the United States of such composer's Eligible Works used as Theme or Underscore, then all Eligible Composers so tied are eligible for Awards for the Most Performed Theme and Underscore Awards.

For the purposes of these Rules, "credits" for performances are determined by ASCAP in accordance with ASCAP's Survey and Distribution System: Rules & Policies (the "Distribution Rules"), which are available on ASCAP's website. The factors for determining a credit include, among other things, number of performances, the type of musical cues (e.g., theme or underscore) and duration of musical cues. The terms "Theme" and "Underscore" (i.e., "Background Music") as used herein shall have the meanings as set forth in the Distribution Rules.

4. TOP TELEVISION SERIES

A. Top Television Series

The Top Television Series Awards honor Primary Composers (as defined below) for their work for television as determined based on the following methodology:

1. ASCAP will recognize as a Top Television Series the top 25 highest rated television series and/or miniseries (based on highest Nielsen Ratings (as defined below)) with new episodes first airing in the United States on the ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox networks (each, a "Major Broadcast Network") during 2020 that has at least one Primary Composer credited (each, an "Eligible Network Series"). (Each reference to a year in these Rules shall be to a calendar year unless otherwise specified herein.) All Primary Composers credited for an Eligible Network Series that is ranked first through 25th based on Nielsen Ratings shall receive a Top Television Series Award for their work on such series. If two or more Eligible Network Series are tied for the 25th highest Nielsen Ratings, then the Primary Composer(s) credited for all such series or miniseries so tied shall receive Top Television Series Awards.

2. ASCAP will also recognize as a Top Television Series the first and second highest-rated television series and/or miniseries (based on highest Nielsen Ratings) with new episodes first airing in the United States on any General Entertainment Network (as defined below) during 2020 that has at least one Primary Composer credited and a Nielsen Rating of 0.3 or higher (each, an "Eligible Cable").

Series”). All Primary Composers credited for an Eligible Cable Series with the first or second highest Nielsen Rating on a particular General Entertainment Network shall receive a Top Television Series Award for their work on such series. If two or more Eligible Cable Series are tied for the second highest Nielsen Ratings on a particular General Entertainment Network, then the Primary Composer(s) credited for all such Eligible Cable Series so tied shall receive Top Television Series Awards.

3. ASCAP will also recognize as a Top Television Series the first and second ranked “original” series and/or miniseries (based on highest number of ASCAP credits earned by such series and/or miniseries for distributions made during the period from July 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 for performances in the United States) with at least one new episode first made available in the United States on each of the Amazon, Disney+, Hulu and Netflix video services (each, a “Video Service”) during 2020 and that have at least one Primary Composer credited (each, an “Eligible Streaming Series”). All Primary Composers credited for an Eligible Streaming Series with the first or second highest number of credits during the period from July 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 on a particular Video Service shall receive a Top Television Series Award for their work on such series. If two or more Eligible Streaming Series are tied for the second highest number of credits on a particular Video Service, then the Primary Composer(s) credited for all such Eligible Streaming Series so tied shall receive Top Television Series Awards.

For the purposes of these Rules:

- “General Entertainment Network” means any network or cable programming service, including the CW Network and PBS, that primarily broadcasts general entertainment-related audio-visual programming (e.g., dramatic series, comedy series, specials, miniseries and made-for-TV feature films, theatrical feature films aired on television, animated television programs and films, variety programs, scripted sports, game shows, and/or reality television programs, etc.) and that is not a Major Broadcast Network.

- “Nielsen Ratings” are the average of the Nielsen “Household Live +7” total day ratings for 2020.

- A “Primary Composer” is an Eligible Composer who: (i) is credited as a composer of Theme or Underscore (as applicable) for the applicable series or miniseries, film or video game (“Audio-Visual Work”) and such Theme or Underscore is an Eligible Work that is being licensed by ASCAP as of the Date of Determination; or (ii) has made a substantial contribution to the applicable Audio-Visual Work, as determined by ASCAP based on the total number of minutes composed by such composer for such Audio-Visual Work as shown by the relevant cue sheets for the Audio-Visual Work in ASCAP’s database and such contribution is an Eligible Work that is being licensed by ASCAP as of the Date of Determination.

For the avoidance of doubt, a series or miniseries that had its first run outside of the United States would be eligible for the Top Television Series Awards so long as it has satisfied all other terms and conditions set forth in this paragraph (including that new episodes first aired on a Major Broadcast Network, General Entertainment Network or Video Service, as applicable, during 2020).

B. Top Network Series Award

The Top Network Series Award honors the Eligible Network Series on any of the Major Broadcast Networks during 2020 with the highest overall Nielsen Rating. All Primary Composers credited for such top-rated Eligible Series shall receive the Top Network Series Award. If two or more Eligible Network Series are tied for the highest Nielsen Ratings, then the Primary Composer(s) credited for all such series so tied shall receive Top Network Series Awards.

C. Top Cable Series Award

The Top Cable Series Award honors the Eligible Cable Series on any of the General Entertainment Networks during 2020 with the highest overall Nielsen Rating. All Primary Composers credited for such top-rated Eligible Cable Series shall receive the Top Cable Series Award. If two or more Eligible Cable Series are tied for the highest Nielsen Ratings, then the Primary Composer(s) credited for all such series so tied shall receive Top Cable Series Awards.

5. TOP BOX OFFICE FILM AWARDS

A. Top Box Office Films

The Top Box Office Film Awards honor the Primary Composers (if any) for each of the top 50 films, ranked based on total worldwide box office receipts for 2020, as reported on www.boxofficemojo.com. If two or more films are tied for the 50th highest rank based on worldwide box office receipts, then all Primary Composers (if any) for all such films so tied shall receive Top Box Office Film Awards.

B. Top Box Office Film of the Year

The Top Box Office Film of the Year award honors the Primary Composers for the highest-ranking film with at least one Primary Composer credited based on total worldwide box office receipts for 2020, as reported on www.boxofficemojo.com. All Primary Composers for such top-ranked film shall receive the Top Box Office Film of the Year Award.

6. TOP STREAMING FILM AWARDS

The Top Streaming Film Awards honor the first and second ranked “original” films (based on highest number of ASCAP credits earned by such films for

distributions made during the period from July 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 for performances in the United States) that (i) are first made available in the United States on each of the Video Services during 2020, (ii) have at least one Primary Composer credited and (iii) are not eligible for, or have not previously won, an ASCAP Screen Music Award for Top Box Office Film at this Awards Celebration or any prior Awards Celebration (each, a “Top Streaming Film”). All Primary Composers credited for a Top Streaming Film with the first or second highest number of ASCAP credits during the period from July 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 on a particular Video Service shall receive a Top Streaming Film Award for their work on such film. If two or more Top Streaming Films are tied for the second highest number of ASCAP credits on a particular Video Service, then the Primary Composer(s) credited for all such Top Streaming Film so tied shall receive Top Streaming Film Awards.

7. COMPOSERS’ CHOICE AWARDS

The Composers’ Choice Awards (the “Choice Awards”) honor Eligible Composers of Eligible Works in the following five categories: (i) Film Score of the Year; (ii) TV Score of the Year; (iii) TV Theme of the Year; (iv) Documentary Score of the Year; and (v) Video Game Score of the Year (each, a “Choice Awards Category”). The Choice Awards selection process consists of two phases: (1) a nomination phase, which begins on February 1, 2021, and ends on February 19, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (the “Nomination Phase”); and (2) a voting phase, which begins on or about March 1, 2021, and ends on March 26, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (the “Voting Phase”). Qualtrics, LLC database server is the official time-keeping device for the Choice Awards.

A. Choice Awards Criteria

Films, television series or miniseries, documentary films and/or video games meeting the following eligibility criteria will be considered for Choice Awards (“Eligible Nominees”):

- For the Film Score of the Year Award, (1) a film must have been released in the United States during 2020 and (2) a film’s score must be in the ASCAP Repertory as of the Date of Determination and have at least one Primary Composer.
- For the TV Score of the Year and TV Theme of the Year, (1) a series or miniseries must have new episodes that first aired on a U.S. network, cable programming service or streaming service during 2020 and (2) the score or the theme (as applicable) for the series or miniseries must be in the ASCAP Repertory as of the Date of Determination and have at least one Primary Composer.
- For the Documentary Score of the Year, (1) a documentary film (including miniseries or individual episodes of longer running series) must have first aired on a U.S. network, cable programming service or streaming service during 2020

and (2) the documentary film's score must be in the ASCAP Repertory as of the Date of Determination and have at least one Primary Composer.

- For the Video Game Score of the Year Award, (1) a video game must have been released, and made publicly available to consumers, in the United States in 2020 and (2) a video game's score must be in the ASCAP Repertory as of the Date of Determination and have at least one Primary Composer.

- A film, television series or miniseries, documentary film and/or video game must receive at least two nominations to be selected as an official nominee in the Voting Phase.

- An Eligible Composer of a nominated film, television series or miniseries, documentary film and/or video game shall not be eligible for a particular Choice Award if such composer previously won a Choice Award in the same category in each of the two immediately preceding years.

B. Nomination Phase Guidelines and Procedures

i. Nominating Committees

ASCAP will solicit nominations for the Choice Awards from two separate nominating committees: (a) a Film/TV Committee; and (b) a Video Game Committee (each, a "Nominating Committee" and collectively, the "Nominating Committees"). Members of the Film/TV Committee may nominate Eligible Nominees for the Film Score of the Year Award, TV Score of the Year, TV Theme of the Year and Documentary Score of the Year. Members of the Video Game Committee may nominate Eligible Nominees for the Video Game Score of the Year Award.

Each Nominating Committee will consist of a minimum of 100 music and/or audio industry professionals (including composers) who have shown dedication and achievement in the film/television industry/documentary and video game industries. Members of each Nominating Committee will be tasked to identify Eligible Nominees (as defined below) whose Eligible Works demonstrate exceptional musical ability, outstanding storytelling and significant cultural impact. Each Nominating Committee will also be encouraged to identify Eligible Nominees who reflect the ideals of innovation, collaboration and diversity and inclusion.

ii. Nomination Submission

Members of the Nominating Committees will receive a link to the applicable Choice Awards nomination form (each, a "Nomination Form") via email. Committee members may nominate Eligible Nominees in each applicable Choice Awards Category by completing and submitting their Nomination Form online between February 1, 2021 and February 19, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

Members of the Film/TV Committee may nominate up to three Eligible Nominees in each of the Film Score of the Year Award, TV Score of the Year, TV Theme of the Year and Documentary Score of the Year categories. Members of the Video Game Committee can nominate up to three Eligible Nominees for the Video Game Score of the Year category. Members of the Nominating Committees must complete all required information on the Nomination Form. Once a Nomination Form has been submitted, it cannot be changed or rescinded. Nominations that are received from any person who is not a member of the Nominating Committee, are in excess of the stated limits, or are otherwise in violation of the terms and conditions set forth in these Rules will be void. ASCAP reserves the right to verify the eligibility of all nominators.

iii. Selection of Official Choice Awards Nominees

All Choice Awards Nominees are subject to ASCAP's approval and verification that they meet all eligibility requirements as set forth in these Rules.

For each of the Choice Awards Categories, the Eligible Nominees shall be ranked based on the number of valid nominations received, and the Eligible Nominees ranked from first through fifth based on the greatest number of valid nominations shall be the official nominees for the Choice Awards in each applicable category (each, a "Choice Awards Nominee"). If two or more Eligible Nominees are tied for the fifth highest number of nominations in an applicable category, then all such Eligible Nominees so tied shall be a Choice Awards Nominee in the applicable Choice Awards Category.

If, for any Choice Awards Category, no Eligible Nominee receives at least two nominations during the Nomination Phase, then ASCAP shall not award a Choice Award in such Choice Awards Category at the Awards Celebration.

vi. Official Choice Awards Nominee Notification

Choice Awards Nominees will be notified that they have been nominated via email (and if no email is available to ASCAP, via telephone). A Choice Awards Nominee may opt out of the Choice Awards program at any time prior to the end of the Voting Phase by contacting ASCAP's Film & TV department at filmtv@ascap.com or 1-800-95-ASCAP.

C. Voting Phase: Voter Eligibility and Voting Procedures

All writer members of ASCAP in good standing (each, an "Eligible Voter") are eligible to vote on the Choice Awards Nominees by completing and submitting a Choice Awards ballot (each, a "Ballot"), which will be accessible via ASCAP's website at <https://www.ascap.com/composerschoice> after the completion of the Nomination Phase. The Voting Phase will be open to Eligible Voters beginning on or about March

1, 2021 and ending on March 26, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. The Choice Awards Nominees and the exact dates and times for the Voting Phase will be announced on ASCAP's Film & TV webpage (available at <https://www.ascap.com/music-creators/genres/film-and-tv>) after the completion of the Nomination Phase.

Eligible Voters may vote on Choice Awards Nominees in all or any number of Choice Awards Categories, but can vote for only one Choice Awards Nominee per Choice Awards Category. Eligible Voters must complete all required information on the Ballots. Once a Ballot has been submitted, it cannot be changed or rescinded. Ballots that are received from any person who is not an Eligible Voter, are in excess of the stated limits, or are otherwise in violation of the terms and conditions set forth in these Rules will be void. ASCAP reserves the right to verify the eligibility of all voters.

D. Choice Awards Recipients

Choice Awards Nominees in each Choice Awards Category receiving the greatest number of valid votes in accordance with Section 7.C shall be awarded the applicable Choice Award. All Primary Composers of the score or theme (as applicable) for the winning film, television series or miniseries, documentary film and/or video game, respectively, shall be awarded that Choice Award. If two or more Choice Awards Nominees are tied for the greatest number of valid votes in any Choice Awards Category, then a Choice Award shall be awarded to each Primary Composer(s) of the score or theme so tied.

E. Nomination and Voting Validity; General Conditions

Nomination and voting are subject to the terms and conditions of these Rules and any additional voting instructions that may be posted on the ASCAP website or on the Nomination Form or Ballot. By submitting a Nomination Form, each nominator acknowledges and agrees that they have read and agree to these Rules and are the original recipient of the Nomination Form and has not permitted another person to nominate on their behalf. By submitting a Ballot, each voter acknowledges and agrees that they have read and agree to these Rules and meet all criteria to be an Eligible Voter. ASCAP, in its sole discretion, may remove, reject or disqualify a voter or nominator, or otherwise disqualify any participant and/or void any nomination or vote if it believes that the conduct of any Participant fails to conform to these Rules, if a Participant(s) is/are found to be tampering with the nomination or voting process or the operation of the Choice Awards, or is/are acting in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner, or in a manner that does not conform with the spirit of the Choice Awards.

7. SPECIAL AWARDS

ASCAP in its sole discretion reserves the right to present Special Awards to composers and others to honor them for special achievements and contributions to music. These awards are determined by ASCAP staff, and ASCAP is under no obligation to present such Special Awards on an annual basis. Information about the general criteria of Special Awards and past honorees is available on the ASCAP website at: <https://www.ascap.com/news-events/awards/archive>.

8. DECISIONS ON AWARDS NOT REVIEWABLE

ASCAP's determination as to the winners of any of the Awards or whether any ASCAP member, writer member of an Affiliated Society or musical composition meets the criteria for any of the Awards will be final and non-reviewable.

9. AWARDS RECOGNITION

Award recipients for the 2021 ASCAP Screen Music Awards will be invited to participate in a virtual awards celebration on ASCAP's social media platforms to be conducted during the week of May 17, 2021 through May 21, 2021 (the "Awards Celebration"). The full list of Awards recipients will be made available on <https://www.ascap.com/news-events/awards> on or about May 21, 2021. All matters regarding rules and dates for the 2021 ASCAP Screen Music Awards are subject to change based on Federal guidelines, state and local government orders and best practices that affect ASCAP's operations. Awards have no cash value.

10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

ASCAP reserves the right in its sole discretion to cancel, postpone or otherwise reschedule the Awards, or to not give any specific Award described herein, at any time for any reason or no reason. ASCAP's failure to enforce any term of these Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision.

11. RELEASE AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

BY PARTICIPATING IN THE AWARDS, PARTICIPANTS AGREE THAT ASCAP, AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES, AFFILIATES, AGENTS, AND REPRESENTATIVES, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PARENT COMPANIES AND EACH SUCH COMPANY'S OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS (COLLECTIVELY, THE "RELEASED PARTIES"), WILL HAVE NO LIABILITY WHATSOEVER FOR, AND SHALL BE HELD HARMLESS BY PARTICIPANTS AGAINST, ANY LIABILITY FOR ANY INJURIES, LOSSES OR DAMAGES OF ANY KIND TO PERSONS, INCLUDING PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH, OR PROPERTY RESULTING IN WHOLE OR IN PART, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FROM ACCEPTANCE, POSSESSION, MISUSE, OR USE OF THE AWARDS, INCLUDING THE NOMINATION OR VOTING PROCESSES, OR PARTICIPATION IN THE AWARDS PROGRAM OR IN ANY AWARDS-RELATED ACTIVITY, OR ANY CLAIMS BASED ON PUBLICITY RIGHTS, DEFAMATION OR INVASION OF PRIVACY. THE RELEASED PARTIES ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE IF ANY AWARD CANNOT BE AWARDED DUE TO

DELAYS, OR INTERRUPTIONS DUE TO ACTS OF GOD, ACTS OF WAR, NATURAL DISASTERS, WEATHER, OR TERRORISM. WITHOUT LIMITING THE FOREGOING, EVERYTHING REGARDING THE AWARDS IS PROVIDED "AS IS" WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED.

12. DISPUTES

Except where prohibited, ASCAP members and all other Participants agree that: (i) any and all disputes, claims and causes of action arising out of or connected with the Awards (including, without limitation, the Choice Awards and related nomination and voting processes) or any award awarded shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York or the appropriate Supreme Court of the State of New York located in New York County; (ii) any and all claims, judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with entering the Awards, but in no event attorneys' fees; and (iii) under no circumstances will an ASCAP member or other Participant be permitted to obtain awards for, and they hereby waive all rights to claim, indirect, punitive, incidental and consequential damages and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Rules, or the rights and obligations of ASCAP members, other Participants and ASCAP in connection with the Awards, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules (whether of the State of New York or any other jurisdiction), which would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of New York.

13. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Information collected from Participants is subject to ASCAP's Privacy Policy, which is available at <http://www.ascap.com/about/legal-terms/privacy-policy>.

14. HONOREE/AWARD RECIPIENT LIST

For the name(s) of the recipients of the Awards, please visit: <https://www.ascap.com/news-events/awards>.

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