



Jury Guide

2024 Edition

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Overview of the Awards

Welcome to the Awards

Welcome to the 2024 /r/anime Awards, and congratulations on becoming a juror! Between November and March, you will work alongside fellow anime enthusiasts from around the world to decide the best anime of the year for our vibrant subreddit community.

As a juror, your role begins with watching as many eligible anime you like and deciding which ones to shortlist. Then, dive into discussions with your category on Discord to collaboratively select the jury nominations, and once the nominees are set, watch each one (including the public nominations), discuss them, and rank them as a team. Finally, write up the jury's collective thoughts on each nominee for our Awards website.

The details for each step are covered in the following sections - but for now, welcome aboard and let's have some fun!

Rules and Guidelines

All members of the /r/anime Awards must comply with the following 10 rules and guidelines and any violations should be reported immediately to your category host or the [Head of Disciplinary Action](#). Breaches of the Award Rules and discussion etiquette will be assessed using a tiered system similar to soccer's yellow and red cards. Disciplinary actions may range from removal from a category to expulsion or a permanent ban from the Awards.

1. As this event is organized by the r/anime subreddit community, all participants must adhere to the subreddit rules. Please review the rules here: <https://www.reddit.com/r/anime/wiki/rules>.
2. All participants are expected to treat fellow jurors, hosts, moderators, helpers, and guests with respect. There is a zero-tolerance policy for slurs, personal attacks, or discriminatory behavior.
3. All discussion messages must remain respectful and shall not involve belittling, attacking, or addressing others' arguments in bad faith.
4. Jurors bring varied experiences in analyzing anime, so participants should remain open to new perspectives and willing to share and explain technical knowledge, rather than gatekeeping or presenting their views as absolute.
5. Jurors are prohibited from disclosing information about the current status of their category, including within the Awards Discord.

6. Jurors are allowed to disclose their juror status to anyone, but should be mindful that being part of the Awards may lead to increased public scrutiny of their behavior in online spaces.
7. As an Awards representative, ensure that any comments intended for Awards-related threads on the subreddit are reviewed and approved by a host prior to posting.
8. Any juror needing to withdraw from their categories for any reason should inform their host as soon as possible to avoid a potential ban from the awards.
9. Jurors are expected to stay active in their assigned categories. Failure to send a message at least once every seven days will result in a direct message or ping from the category host on Discord. If there is no response within 48 hours, the juror will be removed from the category. Jurors should notify their category host in advance if they anticipate being unable to participate on Discord for an extended period.
10. Depending on severity and precedence of a rule violation, consequences may be escalated to the /r/anime moderators for further action.

Organizational Structure

The /r/anime Awards involve several key roles. Below is a brief overview of each:

- **Jurors:** That's you!
- **Hosts:** These are the support staff who make the Awards possible. Most of your interactions as a juror will be with your category host who is there to facilitate discussions. A full list of other hosts roles can be found in the [Host Roles](#) section.
- **Helpers:** This volunteer group includes hosts, jurors, and non-jurors who assist with various administrative tasks, such as contacting livestream guests and proofreading public-facing write-ups. Feel free to join the helper team at any time!
- **Subreddit Moderators:** Several r/anime subreddit moderators are involved in the social, administrative, and disciplinary aspects of the Awards. Don't forget to say hello to these celebrities!
- **Guests:** External guests will be invited to the livestream towards the end of the Awards. Jurors who wish to represent their category will have an opportunity to discuss the jury's thoughts with these special guests.

Categories

The /r/anime Awards are divided into two main selections: *Main Award Categories* and *Open Award Categories*. Jurors for the Main Award Categories are selected through the jury application process and retain their role for the entire Awards cycle unless they voluntarily step

down or face disciplinary action. In contrast, while jurors for the Open Award Categories are also initially chosen via the jury application, these categories are open to the entire jury pool until nominations have been decided, allowing jurors to choose categories based on their interest. The Main Award Categories will only accept additional jurors up to a potential max of 13 jurors, while the Open Award Categories will close once they reach a capacity of 25 jurors.

These two main divisions encompass all the categories jurors can apply for. Table 1 provides a summary and description of each official category at the start of the Awards, while details on each can be found in the [Categories and Their Specific Guidelines](#) section.

Additionally, new categories can be introduced as *Special Awards*. Jurors and Hosts can suggest and voice their support for Special Awards in a dedicated Discord channel between November 16th and December 1st. These suggestions are subject to host team approval, and any that are negative, derogatory, or inappropriate will not be considered. On December 2nd, a poll will be held for all approved Special Award options, and approximately three will be selected to become part of the Open Award Categories based on juror interest.

Table 1: Summary of Main and Open Award Categories

Main Award Categories			
Description: These categories are joined through the jury application			
Class	Category Name	Host(s)	Description
Main	Anime of the Year	Fircoal Kenalski Lenlo	Best overall series originally released in an episodic structure
	Movie of the Year	Freohr Mathduck	Best stand alone movie, OVA, or ONA with a runtime over 40 minutes
	Short of the Year	Lenlo	Best stand alone project with a runtime between 30 seconds and 40 minutes
	Character of the Year	Fircoal Lemurians	Best overall character from any eligible anime

Open Award Categories			
Description: These categories are joined throughout the Awards cycle			
Class	Category Name	Host(s)	Description
Genre	Best Action	Lenlo	Best overall anime project whose primary or approved genre allocation matches the category
	Best Adventure	Lemurians	
	Best Comedy	Fircoal	

	Best Drama	Fircoal	
	Best Romance	Lemurians	
	Best Slice of Life	Kenalski	
	Best Suspense	Freohr	
Production	Best Animation	AdiMG	Anime projects with the best overall animation
	Best Background Art	AdiMG	Anime projects with the best background art
	Best Character Design	AdiMG Freohr	Anime project with best original or adapted character design
	Best Cinematography	AdiMG	Anime project with best cinematography
	Best Original Soundtrack (OST)	tehoncomingstorm97	Anime project with best soundtrack excluding sound effects and OP/ED
	Best Voice Acting Performance	Kenalski	Voice actor with best performance from an individual anime project
	Best Opening Sequence (OP)	Accipender	Best unique visual and audio from the opening credits of any anime project
	Best Ending Sequence (ED)	Accipender	Best unique visual and audio from the closing credits of any anime project

Anime Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the 2024 /r/anime Awards, an anime must meet the following criteria:

1. **Definition:** The anime must align with /r/anime's definition of what constitutes anime.
2. **Release Dates:** The anime must have concluded its release between January 1st, 2024, and December 31st, 2024. Exceptions will be made for ongoing anime with finales scheduled or delayed to air before the end of Public Nominee Voting on January 12th, 2025. Anime airing beyond this date, such as two-cour Fall seasonal TV series, are ineligible. Additionally, the anime must have acceptable English subtitles available online for the entirety of its release within the dates detailed above. If it does not receive full English subtitles by these dates, its eligibility will transfer to the year it first becomes fully English subtitled and available online. This carryover rule applies only to anime that have released since January 1st, 2016, the birth year of /r/anime Awards, meaning pre-2016

anime receiving completed English subtitles in 2024 would not be eligible in these Awards.

3. **Official Release:** The anime must have an official video release online with readily available English subtitles. These subtitles cannot be machine-translated, though fansubs may be accepted at the host's discretion. Movies are defined by their Blu-ray release unless the film is first made available on official streaming platforms. Camrips and unofficial releases are not eligible. Screen-rips or rips from streams will also not be considered if a Blu-ray release exists, except in the case of OP and ED.

Note that OVAs/ONAs/Specials associated with a larger eligible entry, such as a TV series, will be bundled with that larger entry. For a complete list of eligible entries for 2024, please refer to the Genre Allocation Sheet. If you have any questions, contact the [Eligible Anime & Genre Expert Host](#).

Stage 1: Familiarization & Shortlisting

Overview

The Awards will begin on November 1st when jurors are invited to the Awards Discord. One of their first tasks of the jury is to create a formal shortlist of anime eligible for a category's final nominations. While adding your favorite anime to the shortlist is not required to participate in a category, it is one of the most exciting and impactful jury responsibilities. The shortlisting process is the same for both Main and Open Award juries and generally follows these steps:

1. **Submitting a Shortlist:** A juror submits a shortlist to a category.
2. **Honoring a Shortlist:** The submitter watches other shortlists to validate their own submission.
3. **Watching and Discussing Shortlists:** Other jurors watch and share their thoughts on the submitted shortlist.

Shortlists for any anime containing prerequisites must be submitted by end of day November 25th. Shortlists for anime without prerequisites which have finished airing by November 1st (such as winter, spring and summer seasonals) are due on December 9th, while with later conclusions are due by December 30th. With unanimous agreement from the jury, a shortlist may be added after these dates until January 6th.

From submission until January 13th, jurors will discuss and evaluate the shortlist before voting to finalize the category's nominations (see Stage 2: Nomination for details).

Familiarization and Selecting Open Categories

While the first stage of the Awards focuses on shortlisting, the initial weeks are also a time for exploration and socializing. Upon joining the Awards Discord, jurors will be assigned up to five categories based on their application scores and preferences, with no more than two in the Main Award Categories. However, during the first two weeks, jurors can explore all Open Award Categories, get to know each category's jurors and hosts, and discuss which eligible anime are worth shortlisting. Be on the lookout for host-led icebreakers during this time as well.

On November 16th, Open Category hosts will limit the number of jurors in each Open Category to 25 based on engagement. If more than 25 jurors were involved before this date, then those not selected will be placed on a waitlist. Open Categories with fewer than 25 jurors will remain open to new members through the Shortlisting and Nomination Stages until the cap is reached.

Influencing Categories

Additionally, starting November 16th, the maximum number of categories a juror can participate in will be limited to ten, however, jurors can still contribute to all categories via the Influencing Channel on Discord. In this channel, jurors can create or post in category-specific threads to share shortlisting suggestions for each jury's consideration. Category hosts will routinely check this channel to ensure their juries stay informed of input from the broader jury pool.

Submitting a Shortlist (Maximum of Four)

Each juror can submit a maximum of four shortlists per category, and doing so counts as participation in that category, contributing towards their involvement in up to ten categories.

To submit a shortlist, a juror must provide a brief 50 word pitch in their category Discord channel explaining why the anime is being shortlisted. This explanation can be cross-posted to different categories if they remain relevant. Genre Categories shortlists can be submitted outside of the designated genre with host approval, but an anime can only be nominated in one Genre Category, with the main genre allocation taking priority.

If a shortlist has prerequisites, such as a sequel, the shortlister must provide a condensed list of essential prerequisite episodes for first time viewers. This list is ideally less than 12 episodes.

Additionally, when a juror submits a shortlist, they must commit to watching and discussing other designated shortlists within the same category to honor their submission. This process of watching and discussing other shortlists is called completing *Contracts*.

Honoring a Shortlist (*Contracts*)

The number of required new Contracts per shortlist depends on how many shortlists the juror has submitted so far (see Table 2). Upon submission, the category host will provide a list of

least-watched shortlists, from which the shortlisting juror selects their Contracts. Selecting a shortlist with prerequisites will be equivalent to selecting two Contracts and jurors will receive credit for any anime they have already watched and discussed from the host provided list.

Table 2: Amount of New Contracts Associated With Each Shortlist Submission

Shortlists Submitted	New Contracts Required
First	One
Second	Two
Third	Three
Fourth	Four

Jurors have 30 days from the date of assignment or until January 6th, 2025 (whichever comes first) to complete their Contract. A juror may have up to five uncompleted Contracts per category at any given time and cannot submit additional shortlists until they are fulfilled.

Contract assignments will commence on November 16th, and any shortlists submitted prior to the 16th will be assigned Contracts after this date. Note that jurors can only submit two shortlists per category prior to the 16th to remain under the five uncompleted Contracts rule.

If a juror is unable to complete their Contracts or voluntarily withdraws their shortlist, the corresponding shortlist is temporarily suspended. Another juror may reinstate the shortlist within 48 hours of its suspension by assuming it as one of their four shortlists at subsidized cost of one Contract. After 48 hours, the shortlist must be resubmitted using the standard procedure, however, category hosts may reinstate a shortlist if they deem it appropriate based on category discussions.

Suspended or reinstated shortlists will not count toward the original submitter's maximum of four shortlists, and they will be able to vote on that anime during nominations if they discuss it later during the shortlisting phase.

Watching and Discussing Shortlists

As jurors watch the shortlists, they should update the Shortlist Tracker Google Sheet with their progress (see pinned link in your category's Discord channel).

Jurors are only required to complete the first three episodes of a shortlist to complete the non-prerequisite watch requirements. Prerequisite watch requirements can be met by watching the full prerequisites, the condensed version provided by the shortlister, or the first 12 episodes of the prequel, though discussions may go beyond the latter two options.

After completing an anime's watch requirement, jurors should discuss their thoughts in the shortlist's thread. If the host finds the discussion satisfactory, the juror will be marked as "Done"

on the Shortlist Tracker Sheet. Discussing a shortlist counts towards participation in a category, contributing towards the juror's maximum involvement in up to ten.

Please note in order to vote in the nomination process, jurors must have discussed a minimum of either 5 shortlists or 25% of the category's total shortlists, whichever is greater, at least 48 hours before the nomination vote. It is therefore recommended to engage in discussions early!

Stage 2: Nomination

Overview

Once the shortlisting phase closes on December 30th, the jury will focus on selecting five nominations per category. Between then and January 13th, jurors will discuss and debate the merits of the shortlists they have watched, formulating a score for each anime based on these discussions to submit as a vote. In the end, the five jury selections and the five public selections will together form this year's ten nominees.

Discussing and Voting On Nominations

Discussions initiated during the shortlisting phase will continue into the nomination phase as each juror shares their thoughts on the shortlists they have watched. Hosts will stop marking discussion credits in the Shortlist Tracker Google Sheet on January 11th, 48 hours before the nomination vote, to provide sufficient time for consideration and debate of new comments. Please note jurors must have participated in five or 25% of a category's shortlist (whichever is greater) discussions to vote on nominations.

Meanwhile between January 3rd and 12th, the subreddit will vote on five public nominations per category, and results will be shared with the jury by January 13th. Any jury shortlists that overlap with a public nomination will be removed from the shortlist pool, but discussions of these anime should continue as they will still need to be ranked in the next stage.

On January 13th, the jury will finalize its five nominations. Categories can either reach a group consensus (with all jurors notifying their host by January 13th) or proceed with a formal vote. In the latter case, jurors are asked to submit a list of shortlists which they have received discussion credit for to their category host through private message, along with a unique score out of 100 for each anime. Any scores given in bad faith, such as giving multiple anime scores between 0 and 1 to unfairly lower their overall ranking, will be discarded. Furthermore, the voting algorithm and input variables will remain confidential to prevent tactical voting and manipulation.

If applicable, the voting results will be revealed to the jury on January 14th. If an anime is nominated in multiple Genre categories without being nominated in its main genre, then the Eligible Anime & Genre Expert Hosts and Category Hosts will decide the show's single genre nomination, and the non-selected categories will use their sixth-place finisher as a nomination.

Stage 3: Ranking Discussion & Vote

Overview

The ten nominations, split evenly between the jury and the public, will be revealed on January 14th. From this date until February 10th, jurors will watch, discuss, and rank the nominees, while the subreddit determines the public ranking through a popular vote. The Production Categories will also use this time to select any Honorable Mentions. The outcome of the two rankings from this phase will be displayed on the Awards website.

Selecting Final Category Participation

On January 14th, the maximum juror participation will be reduced from ten to five categories. Those involved in more than five categories during the Nomination Stage will be contacted by a host to rank their interest in remaining in each category by January 16th. In most cases, jurors will remain in their top five categories.

Discussing and Voting On Final Rankings

Jurors begin the Ranking Discussion & Vote Stage by watching all ten nominations in full by February 3rd and submitting a short 150-200 word personal write-up on each anime, uploaded to the Google Drive folder provided by the category host (see the pinned link in your category's Discord channel). These write-ups should be concise and informative - bullet points are acceptable, must be in alphabetical order, and should not include rankings or scores. Failure to complete these write-ups will result in disqualification from voting in the final ranking.

Once the personal write-ups are submitted, jurors should review each other's documents and engage in discussion. It's recommended for jurors to share groupings of comparable anime, indicating where they are open to adjusting rankings. This helps facilitate productive discussion for adjusting tiers of rankings (e.g., your third to fifth choices), and avoids unproductive discussions about switching your favorite and lowest-ranked anime.

For Production Categories besides OP and ED, this is also the time to discuss Honorable Mentions which may include notable scenes, episodes, or shorts that were not covered by the nominations.

Final discussions will conclude on February 10th. Similar to the nomination stage, jurors will either agree on a final ranking through group consensus (informing the category host by February 10th) or initiate a vote. In the latter case, jurors are asked to submit a ranked list of the ten nominations via private message to the category host on February 10th. The final ranking algorithm will remain confidential.

Final jury rankings will be revealed by February 11th. Refrain from discussing results outside your category before the official Livestream, as this violates the [Awards Rules and Guidelines](#).

Stage 4: Jury Write-ups & Interviews

Once the nomination rankings are finalized, the jury's final task is to provide a 200-250 word write-up on each nominee for the website. The category host will assign jurors to each nomination based on preference, and those jurors will be responsible for drafting the jury write-up. There is an additional write-up called "State of the Category" which is an introduction to the category scope, its discussion process, and its nominations.

These write-ups should reflect the collective opinion of the jury, not just your personal views, so it's recommended to reference the personal write-ups when drafting. The tone of the write-up should be professional, engaged with the material, and generally positive. Please refer to the Proofreading Guide for guidance and examples.

First drafts of write-ups are due by February 23rd and will be proofread by helpers before publication (jurors are encouraged to apply to become proofreaders!). It's strongly recommended to submit write-ups early to allow ample time for review and to be available for any feedback. Category Hosts will submit final drafts to the Website Hosts by February 28th.

During this time the category host will also seek out a volunteer from each category to participate in a prerecorded Livestream segment, where they will discuss the jury rankings with the Special Guests and/or Livestream Moderator. This will be recorded between February 13th and February 20th (jurors with video and audio editing skills are encouraged to apply as Livestream helpers!)

Jurors that do not submit their assigned jury write-ups will receive a one-year ban from the Awards.

Stage 5: Livestream

The Livestream will air on March 1st on Twitch, while the full interviews will be posted online within a few days. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the culmination of these past months with your fellow jurors!

Categories and Their Specific Guidelines

The following section details the initial categories for the 2024 r/anime Awards, organized by their judging criteria. Each category is overseen by one or more hosts, who are responsible for facilitating discussion, maintaining a positive environment, and generally preventing anarchy. If you have any questions about a category, feel free to reach out to the responsible host(s).

Genre Awards - Open Categories

Categories in this group aim to recognize the best anime of the year within specific genre eligibilities. These categories are designed to showcase the diversity of anime and give recognition to shows that may not be represented in the Main Awards. As such, each genre category judges overall quality, rather than how well a show aligns with the genre's norms and expectations.

Each eligible anime is assigned a primary genre designation through the Genre Allocation Sheet. Shows can be shortlisted for genre categories outside of this designation with host discretion, however an anime can only be nominated in one genre category, with priority given to its primary genre designation. Primary genre allocation may be appealed through a form available on the Awards website (<https://animeawards.moe/allocations>).

TV series, movies, short series, and short films with runtimes over 10 minutes are eligible for nomination in the genre categories.

Action

Hosted by: Lenlo

Adventure

Hosted by: Lemurians

Comedy

Hosted by: Fircoal

Drama

Hosted by: Fircoal

Romance

Hosted by: Lemurians

Slice of Life

Hosted by: Kenalski

Suspense

Hosted by: Freohr

Production Awards - Open Categories

The Production Awards highlight the various artistic crafts essential to anime creation, showcasing excellence through 10 nominees in each category. The nominees for these categories are limited to TV series or OVAs/ONAs with multiple episodes.

Each Production Award jury, excluding Opening & Ending, can also grant Honorable Mentions to anime or parts of anime that are not eligible for nomination. This can include individual episodes, scenes, shorts, movies, or anime not typically eligible in production categories, such as music videos, unless specified otherwise in the category guidelines. Multiple selections from the same production, such as multiple episodes from a TV series, should be grouped as one Honorable Mention. Each Honorable Mention will be accompanied by a brief write-up on the Awards website.

Animation

Hosted by: AdiMG

Animation is how well a series of images/frames portray motion, emotion and energy. We do not judge storyboards, background art, or composite in this category but rather the quality of animation for individual cuts as they vary across a series. We tackle animation in every aspect: how character acting informs the personality of a character; how effects like debris and smoke help in selling an explosion; how smears and impactful key poses create the dynamic appeal of a fight; and more. Key Animators and Animation Directors are the main roles responsible for this aspect of anime production. <https://www.sakugabooru.com/> may be an important resource within this category. Jurors in this category are also encouraged to go out of their way to educate themselves on various aspects of anime production.

Background Art

Hosted by: AdiMG

Setting and backdrop design. You will discuss how the backgrounds look by themselves, as well as how they fit the mood and setting of the anime they are made for. While we do not directly consider compositing and other production elements (i.e. animation, character design, etc.), how backgrounds mesh with and contribute to an overall cohesive visual experience will be considered. Art directors and background artists are mostly in charge of creating these designs. If not an individual episode, scene, or short, Honorable Mentions in this category can also be a small collection of backgrounds that share a specific theme or location (e.g. “the cityscape backgrounds”).

Character Design

Hosted by: AdiMG and Freohr

Character design judges the appearance of the cast for use in the anime. This typically includes how easily the designs are able to convey the intended information to the viewers, how strong the silhouettes and basic shapes found in the design are, how well the designs function when animated, and how well designs work with other elements in the overall composite. This is further extended to costume design, creature design, mecha design and other sub-disciplines of design. Many times, character design may also include how well the original designs from the source material are adapted for use in an animated medium. While this category does not judge animation, analyzing the use of the designs in that process is integral to understanding character design, and jurors are expected to be familiar with the basics of other production aspects. Honorable Mentions must be a single character or specific group of similar-looking designs (such as mechs, creatures, etc...).

Cinematography

Hosted by: AdiMG

Cinematography is the art of manipulating images or sequences to serve the goals of the scene. You should search for shots you find aesthetically pleasing. You must also look at how a scene's delivery is elevated by its cinematography. Most importantly, you must examine how the visuals contribute to the overall story and expand on characterization or theme. We typically look at the contributions of storyboard artists, editors, special effects artists, episode and series directors, and directors of photography, but do not let specific production roles restrict you. We encourage you to analyze editing, lighting, color, shot composition, blocking, camera movement, mise-en-scène, and visual symbolism.

Original Soundtrack (OST)

Hosted by: tehoncomingstorm97

This category is designed to judge the accompanying soundtrack of an anime, which involves judging both the quality of the various tracks and the usage of those tracks in the context of the anime. In addition, factors such as variety between tracks, leitmotifs, the usage of silence between the music, and how the music incorporates sound effects, are also important parts of a soundtrack. Please note that general sound effect usage or sound design is not within the scope of the OST category. Jurors in this category are required to watch the eligible anime with sufficiently good audio quality and may listen to its OST standalone as an aid, if there is a released copy available. Eligibility in this category is not based on the existence or release timing of an album. Like in other production categories, prerequisites are entirely optional. OST Honorable Mentions must be a single scene or piece of music.

Voice Acting

Hosted by: Kenalski

Voice actors aim to represent a character's personality and feelings to serve the goals of the scene. Voice acting not only tries to convince us a character is truly experiencing an emotion, it also communicates subtext. The test of an actor is in how they build on characterization and theme beyond what is explicitly stated. An actor in this category may only be nominated once, and the jury and public may only nominate one performance from the same anime each, for a maximum of two VA performances from a single anime. An Honorable Mention here must be a performance from a single scene or episode.

Opening and Ending Sequences (OP and ED)

Hosted by: Accipender

These two independent categories focus on the visuals, audio, lyrics, and how these elements integrate with the show itself. Both Opening and Ending themes from movies and TV shows are eligible in these categories. Slight variants of the same Opening or Ending are considered a single entry; however, please contact the category host if the differences are significant enough to warrant separate entries. Both the jury and the public may nominate only one Opening and one Ending per anime.

Main Awards Categories

The Main Awards are designed to showcase the best of the year, divided into three release formats and a character category. These categories evaluate their subjects holistically, simultaneously considering excellence in production, writing, themes, and overall impact.

Anime of the Year

Hosted by: Fircoal, Kenalski, Lenlo

Anime of the Year judges the best serialized anime within the calendar year, including full length TV series, short series, and all attached OVAs under 40 minutes of runtime.

Movie of the Year

Hosted by: Freohr, Mathduck

Movie of the Year judges the best anime movie of the calendar year. All films must have a minimum runtime of 40 minutes. Single-episode OVA/ONAs are eligible if their runtime is 40 minutes and beyond. Compilation movies and extended-cut releases are not eligible. All films have to have a widely available release with English subtitles, whether that be a Blu-ray or a web release. Camrips and films with machine-translated subs are not eligible.

Short of the Year

Hosted by: Lenlo

Short of the Year judges single-episode anime less than 40 minutes and greater than 30 seconds in length. Commercials, music videos, and university animation projects are common in the category. PVs and OVAs attached to eligible TV series are combined with the anime they are part of and are therefore not eligible for this award. For practical purposes, entries eligible for this award must also be easily available online and be subtitled or otherwise translated if they include a significant amount of dialogue.

Character of the Year

Hosted by: Ficoal, Lemurians

Character of the Year honors the best anime character in any role. While prior context is important and should not be disregarded, the focus should be on the character's role in the anime eligible for this year's Awards. Do not consider information that has only been revealed in unadapted source material.

Host Roles

We, the hosts, work hard behind the scenes to ensure the Awards run smoothly, aiming to create a positive experience for ourselves, the jurors, and the event as a whole. Most of your interactions as a juror will be with your category host, and the majority of issues should be addressed to them first. However, if you have specific feedback or need to escalate a concern, please contact the appropriate jury-facing host role listed here.

General Organization and Scheduling (@Board): AdiMG, Kenalski, Vaxivop, 2honeybeecake

Overall Jury Managers (@Overall Jury Manager): AdiMG, Fircoal, Kenalski, Lenlo

Heads of Disciplinary Action (@THE PADDLE): Lenlo, Ananas, Freohr, Lemurians

Eligible Anime and Genre Experts (@PhD in Eligibility and Genre): MetaSoshi9, Firocal, Lemurians

PR/Marketing Managers (@Minister of Social Media): MetaSoshi9, Mathduck

Reddit Liaisons (@Reddit Replies Czar): Lemurians, AdiMG, Kenalski, Vaxivop

Proofreading Managers (@Proofreading Czar): tehoncomingstorm97, Accipender, AdiMG, Ananas, MetaSoshi9, Vaxivop

Website Manager (@Website Czar): PandavengerX

Livestream Manager (@Livestream Preparation Czar): AdiMG, Ananas

Screenshot Album Organizer (@Screenshot Czar): Kenalski, Accipender, Lenlo

Jury Writing Project Managers (@Jury Writing Project Czar): Accipender, Ananas, tehoncomingstorm97, 2honeybeecake

Schedule

Table 3: Key dates during the Awards. All deadlines are end of day US Pacific Time (UTC -7/8)

Stage 1: Familiarization and Shortlisting	
Jurors Are Invited to the Awards Discord Server	Friday, Nov 1
Open Categories are Capped at 25 Jurors	Saturday, Nov 16
Jury Special Categories Open for Approval by Host Team	Saturday, Nov 16 - Sunday, Dec 1
Shortlist Due Date for Anime with Prerequisites	Monday, Nov 25
Special Categories Chosen Through Jury Poll	Monday, Dec 2
Shortlist Due Date for Anime Without Prereqs Concluding Before Nov 1	Monday, Dec 9
Shortlist Due Date for Anime Without Prereqs Concluding After Nov 1	Monday, Dec 30
Stage 2: Nominations	
Nomination Vote Open to the Subreddit	Friday, Jan 3 - Sunday, Jan 12
New Discussion Credit on Shortlists Stops Being Awarded	Saturday, Jan 11
Jury Nomination Vote	Monday, Jan 13
Full Nomination List Revealed to Jury and Subreddit	Tuesday, Jan 14
Stage 3: Ranking Discussion and Vote	
Jurors Assigned to a Maximum of Five Open Categories	Tuesday, Jan 14
Ranking Vote Open to the Subreddit	Friday, Jan 17 - Friday, Feb 14
Jury Individual Write-Up Due	Monday, Feb 3
Jury Final Ranking Vote	Monday, Feb 10
Jury Ranking Revealed to the Jury	Tuesday, Feb 11
Stage 4: Jury Write Ups	
Write-Ups Allocations Distributed to Jurors	Tuesday, Feb 11
Livestream Interviews	Saturday, Feb 15 - Friday, Feb 21
Jury Website Write-Up First Drafts Due	Sunday, Feb 23
Jury Website Write-Up Final Drafts Submitted	Friday, Feb 28
Livestream	Saturday, Mar 1