

South African Film and Television Awards
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SAFTAs 2015 Judging Process Kicks Off

The 1st of October 2014 marked the start of the judging process for the SAFTAs 2015 to be held on the 19th and 21st of March 2015. The primary objective of the SAFTA Awards is to honour, celebrate and promote the creativity, quality and excellence of South African Film and Television talent and productions, and to encourage entrepreneurship and the development of new talent within the industry.

The first phase of the judging process is the filtration phase and started with a judging briefing session in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. The process of the filtration phase will take six weeks over October and November 2014. This phase of the judging process is primarily intended for reducing/filtering the number of entries to a minimum of five and a maximum of seven entries per award. In 2013 an auditor verified 354 entries were received, in 2014 an auditor verified 408 entries were received and currently 468 entries have been received for SAFTAs 2015, this excludes feature film entries whose closing date is the 30th of October 2014.

Once the filtration phase has been completed the final judging phase will commence and is scheduled to take place between November 2014 and February 2015. From this phase the finale nominees and winners are selected. The final judging phase is conducted by a new set of judges from the filtration phase who have no prior knowledge of all productions in the judging category excluding the Panel Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson that do both filtration and final judging. After the final judging phase is complete the nominees will be announced on the 4th of February.

The judging panel consists of previous SAFTAs winners and key industry specialists with a minimum of 5 years' experience and specialised skill sets.

A project of the National Film and Video Foundation



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The National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) is governed by the National Film and Video Foundation Act 73 of 1997 as amended by Cultural Laws Amendment Act 36 of 2001. The mandate of the NFVF, in terms of section 3 of the Act, is:

- To promote and develop the film and video industry;
- To provide and encourage the provision of opportunities for persons, especially from disadvantaged communities to get involved in the film and video industry;
- To encourage the development and distribution of local film and video products;
- To support the nurturing and development of access to the film and video industry;
- To address historical imbalances in the infrastructure and distribution of skills and resources in the film and video industry

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