

## Submissions Pack

The Stage Awards celebrates excellence in British theatre. We're looking to recognise and champion the best theatre organisations, initiatives and individuals and celebrate fantastic work that has been made in the past year.

### CATEGORIES

The Stage Awards recognises the following categories:

- **Theatre of the Year**
- **Fringe Theatre of the Year**
- **Producer of the Year**
- **Theatre Building of the Year**
- **Innovation Award**
- **International Award**
- **Digital Project of the Year**
- **Community Project of the Year**
- **Unsung Hero**

### WHO CAN ENTER?

The Stage Awards is keen to recognise organisations large and small from all across the UK. Subscribers to The Stage are invited to put forward their organisation (or another organisation they admire) for consideration.

There is no additional fee to enter an organisation or individual for The Stage Awards but you must be a subscriber. If you are not already a subscriber you can take out an individual subscription [here](#). Alternatively, get access for your entire organisation for a whole year for the discounted price of **£500** by contacting [subscriptions@thestage.co.uk](mailto:subscriptions@thestage.co.uk).

The Stage's judging panel will consider all submissions entered before the submission deadline on **November 19**.

Industry experts will input into the judging process. A judging panel will review all entries and will also be free to put forward additional organisations for consideration and to recognise any/all theatre and performing arts organisations.

### WHAT IS REQUIRED TO MAKE AN ENTRY?

You'll be asked to provide the following information

- Primary contact detail
- Organisation logo
- Organisation social handles
- Website details
- Production/ venue photos
- In a maximum of 500 words tell us why your organisation should be considered for The Stage Award.

## WHAT ARE THE JUDGES LOOKING FOR?

Although short, you should read the success criteria for each award very closely and ensure that you cover what is required.

The 2024 awards will focus on work that has taken place between December 2022 and November 2023.

Judges will consider a variety of factors. Ensure your submission covers **at least one** (and ideally several) of the following areas:

- artistic excellence
- financial resilience
- innovative business practices
- employment/workforce conditions

When telling us why you are submitting an organisation/individual, you should use evidence such as detailed figures, quotes, reviews and statistics to back up your submission.

Submissions will be **significantly strengthened** by supplying empirical data to back up your assertions.

You can provide up to three pieces of supporting evidence to accompany your submission including financial documents, audience numbers, plans, people engaged/employed, box office results or photos.

## WHEN DOES THE SUBMISSIONS PROCESS CLOSE?

Submissions close on **November 19** at midnight.

## CATEGORY SPECIFIC CRITERIA

### Theatre of the Year

Any building-based performing arts organisation, commercial or not-for-profit, in the UK is eligible. Any theatres eligible for the

Fringe Theatre of the Year category are encouraged to put themselves forward for consideration in that category.

### Fringe Theatre of the Year

Small-scale theatres across the UK that do not receive regular core government funding are eligible.

### **Producer of the Year**

Any producer or production company – of any scale, not-for-profit or commercial – is eligible. Touring companies and resident companies are eligible for this award.

Producing theatre buildings are not eligible for this award (but are for Theatre of the Year) unless the work is principally taking place away from their home theatre.

### **Theatre Building of the Year**

Theatre venues, or any physical structure or space hosting theatrical performance, are eligible for this award. The building or space must have launched (or relaunched) within the past 12 months. Judges will also consider existing buildings that have undergone significant adaptations or refurbishments within the past 12 months.

### **International Award**

UK companies (or individuals) presenting work internationally and international companies (or individuals) presenting work in the UK are both eligible for this category.

### **Digital Project of the Year**

Any projects using digital platforms to present theatre/ performing arts content are eligible. This could include live or recorded streams of theatre productions on screen, audio work or podcasts. Community, education or outreach work undertaken using digital platforms is also eligible.

### **Unsung Hero**

An individual or team who/which has gone above and beyond the call of duty in its work in the performing arts industry. This could be someone working front of house or as an usher, or someone who has run a theatre club or society for years without public recognition. High profile figures (such as those who feature or have featured previously in The Stage 100) are unlikely to be considered.

### **Innovation Award**

This category celebrates exciting new developments in the performing arts across the past months. These can take any form: previous winners have included charity initiatives, EDI schemes, new programming models and individual productions pushing the boundaries of theatre. Submissions should be for the innovation itself rather than the individual/ company behind the innovation, although it should also give details of who is responsible.

### **Community Project of the Year**

Any theatre or performing arts project with a community focus is eligible. The community does not have to be a geographic community and the project can be in-person or remote/ digital.

## THE STAGE AWARDS PROCESS

### Stage one

From November, we hold an open submissions process. Organisations are able to put themselves, or others, forward for consideration across all the categories.

### Stage two

We ask leading figures from the UK theatre industry, working across the commercial, independent and subsidised sectors for feedback. We also consult senior figures from The Stage's editorial team.

### Stage three

The final judging panel meet to consider all submissions and choose the shortlist and winners. The panel is chaired by The Stage's editor Alistair Smith.

### Stage four

Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in January 2024.

## HOW CAN MY SUBMISSIONS BE USED?

It is a condition of entry that all material submitted as part of your entry can be reproduced by The Stage Media Company at no cost.

**Make your entry via The Stage Awards entry portal:**

<https://www.thestage.co.uk/the-stage-awards-entry>

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any other questions about the awards or submission process please contact:

[grace.lewis@thestage.co.uk](mailto:grace.lewis@thestage.co.uk)