



**Audie  
Awards**

Audio Publishers Association

## Recognizing Excellence in Audio Publishing

The Audie Awards<sup>®</sup>, sponsored by the Audio Publishers Association (APA), is the premier awards program in the United States recognizing distinction in audiobooks and spoken-word entertainment.

Publishers and rights holders enter titles in various categories for recognition of achievement. Finalists are selected, and from that group one winner is awarded.

Finalists will be notified in January 2020 and showcased on the APA website, to the press, and in APA materials. Winners will be announced at the Audies Gala – on March 2, 2020, in NYC.

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

**Ana Maria Alessi**  
APA President

**Mary Burkey**  
Audies Competition Chair

### **WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2020 AUDIES**

- 1.** The Audies Gala will not be held concurrent with BookExpo, but rather earlier, on March 2, in New York City.
- 2.** Titles may only be submitted in one category, with the exception of narrator categories (Best Female, Best Male, Narration by Author, or Multi-Voice Presentation) and for Audiobook of the Year.
- 3.** A publisher or rights holder may only submit 4 titles per category per APA membership (or per entity for non-members).  
Category I Member Publishers may submit 5 titles per category.
- 4.** Audiobook of the Year submissions must include a Supplemental form (due no later than 10/31/19), which will aid the judges in selecting finalists.  
The winner will be chosen by a celebrity panel of authors.

#### **ENTRY DEADLINES**

**July 15, 2019** – includes all titles issued from November 1, 2018, through August 31, 2019.

**October 2, 2019** – includes all titles issued from September 1, 2019, through October 31, 2019.

**QUESTIONS?** Please e-mail: [info@audiopub.org](mailto:info@audiopub.org)



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# CATEGORIES

- 1 FICTION:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a fiction audiobook. This category is for titles that do not fit into specific fiction categories 2-7.
- 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, production, and content of a thriller/suspense audiobook, usually featuring a hero 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 or paranormal audiobook, involving a world of magic and fantastical creatures brought to life. For example, the story may contain fairies, wizards, vampires, zombies, ghosts, werewolves, etc.
- 7 ROMANCE:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of an audiobook of romance, including romantic suspense, historical romance, erotica, etc.
- 8 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 9-11 below.
- 9 HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a historical or biographical audiobook (these two categories are combined since a biography is an account or history of a person's life).
- 10 AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of an autobiography or a memoir. Both of these are an author's account of their own life, whether straightforward (autobiography) or as a literary story drawn from the person's life (memoir).
- 11 BUSINESS/PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a personal development or motivational audiobook.
- 12 FAITH-BASED FICTION OR NON-FICTION:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a spiritual or faith-based audiobook.
- 13 HUMOR:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a humorous audiobook.
- 14 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.
- 15 ORIGINAL WORK:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of an audiobook that is not based on a print work.
- 16 YOUNG LISTENERS:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a children's audiobook for ages up to 8, including audiobook+book sets.
- 17 MIDDLE GRADE:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a children's audiobook intended for middle readers, ages 8-12.
- 18 YOUNG ADULT:** For excellence in narration, production, and content of a teen audiobook, ages 13-18.
- 19 BEST FEMALE NARRATOR:** For excellence in the solo reading of an audiobook by a female, any category.
- 20 BEST MALE NARRATOR:** For excellence in the solo reading of an audiobook by a male, any category.
- 21 NARRATION BY THE AUTHOR(S):** For excellence in the reading of an audiobook by the author or authors of that audiobook, any category.
- 22 MULTI-VOICED PERFORMANCE:** For excellence in a multi-voiced performance of an audiobook, which includes multiple readers with little to no interaction, any category.
- 23 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.
- 24 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. The Audiobook of the Year should serve as a worthy ambassador to new and current listeners, and be a paragon of the audiobook art. Additional items considered by the jury include success of marketing and publicity, visibility, impact, commercial success, and recruitment of new listeners to the format. Submission must include an Audiobook of the Year Supplemental form (**due no later than 10/31/19**), which will aid the judges in determining finalists. The winner will be chosen by a celebrity panel of authors.

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# 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, 2018, to October 31, 2019. Qualifying audiobooks contain at least 51 percent spoken word content and are available for sale in the U.S. as CDs and/or in digital format. An audiobook need not be 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](mailto:info@audiopub.org) or visit [www.audiopub.org](http://www.audiopub.org).

## What Are the Entry/Shipping Deadlines?

All submissions of titles released between November 1, 2018, and August 31, 2019, must be received no later than July 15, 2019.

**Titles from this period entered after July 15 may be ineligible to compete AND may be subject to a \$50 late fee per entry.**

The deadline to enter titles released between September 1, 2019, and October 31, 2019, is October 2, 2019. **Titles from this period entered after October 2 may be ineligible to compete AND are subject to a \$50 late fee per entry.**

## DIGITAL SUBMISSION

The majority of categories for the 2020 Audies Competition will be managed digitally with continued appreciation to Audible.com. (Publishers whose titles are not on Audible must submit physical audiobooks in either the CD format or on a USB drive).

Digital submission is a two-step process: first pay for your entries online; and second submit the entry form via email. You must be signed into [audiopub.org](http://audiopub.org) as a member to receive member pricing. Non-members may pay as guests. Before emailing your entry form, 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. If your title is not available on Audible at the time of your submission, please indicate the expected release date on your entry form. The Audies team will contact you to confirm that your submission was received.

If you need to pay by check, please email [info@audiopub.org](mailto:info@audiopub.org).

That's it on your end! APA staff will then make a download of your entries 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 or USB drives, regardless of the category (see below).*

## ELIGIBILITY AND RULES

**1** All entries into the 2020 Audie Awards competition must carry a release date between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2019. "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 their nominated titles. The release date 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** Titles may only be submitted in one category, with the exception of narrator categories (Best Female, Best Male, Narration by Author, or Multi-Voice Presentation) and Audiobook of the Year.

**4** A publisher or rights holder may only submit 4 titles per category per APA membership (or per entry for non-members). Note: Category 1 Member Publishers may submit 5 titles per category per APA membership.

**5** 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.

**6** Up to five (or six in case of a tie) finalists will be selected for each category from all submissions and announced in January 2020.

**7** Winners will be announced and awards will be distributed to a representative of the publishing company that submits the title during the Audies Gala, March 2, 2020, in New York City.

**8** 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 AND USB DRIVE 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 entry form, and select "physical audio" as the format. Double-check that you have chosen the correct category.

Please fill out your credit card billing information online. If you need to pay by check, please email [info@audiopub.org](mailto:info@audiopub.org).

## What to Send

Submit ten (10) copies of each title for the initial category entered. If you are entering the same title in another category, submit eight (8) additional copies. Example: If you enter the same title in Fantasy and Narration by Author, a total of eighteen (18) copies will be needed.

## Where to Send Them

CD and USB drive entries should be shipped via a trackable service to:  
The Audio Publishers Association Audie Awards  
333 Hudson Street Suite 503, New York, NY 10013.

**QUESTIONS? Please e-mail: [info@audiopub.org](mailto:info@audiopub.org)**