

Information

UK Theatre Awards 2024

The UK Theatre Awards will take place on Sunday 20 October 2024.

For 30 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 makes to the industry.

Awards categories

Awards will be given for work On Stage and Off Stage.

On Stage	Off Stage
Achievement in Dance	Digital Innovation
Achievement in Opera	Excellence in Arts Education
Best Design	Excellence in Inclusivity
Best Direction	Excellence in Sustainability
Best Musical Production	Excellence in Touring
Best Performance in a Play	Workforce Award
Best Performance in a Musical	
Best New Play	
Best Play Revival	
Best Show for Children and Young People	
Best Supporting Performance (in a Musical or Play)	

UK's Most Welcoming Theatre

- UK Theatre Organisation Members are invited to tell us why you're a welcoming theatre in three ways; your place, your people and your programme.
- Applications open on 15 May 2023 and close on 26 June 2024.
- The panel will meet in the summer to discuss the applications and select 3 finalists.
- The winner will be announced at the ceremony.

Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre

- This category will continue to be awarded by the UK Theatre Board.

Information

On Stage Awards

Judging the Awards

The **On Stage Awards** are decided through a nominations and panel judging process. Organisation Members will be able to champion their own outstanding productions using the [Productions' Calendar](#) throughout the year. They can also submit recommendations for their favourite productions from other members for consideration by the judging panel via our survey in August 2024.

Eligibility

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

- a new production produced by a UK Theatre Organisation Member in any theatre (excluding a Society of London Theatre venue)
 - or a new production seen in a UK Theatre Organisation member theatre venue
- and*
- Productions must run between 14 August 2023 - 28 August 2024.

We want our members to share information about the outstanding productions they wish to be considered for the UK Theatre Awards. Here is how to do it...

Productions' Calendar – to champion your organisation's own productions

- The **Productions' Calendar** allows members to share information about their outstanding productions. It includes show dates, venue/s and booking information for members and the panel.
- You can submit entries to the Productions' Calendar by [filling in this form](#).
- The On Stage Awards are open to all eligible shows. Inclusion on the Productions' Calendar is not a requirement for your show to be eligible for nomination.
- 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.

Recommendations Survey – to champion your favourite productions from fellow members

- At the end of the eligibility period (14 August 2023 - 28 August 2024), all UK Theatre members will be able to recommend (via a survey which we will send to all members in September 2024) one outstanding production/creative and/or performer in each of the On Stage categories.
- Members should recommend eligible productions from other UK Theatre members but *cannot* recommend their organisation's own productions.
- The results of these recommendations will be given to the relevant On Stage judging panel for consideration.

Information

Judging Panels

- There is one panel which judges the Off Stage Awards and three panels who judge the On Stage Awards; theatre, opera, dance.
- 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 panels will be formed of the following; industry professionals, freelancers, people from under-represented groups and senior arts leaders.
- Once the panel members have been recruited they will be published on the UK Theatre website.
- The On Stage judging panels meet (in person or virtually), in early September 2024 to discuss nominees and vote on a winner in each category. The panel members each have one casting vote.
- The winner of each category must obtain the most votes. In the event of a tie, the chair will have the deciding vote.
- Any conflicts of interest will be declared, recorded and that member will leave the discussion and forgo their vote in that category.

Judging Criteria

- Artistic excellence
- Production values
- Programming and subject matter – pushing boundaries
- Casting
- Touring reach

Judging of the On Stage categories

The panels will discuss the eligible productions and take into consideration the following judging criteria:

- **Artistic excellence:** Can most or all of the production elements be unanimously viewed as 'excellent'?
- **Pushing boundaries:** Does the production push boundaries? For example; was casting used in an original way?
- **Innovation:** How unique is the production? For example; does it use innovation in lighting, sound and/or video?
- **Subject matter:** Does the production tackle a particular issue for today's society?
- **Audience development:** Does the production encourage more inclusive audiences because of its subject matter, artistic team and or casting choices?

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The logo for the UK Theatre Awards, featuring the text "UK THEATRE AWARDS" in white, bold, uppercase letters on a solid brown rectangular background.

Judging of the Off Stage categories

For the 'Off Stage' award categories the panel may also take into consideration the following:

- **Working practices:** A demonstrable commitment to UK Theatre's [10 Principles for Safe and Inclusive Workspaces](#)
- **Representation:** Off stage roles and/or management positions which reflect wider society and those from under-represented groups.
- **Community and Outreach:** Thought given to engaging local communities and/or audience development.
- **Anti-Racist:** Adopting the principles of the [Anti-Racism Touring Rider](#)

Judging of the UK's Most Welcoming Theatre Award

See individual award details on the [UK Theatre website](#).

Information

Off Stage Awards

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.

Off Stage
Digital Innovation
Excellence in Arts Education
Excellence in Inclusivity
Excellence in Sustainability
Excellence in Touring
Workforce Award

When to apply

- The Off Stage Awards are application based
- UK Theatre Organisation Members can submit their applications for the Off Stage Awards at any time between 14 August 2023 - 28 August 2024.
- Submission Forms are available now:
 - [Digital Innovation Award - Submission Form](#)
 - [Excellence in Arts Education Award - Submission Form](#)
 - [Excellence in Inclusivity Award - Submission Form](#)
 - [Excellence in Sustainability Award - Submission Form](#)
 - [Excellence in Touring Award - Submission Form](#)
 - [Workforce Award - Submission Form](#)
- Shortlisted 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 cannot submit an application for the same project in future years. So, if an application was submitted in 2023 but was not successful in winning the Award, they cannot reapply in 2024 for the same project, even if it is ongoing.

Applications can be submitted throughout the eligibility period but must be submitted before 10am on 28 August 2024 to be considered for the 2024 Awards.

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The UK's Most Welcoming Theatre

UK Theatre Organisation Member venues are 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 two testimonials).
- Applications open on 15 May 2024 and close on 26 June 2024.
- Three finalist theatres will be shortlisted and then visited in person by the Judging Panel.
- The panel will visit each of the 3 shortlisted venues on a day arranged with each venue.
- The Judging Panel will visit the three finalists to 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 and Partner members and sponsors of the UK Theatre Awards.
- The panel will agree on three shortlisted theatres, and will visit those finalist 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 published on our website.

Eligibility

- UK's Most Welcoming Theatre is open to UK Theatre Organisation Members only.
- The previous year's winner is not eligible to apply.
- To apply, please complete [the application form](#) (including a minimum of two testimonials)

Timeline

- Applications open on 15 May 2024 and close on 26 June 2024.
- **July 2024:** Applications to be assessed by the judging panel and the three shortlisted theatres will be announced.
- **September/October 2024:** The panel visits the three shortlisted theatres.
- **20 October 2024:** The winner is announced at the UK Theatre Awards at London's Guildhall.

Information

Timeline for the UK Theatre Awards 2024

14 August 2023	Eligibility period for 2024 Awards opens - UK Theatre Organisation Members able to champion their own outstanding productions over the next year using the Productions' Calendar
15 May 2024	UK's Most Welcoming Theatre and Off Stage Awards applications open
26 June 2024	UK's Most Welcoming Theatre applications close
June/July 2024	UK's Most Welcoming Theatre applications assessed by the judging panel and three venues shortlisted
28 August 2024	Eligibility period for the 2024 Awards closes - All UK Theatre members invited to submit recommendations for peers' outstanding productions for the 2024 On Stage Award categories via our member survey - Applications for Off Stage Awards close at 10am
28 August 2024	Deadline for members to submit recommendation survey for On Stage UK Theatre Awards categories by 10am, which is then sent to panels
September 2024	UK's Most Welcoming Theatre panel visit the three shortlisted venues
w/c 16 September 2024	Panel meetings - Theatre, Dance, Opera and Off Stage Panels
w/c 26 September 2024	Shortlisted nominations announced for UK Theatre Awards 2024
20 October 2024	UK Theatre Awards 2024