

Sandford St Martin 2021 Awards

Categories and Criteria

The Sandford St Martin Awards recognise broadcast content that explores or engages with **religious, ethical or moral themes**.

Unique for 2021 in addition to our four regular categories (Journalism, TV/Video, Radio/Audio, and Children's Broadcasting), entries and nominations are being invited for the Trustees' **Corona Content** and **Community** award categories. Criteria for all the categories and details of how to enter are below.

Before you enter, please carefully review and consider the criteria below.

Programmes or content that do not meet the criteria should not enter.

Categories:

The Sandford St Martin Journalism Award:

This category recognises the best of religious broadcast journalism. Entries **must** feature a clear and articulate religious dimension – either one intrinsic to the story or issue itself, or, a dimension explored through the contributors included. Submissions in this category can include broadcast coverage of breaking news, ongoing coverage of news events, original investigative or analytical journalism. Standalone news and current affairs programmes and news sequences within programmes are all eligible. Judges will be looking for evidence of outstanding journalism and fresh insights or perspectives. Please note that this award is for a particular piece of work – not for a portfolio, a compilation, a series or a wider body of work.

The Children's Broadcasting Award:

Entries should be broadcast content aimed at under 18s, which enables better understanding of religion or belief and/or helps young people explore current moral or ethical issues.

Television/Video Award:

Entries in the TV category can be from any visual broadcast media platform. They should be programmes that explore subjects of particular interest or concern to religious communities, as well as having a broad appeal to a general audience.

Entries:

- You may enter either: a stand-alone programme, or a maximum of up to two separate episodes from a longer series or strand (each episode will be considered as a separate entry), or a full series (to be judged as a single entry; send us one representative episode with a synopsis of the full series).
- If you are entering a single/stand-alone programme: no production unit or independent company may enter more than two programmes or two episodes from any one series or strand in the TV category. In this case, each episode will count as a separate entry and must be submitted separately.
- If you are entering a series: please send only one representative episode for the judges' consideration but include a synopsis of the full series.

Radio/Audio Award:

Entries in the Radio category can be from any primarily audio-based broadcast media platform – this includes podcasts and online platforms. Entries should explore subjects of particular interest or concern to religious communities, as well as having a broad appeal to a general audience.

Entries:

- You may enter either: a single/stand-alone programme (a one-off or one episode from a longer series or strand) or a full strand or multi-episode series for an award.
- If you are entering a single/stand-alone programme: no production unit or independent company may enter more than two programmes or two episodes from any one series or strand in this category. In this case, each episode will count as a separate entry and must be submitted separately.
- If you are entering a full series or a strand for an award: please send only one representative episode for the judges' consideration but include a synopsis of the full series. Please do not send a montage.
- For all entries: if your content is more than an hour long, please include a (rough) running order with your entry.

Trustees' Corona Content Award:

This award is for broadcast programmes or reports made in the UK that explore coronavirus, the pandemic or lockdown through a religious lens. Entries **must** feature a clear and articulate religious dimension – either one intrinsic to the story itself, or, one explored through the contributors featured. Entries could include news reports, factual programmes, drama or entertainment that examine the role religion(s) or people's beliefs have played in human experience or the response to COVID-19. Judges will be looking for original storytelling or reportage and will be considering how the work impacted on the audience's understanding or response to the pandemic.

Entries:

- Entries are welcomed from both audio or visual broadcasters and may include one-off/stand-alone or multi-episodic/longer running programmes or projects.
- If you are entering a full series or a strand for an award: please send only one representative episode for the judges' consideration but include a synopsis of the full series. Please do not send a montage.
- For all entries: if your content is more than an hour long, please include a (rough) running order with your entry.

Trustees' Corona Community Award:

The Corona Community Award is for local or grassroots broadcasting that has supported or maintained religious or belief communities during the pandemic. This could include broadcast or webcast celebration, worship and events or the use of recorded or live-broadcast video or audio content on a public platform or via social media for training, outreach or ministry. Judges will be looking for impactful and innovative examples of how people's personal religious or spiritual needs were addressed or solved in response to COVID-19.

Entries:

- Entries are welcomed from audio or visual broadcasters and may include one-off/stand-alone or multi-episodic/longer running programmes or projects.
- If you are entering a full series or a project for an award: please send only one representative episode for the judges' consideration but include a description of the full series and its impact. Please do not send a montage.
- For all entries: if your content is more than an hour long, please include a (rough) running order with your entry.

General criteria and conditions of entry:

- Entries will be accepted from UK or ROI-based broadcasting organisations, news providers, freelance technicians and independent producers. Entries must have been publicly available to a UK audience.
- All entries must have been broadcast, screened or published for the first time between 1 January and 31 December 2020 and should be sent to us 'as transmitted'.
- **Entries should be registered and submitted via our online awards platform which you can find by clicking on this sentence or by copying and pasting the following URL into your browser's address bar:**
<https://sandford.awardsplatform.com/>
- There is no entry fee.
- Individual production units can make a maximum of 2 entries (any combination of one-off or series) in each of the categories.
- Do not enter the same content in more than one category. If you are not sure which category is the most appropriate for your entry, please contact us. The only exception for this rule concerns entries in the Trustees' Corona Content or Community categories which, if they meet the eligibility criteria, may also enter one of the regular categories.
- Non-English content must be either dubbed or subtitled in English.
- All entries and programme files must be received by **17.00 on Friday 29th January, 2021**. Please note, if we have not received all of your information before the deadline, your entry will be ineligible. This deadline cannot be extended.
- **Please be aware that should your entry be shortlisted for an award (announced at the end of March), we will require a HD 1'00 clip for use during the Awards presentation. More details including the delivery format for these will be issued at the time the shortlist is announced.**
- Submission of any entry acknowledges the right of The Sandford St Martin Trust to use the programme as required in connection with judging, promotion and presentation of the Awards.

We take data protection seriously and your rights are important to us.

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