

# UK THEATRE AWARDS 2019



## *Information Pack*

### UK Theatre Awards: 2019 and beyond

The UK Theatre Awards are changing. In 2019 they will become more relevant with new categories and a new way for UK Theatre members to get involved in deciding who will win.

For 27 years the UK Theatre Awards have been the only nationwide awards to celebrate the outstanding achievements of theatre across the UK. During this time the UK Theatre Awards have celebrated theatre across the country and the contributions UK Theatre members make to the industry.

Over the last year we've listened to what UK Theatre members, and the industry, want from the UK Theatre Awards and now, as the industry evolves, so will the awards that celebrate its achievements.

### Award categories

Awards will be given for work On Stage and Off Stage. Several awards have been refreshed to reflect the contemporary priorities of the UK's theatre industry.

#### *On Stage*

- ★ Achievement in Dance
- ★ Achievement in Opera
- ★ Best Design
- ★ Best Director
- ★ Best Musical Production
- ★ Best New Play
- ★ Best Performance in a Musical
- ★ Best Performance in a Play
- ★ Best Play Revival

- ★ Best Show for Children and Young People
- ★ Best Supporting Performance  
(in a musical or play)

#### *Off Stage*

- ★ Digital Innovation
- ★ Excellence in Arts Education
- ★ Excellence in Inclusivity
- ★ Excellence in Touring
- ★ Workforce Development

### *UK's Most Welcoming Theatre*

- ★ UK Theatre Organisation Members are now invited to tell us why you're a welcoming theatre in three ways; your place, your people and your programme.
- ★ There is no longer a public vote for this award.

### *Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre*

- ★ Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre will continue to be awarded by the UK Theatre Board.

### *The Gielgud Award*

- ★ We will continue to work with the Shakespeare's Guild to present the Gielgud Award.



## Judging the Awards

The **On Stage Awards** are decided through a nominations and panel judging process. Members will be able to champion their outstanding productions and nominate their colleagues productions for consideration by the judging panel.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for the On Stage categories of the UK Theatre Awards, a production has to be:

- either produced by a UK Theatre Organisation Member in any theatre (excluding a Society of London Theatre venue)
- or seen in a UK Theatre Organisation member theatre venue
- and
- Productions should run between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019.

### How to champion your organisation's productions

We want our members to share information about the outstanding productions they wish to be considered for the UK Theatre Awards. This will lead to greater awareness about the breadth of productions presented throughout the UK and ensure the panel are considering all eligible shows.

### The process will include:

- A new **Productions' Calendar\*** to be published on the UK Theatre website to allow members to share information about their **outstanding** productions. It will include show dates, venue/s and booking information for members and the panel.
- You can submit entries to the **Productions' Calendar\*** by emailing [Catherine@soltukt.co.uk](mailto:Catherine@soltukt.co.uk) with: show name, venue/producer (name of UK Theatre member organisation), running dates, location and booking information/link.
- The On Stage Awards are open to all eligible shows. Inclusion on the Productions' Calendar is not a requirement.
- It is your decision if you would like to offer complimentary or discounted seats to the judging panel or UK Theatre Members to see your productions. Please include details of how tickets should be booked. You should not cover any further expenses i.e. travel or accommodation costs incurred by the panel and /or UK Theatre Members.
- An update of all eligible shows will be sent to all judging panels each month to draw their attention to upcoming shows listed on the calendar.
- The judging panels will be advised about how to obtain a house seat using the information supplied by the submitting member.

\*The Productions' Calendar will open for 10 months (November – August) in 18/19 due to the timings of our announcement. However, shows that ran in September and October 2018 are still eligible and will be considered by the panel. It will open for a full year in 19/20 between September 2019 – August 2020.

### Nominations

- At the end of the eligibility period (1 September - 31 August), all UK Theatre members will be able to nominate (via a survey) one outstanding production/creative and/or performer in each of the On Stage categories.
- Members must nominate productions from their peers. Members cannot nominate their organisation's own productions.
- The results of these nominations will be given to the relevant On Stage judging panel for consideration.



## Judging Panels

- The [On Stage judging panels](#) meet in early September 2019 to discuss nominees and vote on a winner in each category.
- There are three On Stage panels; theatre, opera, dance.
- The Judging Panels for both On Stage and Off Stage Awards will be chosen one year ahead of the Awards ceremony.\*
- Panellists will be reviewed and approved by the UK Theatre Board. To ensure that the recruitment process is transparent and the panels are inclusive the UK Theatre Board will review and have the opportunity to suggest changes or additions to each panel each year.
- Each panel will include an observer from the UK Theatre Board. The Chief Executive of UK Theatre/SOLT will Chair the panels, with the exception of the Dance panel which will be Chaired by Roger Spence.
- The Judging Panels will be [published](#) on the UK Theatre website a year in advance of the Awards.

\*The UK Theatre Awards Judging Panels will be published 11 months ahead of the 2019 Awards. They will be published a full year ahead of the 2020 Awards.

## *Off Stage Awards*

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The Off Stage Awards are decided through an application and panel judging process. The Awards recognise areas of work which have been identified as crucial to the resilience of the industry.

### When to apply

- The Off Stage Awards are application based. We have made the process even easier.
- UK Theatre Organisation members can submit their applications for the Off Stage Awards at any time during the year.
- [Forms are available now.](#)
- All applications will be given to the Off Stage Judging Panel for consideration.

### Eligibility

- Off Stage Awards are open to UK Theatre Organisation Members only. This can include an employee of the Organisation Member or may be a project run by the member, which could also be a co-production or collaboration with a non-member.
- Members are encouraged to submit applications once they are able to evidence the impact and success of their project.
- Members can only submit applications for the same project during one award cycle. So if an application is submitted for 2019 but is not successful in winning the award, they cannot re-apply in 2020 for the same project even if a project/campaign/programme is ongoing.
- Applications can be submitted throughout the eligibility period but must be submitted before 10am on 31 August 2019 to be considered for the 2019 Awards.
- Applications for the UK's Most Welcoming Theatre will open between 1 May 2019 - 30 June 2019.

### Judging Panel

- [The Off Stage judging panel](#) meets in early September to discuss nominees and vote on a winner in each category.

- The Judging Panel is made up of the UK Theatre President, Board Members, Chief Executive and others from across the industry.
- The Judging Panel for the Off Stage Awards will be chosen and published one year ahead of the Awards ceremony \*
- Panellists will be reviewed and approved by the UK Theatre Board. To ensure that the recruitment process is transparent and the panels are inclusive the UK Theatre Board will review and have the opportunity to suggest changes or additions to each panel each year.



\*The UK Theatre Awards Judging Panels will be published 11 months ahead of the 2019 Awards. They will be published a full year ahead of the 2020 Awards.

## *The UK's Most Welcoming Theatre*

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UK Theatre Organisation Member venues are now invited to tell us why they are a welcoming theatre in three ways; place, people and programme.

There is no longer a public vote for this award.

### Applying to be the UK's Most Welcoming Theatre

- Applications will be judged on a theatre's ability to demonstrate how it is welcoming in these areas.
- To apply, please complete the application form (including a minimum of 2 testimonials). [The form is available now.](#)
- Three finalist theatres will be shortlisted.
- The Judging Panel will visit the shortlisted venues so that they can talk through your application and so that you can show them your venue.
- This could involve the panel meeting staff, having a tour of the building, taking part in a scheduled activity, seeing a production and speaking to audience members.

### Judging Panel

- Applications will be judged by a panel made up of UK Theatre Professional Members and sponsors of the UK Theatre Awards.
- The panel will agree on three shortlisted theatres, and will visit those venues to hear more about how their work could make them the UK's Most Welcoming Theatre. All visits will be pre-arranged.
- The Judging Panel for Most Welcoming Theatre will be chosen and published 10 months ahead of the Awards. \*

### Eligibility and timeline

- Most Welcoming Theatre is open to UK Theatre Organisation Members only.
- To apply, please complete the form (including a minimum of 2 testimonials)
- Applications open on 1 May 2019 and close on 30 June 2019.
- **July 2019:** Applications to be assessed by the judging panel and three theatres shortlisted
- **September 2019:** The panel visit the three shortlisted theatres/venues
- **October 2019:** The winner is announced at the UK Theatre Awards at London's Guildhall.

# Timeline for the 2019 UK Theatre Awards

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1 September 2018	Eligibility period for 2019 Awards opens - UK Theatre Organisation Members able to 'champion their own outstanding productions' over the next year
1 May 2019	Most Welcoming Theatre applications open
30 June 2019	Most Welcoming Theatre applications closes
July 2019	Most Welcoming Theatre applications to be assessed by the judging panel and three theatres shortlisted
31 August 2019	Eligibility period for 2019 Awards closes
September/October 2019	Most Welcoming Theatre panel visit the three shortlisted theatres/venues
Monday 2 September 2019	All UK Theatre members invited to nominate their peers' outstanding productions for the 2019 On Stage Award categories via our member survey
Monday 16 September 2019	Deadline for members to complete nomination survey and nominate their peers' outstanding productions for an On Stage UK Theatre Award category
Tuesday 17 September 2019	Nominations sent to panels
w/c 23 September 2019	Panel meetings – Theatre, Dance, Opera and Industry Panels
w/c 30 September 2019	Shortlisted nominations announced for 2019 Awards
Sunday 27 October 2019	2019 UK Theatre Awards

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## **\*\*The Clothworkers' Award**

The Clothworkers' Foundation awarded a total of £1.25million to five venues across the UK Theatre membership between 2014 and 2018 as part of their Dramatic Arts initiative.

They are undertaking a review of this initiative in 2019. We hope to work with them in 2020 and beyond.