



**Audie
Awards**

Audio Publishers Association

**2017
CALL FOR ENTRIES**

The annual awards competition recognizing excellence in audio publishing



The Audies®, sponsored by the Audio Publishers Association (APA), is the premier awards program in the United States recognizing distinction in audiobooks and spoken-word entertainment. Through the Audie Awards competition, publishers enter titles in various categories for recognition of achievement. Finalists are selected, and from that group of finalists one winner is awarded. Finalists will be notified in February 2017 and showcased on the APA website, to the press, and in APA materials. Winners will be recognized at the exciting Audies Gala in New York City on June 1, 2017.

**On behalf of the Audio Publishers Association Board,
we invite you to join us in this celebration of the spoken word!**

Linda Lee
President

Janet Benson and Mary Burkey
Audies Competition Co-Chairs

Qualifying audiobooks are defined here as sound recordings containing at least 51 percent spoken word content and available for sale in the United States as compact discs and/or in digital format.

Audiobooks need not be derived from or based on a printed book.

CHANGES TO THE 2017 AUDIES

Categories have changed in the past two years; please read the category list carefully. Submissions for **Audiobook of the Year** no longer require a binder; please read the description. We have also added three Industry Awards for Excellence in Design, Marketing, and Production. Submissions for these three categories all require a document explaining what is unique or special about this title. These awards will be given at the Audio Publishers Association Conference on May 31st, and acknowledged at the Audies Gala the following night.



Audio Publishers Association

ENTRY DEADLINES

August 26, 2016—includes all titles issued from November 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016.
October 21, 2016—includes all titles issued from August 1, 2016 through October 31, 2016.

QUESTIONS?

Please e-mail: audies@audiopub.org

CATEGORIES

1 FICTION: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a fiction audiobook. **This category is for those titles that do not fit into the more specific fiction categories 2-10 below.**

2 LITERARY FICTION & CLASSICS: For excellence in narration, production, and content of an audiobook of literary fiction or a classic.

3 MYSTERY: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a mystery audiobook, usually featuring a protagonist trying to solve a crime, such as murder, committed early in the story.

4 THRILLER/SUSPENSE: For excellence in narration, direction, engineering, and mix of a thriller/suspense audiobook, usually featuring a protagonist racing to stop a catastrophe.

5 SCIENCE FICTION: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a science fiction audiobook, involving an alternate reality based on possible science (however far-fetched).

6 FANTASY: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a fantasy audiobook, involving a world of magic and fantastical creatures brought to life. For example, the story may contain wands, flying brooms, wizards, witches, fairies, etc.

7 PARANORMAL: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a paranormal audiobook, involving zombies, werewolves, ghosts, vampires, demons, the undead, and/or other improbably humanoid monstrosities.

8 ROMANCE: For excellence in narration, production, and content of an audiobook of romance, including romantic suspense, historical romance, and other subgenres (except paranormal romances which are better served under Paranormal).

9 EROTICA: For excellence in narration, production, and content of an erotic audiobook. Any titles with erotic content are best served in this category.

10 INSPIRATIONAL/FAITH-BASED FICTION: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a faith-based fiction audiobook.

11 NON-FICTION: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a non-fiction audiobook. **This category is for those titles that do not fit into the specific non-fiction categories 12-15 below.**

12 HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a historical or biographical audiobook (these two seemingly disparate categories are combined in that a biography is an account or history of a person's life).

13 AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a biography or memoir. Both of these are an author's account of their own life, whether in a straightforward manner (autobiography) or as a literary story drawn from the events in a person's life (memoir).

14 BUSINESS/PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a personal development/motivational audiobook on topics such as personal motivation, emotional/psychological enrichment, self-improvement (not related to employment), and interpersonal relationships.

15 INSPIRATIONAL/FAITH-BASED NON-FICTION: For excellence in narration, production, and content of an inspirational or faith-based non-fiction audiobook.

16 HUMOR: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a humorous audiobook.

17 SHORT STORIES/COLLECTIONS: For excellence in narration, production, and content of an audiobook that consists of stories, essays, anecdotes, or other short prose or poetry elements.

18 ORIGINAL WORK: For excellence in narration, production, and content of an audiobook that is not based on a print work or recording produced for another medium.

19 YOUNG LISTENERS: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a children's audiobook for ages up to 8. Audiobooks accompanied by a book are accepted in this category.

20 MIDDLE GRADE: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a children's audiobook intended for middle readers, ages 8-12.

21 YOUNG ADULT: For excellence in narration, production, and content of a Young Adult audiobook.

22 BEST FEMALE NARRATOR: For excellence in the solo reading of an audiobook by a female, any category.

23 BEST MALE NARRATOR: For excellence in the solo reading of an audiobook by a male, any category.

24 NARRATION BY THE AUTHOR or AUTHORS: For excellence in the reading of an audiobook by the author or authors of that audiobook, any category.

25 MULTI-VOICED PERFORMANCE: For excellence in a multi-voiced performance of an audiobook, which includes multiple readers with little to no interaction.

26 AUDIO DRAMA: For excellence in a dramatic audio performance that includes actors portraying one or more fully voiced characters and uses interaction and dialogue as key elements. This may be augmented by sound effects and music.

27 AUDIOBOOK OF THE YEAR: This award recognizes a title with high-quality content and production values that stands as a benchmark of excellence for the industry. Additional items weighed by the jury include success of marketing and publicity, visibility, impact, commercial success, and recruitment of new listeners to the format. The Audiobook of the Year should serve as a worthy ambassador to new and current listeners, and be a paragon of the audiobook art. Each publisher may submit up to three titles total. **The jury will choose a shortlist from all entries and request further information** (see Audiobook of the Year shortlist form sample for information to be collected later).

Industry Awards (to be awarded at APAC)

28 EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN: For excellence in product design whether it be for packaging or display art. Criteria for judging this category include graphic design, showcasing of images, and more. Submissions may be digital or physical art, and must include a 1-page PDF or Word doc explaining why it's special.

29 EXCELLENCE IN MARKETING: For the promotion campaign that contributed most to generating attention and bringing in new listeners, whether for a single title, series, or initiative. Judges will consider marketing, PR, social media, store placement, author involvement, and advertising, and reward innovation, creativity, and reach. Submission is in the form of a 1-2 page PDF or Word doc describing the campaign with relevant links.

30 EXCELLENCE IN PRODUCTION: For excellence and creativity in all areas of audiobook production. Judges will consider performance, content, innovation and creativity, direction, engineering, and suitability to the audiobook format. Submissions must include a 1-page PDF or Word doc explaining why it's special.

QUESTIONS? Please e-mail: audies@audiopub.org

HOW TO ENTER

Who May Enter? Publishing companies, licensees/distributors, and rights-holding producers of audiobooks released for the first time in the United States during the period from November 1, 2015, to October 31, 2016. Qualifying audiobooks contain at least 51 percent spoken word content and are available for sale in the United States as CDs and/or in digital format. An audiobook need not be derived from or based on a printed book.

What Are the Entry Fees?

APA Members—\$100.

Non-Members—\$200.

If you wish to learn more about APA membership, please email info@audiopub.org or visit www.audiopub.org. **If you submit titles for the August 26 deadline after August 26, each entry entered after that date is subject to a \$50 late fee.**

What Are the Entry/Shipping Deadlines?

All submissions of titles released between November 1, 2015, and July 31, 2016, must be received no later than August 26, 2016. The deadline to enter titles released between August 1, 2016, and October 31, 2016, is October 21, 2016. **Titles entered after deadlines may be ineligible to compete AND are subject to a \$50 late fee per entry.**

Submission Process

DIGITAL SUBMISSION

The majority of categories for the 2017 Audies Competition will be managed digitally with continued appreciation to Audible.com for their support of this initiative. (Publishers whose titles do not appear on Audible.com must submit physical audiobooks).

For digital submissions, complete the online entry form. You must login to your member account or create an apa guest account. There is an option to import your entries; use the template provided. Double-check two things: 1) that your title is available on Audible.com; and 2) that you have chosen the appropriate category for your title.

Please fill out your credit card billing information online or send a check made payable to APA for the total amount of entry fees. That's it on your end! APA staff will then make a download of this title available to each judge in your category via Audible.com.

What if my title is NOT available on Audible.com?

If you are submitting a title that is not available on Audible.com, please submit your titles as CDs, regardless of the category (see below).

QUESTIONS? Please e-mail: audies@audiopub.org

ELIGIBILITY AND RULES

1 All entries into the The Audies 2017 awards competition must carry a release date between November 1, 2015 and October 31, 2016. "Release date" is defined as the date the title was first made available for sale to the public in the United States. Titles reissued in a new format are not eligible, unless the "first release date" is within the qualifying period. Collections of previously released materials are eligible if the "first release date" of the new collection is within the qualifying period. Publishing companies may be asked to submit documentation supporting the release dates of the titles they nominate. The date the product was released for sale must be submitted on the online form.

2 Entries must be submitted by the rights-holder, whether that be the publisher, a licensee/distributor, or the producer. The same title may not be submitted by more than one company.

3 Entries will be screened by a committee for eligibility, including release date and completeness of the online form. It is the responsibility of the submitter to determine and select the appropriate category. However, the committee reserves the right to move the entries to appropriate categories or dismiss inappropriate submissions. In the event a submission is disqualified the entry fee will be returned to the publishing company.

4 The judges' decisions are final.

5 Up to five finalists – except in case of a tie – will be selected for each category from all entry submissions and announced in February 2017.

6 Winners will be announced and awards will be distributed to a representative of the publishing company that submits the title during the Audies Gala, June 1, 2017, in New York City. There are three exceptions to this: the new Industry Awards (Excellence in Design, Excellence in Marketing, and Excellence in Production) will be awarded at the Audio Publishers Association Conference on May 31, 2017, in New York City.

7 At least six entries must be submitted in a category or the category may be canceled or combined. If a category is canceled, entry fees will be refunded, or entries will be reassigned to other categories with permission of the publishers.

CD SUBMISSION PROCESS

To be used only if you are submitting a title that is not available on Audible.com. All submissions become the property of the Audio Publishers Association and will not be returned to you.

Complete the online entry form, and select "physical audio" as the format. Double-check that you have chosen the correct category.

Indicate your credit card billing information on the online form or send a check payable to APA for the total amount of entry fees with your CDs. Checks may be mailed to The Audio Publishers Association, 100 N. 20th Street, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

What to Send

Please submit ten (10) copies of each title for the initial category entered. If you are entering the same title in multiple categories, submit eight (8) additional copies for each additional category. Example: If you enter the same title in Fantasy and Audio Drama, a total of eighteen (18) copies will be needed.

Where to Send Them

CD entries should be shipped via a trackable shipping service. Please include the email that you receive after you submit your online form. Please send to:

The Audio Publishers Association Audie Awards
100 N. 20th Street, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19103.