

MUSIC AND FILM IN MOTION

Music and Film in Motion (MFM), a division of the not-for-profit organization Cultural Industries Ontario North (CION), is dedicated to fostering and promoting the music and film industries in Northern Ontario, as well as providing educational programming to cultivate the advancement of Northern Ontario's emerging talent. MFM works within the boundaries of Northern Ontario, which includes a population of approximately 760,000 people. MFM strives to connect music and film artists and practitioners with opportunities and resources to advance their projects and their careers. MFM's ongoing advocacy for Northern Ontario music and film production output is carried out with the primary objective of contributing to the further development of Northern Ontario's thriving cultural industries.

MFM will continue to advance the development and promotion of Northern Ontario's digital/film media and music industries, to attract investment in film and television industry projects and create new revenue opportunities for Northern Ontario communities, artists and production professionals.

THE NORTHERN ONTARIO MUSIC AND FILM AWARDS

May 23, 2019 will mark the third edition of NOMFA to be held on a biennial basis. In 2008, MFM launched the conference component in conjunction with the awards programming to help facilitate growth in the music, film, and television industries in Northern Ontario. Mentors and panelists are brought in to provide guidance and insight into the inner workings of each sector; many working relationships have been established through connections made at NOMFA.

THE AWARDS - WHY SHOULD YOU ENTER?

Artists deserve recognition for the hard work they put into the music and films they create. Why not celebrate your hard work with the peers of your industry and region? Nominees will receive passes, providing opportunities to network and make contacts within the music and film communities. If nominated, you will have your work showcased (live music showcases & film screenings), have opportunities to pitch for funding for your next project, and/or meet someone who will help you take your career to the next level.

NOMFA – WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

Even if you don't plan to submit to NOMFA, you should still plan on attending the various showcases, workshops and panel sessions. In addition to the many opportunities that await you personally, your participation adds to the growth, development and success of music and film in the North. This is our opportunity to not only celebrate our talents together, but also show the music and film communities at large the wealth of talent to be found here in Northern Ontario.

ENTRY DEADLINES

All entries must be received by 5 p.m. on January 11, 2019.

CONTACT

For any questions or for more information, contact MFM at info@cionorth.ca or 705-885-9889, or visit the website at cionorth.ca/nomfa.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

The entrant must be one of the following:

1. A person who has lived in Northern Ontario for the consecutive twenty-four (24) month period between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018.
2. A person who was a resident of Northern Ontario for a period of at least ten (10) consecutive years.

For bands or collaborations, at least 50% of the individuals must meet the above residency requirements, unless the category they are entering indicates otherwise. Record producers, music video directors and actors are exempt from residency requirements.

Northern Ontario, as defined for the purposes of the Awards Program, comprises the territorial districts of Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Nipissing, Parry Sound, Rainy River, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Temiskaming and the District Municipality of Muskoka.



MUSIC AWARD CATEGORIES

BEST ALBUM

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: quality of music, lyrical content (if applicable), vocal performance, musicianship, originality, production, strength of the overall project, and arrangements. This award is presented to the duo/group. A minimum of 50% of a duo or group must meet the residency requirements in order to qualify.

A separate category will be considered if we receive a sufficient number of French-language submissions.

A separate category will be considered if we receive a sufficient number of Indigenous, Métis and Inuit-identified submissions.

BEST ENGINEER

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: quality of production, sonic impact, psychoacoustics, and good use of creative and technical aspects of audio. This award recognizes excellence in the field of audio engineering for studio recordings. The award goes to the individual engineer. The individual engineer must meet residency requirements, but the artist does not. Submissions must include a total of three (3) song selections drawn from ONE (1) project completed during the Eligibility Period.

BEST SONGWRITER

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: song structure, melody, quality of the music, lyrical content, originality, and overall impression. The song submitted must have been released on record during the Eligibility Period. Single releases, or single tracks from multi-track/multi-artist compilations of new material are eligible. This award will only honour the Northern Ontario songwriter(s) and collaborator(s) who meet the residency requirements.

BEST VOCAL PERFORMANCE ON A RECORDING

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: pitch (intonation), clarity (heard/understood), tone, dynamics, lead vocal quality, performance/delivery of lead vocal, and overall impression. This award is for vocal performance only. The song submitted must have been released on record during the Eligibility Period. Single releases, or single tracks from multi-track/multi-artist compilations of new material are eligible. This award will only honour the Northern Ontario vocalist(s) and collaborator(s) who meet the residency requirements.

BEST VIDEO BY A NORTHERN ONTARIO MUSICAL ACT

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: overall concept, technical execution, originality and suitability for the music. The video submitted must have been released on a recognized 3rd party platform (Vimeo, YouTube, etc.) or have been broadcast on television during the Eligibility Period. A minimum of 50% of a duo or group must meet the residency requirements in order to qualify. The director of the video does not need to meet the residency requirements. This award will be presented to the musical act.

FILM/TV AWARD CATEGORIES

BEST FEATURE FILM

Submissions will be assessed based on the following criteria: emotional conveyance, characters and casting, screenplay, cinematography, editing, directing, overall story and impression. Submissions to this category must be over 70 minutes in duration. All genres of film (documentary, animated or live action) are accepted. At least 50% of the film must have been shot in Northern Ontario to be eligible for consideration, and the film must have screened to a public audience during the Eligibility Period.

BEST SHORT/MID-LENGTH FILM

Submissions will be assessed based on the following criteria: emotional conveyance, characters and casting, screenplay, cinematography, editing, directing, overall story and impression. Submissions to this category must be 1 to 69 minutes in duration and may fit any one of the following genres: drama, comedy, experimental, animation, sci-fi, horror or documentary. All short films must have been screened to a public audience during the Eligibility Period. At least 50% of the film must have been shot in Northern Ontario, and the film's director must meet the residency eligibility requirements.

BEST TELEVISION OR VOD (VIDEO ON DEMAND) SERIES

Submissions will be assessed based on the following criteria: emotional conveyance, characters and casting, screenplay, cinematography, editing, directing, overall story and impression. Submissions to this category must be for a series with a minimum of 3 broadcast episodes of at least 11 minutes in duration, each having been broadcast on a recognized television channel or service during the Eligibility Period. All genres of television (drama, comedy, animation, horror, etc.) are accepted. At least 50% of the series must have been shot in Northern Ontario.

BEST DIRECTOR

Submissions will be assessed based on the following criteria: emotional conveyance, overall vision, cast performances, technical ability, and overall impression. Projects of all lengths are eligible. The director must meet residency requirements. The award goes to the individual.

BEST SCREENWRITER

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: plot, dialogue, pacing and rhythm, format and structure, overall story and impression, emotional conveyance and character development. The screenplay must have been completed during the Eligibility Period. Screenplays must be complete and conform to industry standard. The award will only honour the screenwriter(s) and collaborator(s) who meet the Northern Ontario residency requirements.

BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTOR IN A NORTHERN ONTARIO PRODUCTION

Submissions will be assessed on the following criteria: character development, physicality, character interaction with other cast members, suitability for the role and overall impression. All lengths, categories and genres of film are eligible. At least 50% of the film must have been shot in Northern Ontario. The award goes to the individual. The actor does not need to meet the residency requirements.

SUBMISSIONS

All entries must meet eligibility criteria. Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted.

Each eligible entry will be considered for selection as one of the final nominees in each category. The entries will be reviewed by MFM in order to verify completeness and eligibility.

ENTRY FEES

An entry fee of \$15 per category, HST included, must accompany all entries. These fees cover administrative and handling costs for the entries. Multiple entries require a payment for each entry.

All fees are non-refundable, even if the entrant is disqualified or not chosen as a nominee.

JURY SELECTION

The eligible entries of each category will be judged by a panel of jurors who are representative of the diversity of the music and film industries. Jurors will be selected for their demonstrated expertise and knowledge of the industry and of the categories being judged. Jurors who are deemed by MFM to have a conflict of interest for any entry will not be involved in the judgment of that entry, but will count as one of the members of the jury. No MFM board or staff member shall sit as a juror, submit or be submitted for an award, or affect the decision making of the juries. Jurors are not permitted to submit entries to the awards or to have submissions made on their behalf. The names of jurors will be kept confidential until published in the NOMFA event listings. Jurors' decisions will be based on criteria specific to each category in terms of originality, form, content, and technical execution. Decisions of the jury are final and are not open to appeal. All nominees will be contacted by mail, phone or e-mail during the month of March 2019. Nominee information will be posted on the MFM website and announced to the public by means of a media release. The winners in each category will be announced at the awards ceremony to be held in Sudbury on Saturday, May 25, 2019.

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD

MUSIC: Unless otherwise stated in the category description, all music category entries must have been released to commercial radio and/or retail during the period from January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018 inclusively (the "Eligibility Period"). Retail includes anywhere music is available for sale, i.e. live performances, mail order, retail stores, online, etc. Entries must include proof of the date of release, which may be in the form of a letter from a record company or distributor, press releases, reviews, proof of delivery to radio or retail, etc.

FILM/TV: All projects in each category submitted **must** have been premiered or screened to a public audience (minimum of 1 screening) or on a recognized broadcaster during the period from January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018 inclusively (the "Eligibility Period"). Each submission must be accompanied by a letter from a programmer/representative of a recognized festival or event, or from a recognized exhibitor or broadcaster confirming the date(s) and location(s) of the screening.

FORMATS

MUSIC: Only full-length sound recordings will be considered for the Best Album categories (see individual categories for specific stipulations). A full-length sound recording is defined as a recording that contains a minimum of five (5) tracks, or, alternatively, is a minimum of thirty (30) minutes long. All full-length recordings require 80% original content by the artist or group entrant. However, in genres that rely heavily on repertoire (for example: Jazz, Blues, Roots & Traditional, Classical), an exception may be made on a case-by-case basis. Any entries of single tracks or individual compilation tracks must be original by the artist or group as applicable.

FILM/TV: All lengths, categories and genres of film/TV will be accepted, unless otherwise indicated in the specific award category. Short, feature length and individual episodic screenplays will be accepted for the Best Screenwriter category. Screenplays must be complete and formatted to industry standards in order to be eligible.

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

MUSIC: Music recordings must fulfill all applicable legal obligations (i.e. licences and copyright, songwriters properly credited, mechanical licences have been paid, etc.).

FILM/TV: Film and TV productions must fulfill all applicable legal obligations (i.e. licences and copyright, writers properly credited, etc.).

AUTHORIZATION – WHO CAN SIGN?

Persons signing the authorization form must own or have licences to all copyright for the material submitted, or be authorized in writing by the owner to submit, and have the authority to execute said authorization.

LANGUAGE QUALIFICATIONS

All languages are accepted, unless otherwise stated in the category description. However, if submitted in a language other than English in any category but Best Francophone Album, the inclusion of lyrics, subtitles or transcripts in English or French are required.

SUBMISSION RESTRICTIONS

More than one project can be submitted to a single category, or a single project can be submitted to more than one category, so long as each project meets the eligibility criteria for that category.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All materials submitted become the property of MFM and may be used for the promotion of the Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards Program in any media throughout the world.
- Artists retain copyright for all aspects of their work.
- Proof of residency may be requested.
- The Cultural Industries Ontario North Board of Directors, and Music and Film in Motion Officers, and Staff, together with its Jurors and Auditing firm will endeavour to carry out the Northern Ontario Music and Film Awards Program in the manner stated, but shall not be responsible for any irregularities in carrying out the said program or any losses or damages suffered by anyone as a result of their endeavour to carry out the said program in the manner stated or any variation thereof.
- Although the Management and Staff of Music and Film in Motion will endeavour to maintain the program as herein set out, they reserve the right to vary the program as they deem appropriate in their opinion.
- **Rules and regulations are deemed to be accepted by the participating party upon entering this contest.**

NOMFA recognizes the support of:

