



**The 2009 Cinema Audio Society Awards  
For Outstanding Achievement in Sound Mixing**

**ENTRY & VOTING RULES & REGULATIONS**

These are the official Rules, Regulations and Procedures for the 2009 CAS Awards. Although published in both printed form and on the CAS Website ([www.CinemaAudioSociety.org](http://www.CinemaAudioSociety.org)) the definitive version will always be the one on the website as it can be updated and amended as necessary.

In addition to complying with the following Rules and Regulations for the 2009 Cinema Audio Society Awards, all participants are also bound by the CAS Regulations for Promotion, which are also posted on the CAS Website, [www.CinemaAudioSociety.org](http://www.CinemaAudioSociety.org).

**Entry Deadline:**

Entry Submissions must be **received by 5 p.m. Friday, December 18, 2009.**

**Return Completed Entries to:**

Cinema Audio Society  
827 Hollywood Way #632  
Burbank, CA 91505

Or fax to: (818) 979-9000

For awards questions or information, e-mail [CASAwards@CinemaAudioSociety.org](mailto:CASAwards@CinemaAudioSociety.org) or contact the CAS Awards line at (818) 979-9000.

For additional Entry Submission Forms visit [www.CinemaAudioSociety.org](http://www.CinemaAudioSociety.org) for a fillable downloadable PDF file.

## **ENTRY SUBMISSIONS AND PROCEDURES**

1. Entries will be accepted beginning October 15, 2009. Entry Submission Forms will be available on the CAS website at [www.CinemaAudioSociety.org](http://www.CinemaAudioSociety.org). Entry Submission Forms will also be mailed to all CAS members Monday, November 2, 2009.
2. Anyone may submit entries; however, only CAS Active Members are permitted to vote.
3. **ENTRIES MUST BE MADE ON THE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM, AND ENTRY FORMS MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT AND SIGNED.**
4. Correct and complete entry information is the responsibility of the entrant. The CAS is not liable for incorrect ballot or crew listings that are the result of incorrect or incomplete information on the entry forms. Incomplete entry forms will be returned to the entrant.
5. If an entry is submitted in the wrong category or with erroneous information by the entrant, and the error is not discovered until the paper ballot reaches the voters, it will be disqualified. If the CAS makes an error in the categorization of an entry or provides erroneous information on a ballot, a correction notification will be issued.
6. Final approval of category placement and eligibility shall be determined by the CAS Awards Review Committee.
7. Ineligible entries may be disqualified at any stage of the competition.
8. Entrants have the option to receive confirmation of their entries via e-mail or fax.
9. **Entry Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, December 18, 2009.**

## **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible, **Motion Pictures**:

- must have had their initial release between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009
- must be over 40 minutes in length
- must have had at least a seven-day run for paid admission in a commercial theater in Los Angeles County beginning by December 31, 2009
- must have their first public exhibition or distribution as a theatrical motion picture release (However 10 minutes or 10 percent of the running time of a film is allowed to be shown in a non-theatrical medium prior to the film's theatrical release.)

Motion pictures from all countries are eligible as long as they satisfy the requirements of all the other applicable rules.

To be eligible, **Television Programs:**

-must have had their initial broadcast in the United States between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009

To be eligible, **DVD Original Programming:**

- must have had their initial release in the United States between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009

- must be over 40 minutes in length

- must have had their initial release direct to DVD, with no portion having been previously televised, broadcast or publicly exhibited for paid admission in a commercial theater, either domestically or internationally. Theatrical trailers for the program of less than 10 minutes released in a commercial theater are allowed.

## **CATEGORY DEFINITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY**

1. Motion Pictures – for a theatrically released feature-length motion picture
2. Television Series – for a single episode of a regular series
3. Television Movie or Mini-Series – for a single episode of a mini-series or for a movie
4. Television Non-Fiction, Variety or Music - Series or Specials – for a single episode of a non-fiction, variety or music series or for a non-fiction, variety or music special
5. DVD Original Programming – for a feature-length program initially released direct to DVD

Each entry is eligible in only 1 category. Final approval of category placement and eligibility shall be determined by the CAS Awards Review Committee.

A film or program that had eligibility in a prior awards year can not be re-introduced into eligibility in the current awards year, even though it may have been modified with new footage.

## **SPECIAL RULES FOR TELEVISION CATEGORIES**

1. A Television Movie shall be defined as an original program, which tells a story with a beginning, middle and end and is broadcast in one part.

2. A Mini-Series shall be defined as based on a single theme or story line, which is resolved within the piece. In a single awards year, all the episodes must be aired under the same title and have continuity of production supervision. It shall consist of 2 or more episodes with a total running time of at least 4 broadcast hours (at least 150-160 program minutes). Mini-Series entries must indicate which part is being entered, as each part of the Mini-Series will count as a separate entry.
3. A Series shall be defined as multiple episodes with an ongoing theme, storyline and characters presented under the same title with continuity of production supervision. A series must have 6 or more episodes that have aired. If a series is cancelled or not continued and there are five or less episodes that first air in the current eligibility year, those episodes are ineligible. Series entries must indicate the episode name (and part number if applicable) as each series episode will count as a separate entry.
4. Extended length episodes of Television Series, including but not limited to Pilots and Special Episodes, may only be entered in the series category and may not be entered as Movies, Mini-Series or Specials. The length of a submitted episode may exceed, by as much as double, the standard running time of the series episodes. If the Pilot or Special Episode airs in multiple parts, not in succession, each part should be entered as an individual submission. If the parts air consecutively, on the same night, the episode may be entered in its entirety as one entry (as long as it does not cumulatively exceed twice the standard running time of the series episodes), or each part may be entered separately. If a multi-part or extended length episode is submitted as one entry, it is still subject to the limitation of a maximum of three re-recording mixers and one production mixer.
5. Clip Shows, Year-Enders, Best-Ofs and Anniversary Specials must be entered as specials.
6. If a program is comprised of more than one segment, the entrant must enter the entire show, not just a segment, and only the mixers who contributed significantly to the majority portion of the entire program shall be eligible for nomination.
7. Telethons aired for the purpose of raising money for political parties are ineligible.
8. Programs that are generally exhibited in motion picture theaters or are offered on home video prior to or on the same day as their first television airing are not eligible. Showing a program at a film festival or in limited release for the purpose of fulfilling other awards eligibility (e.g., The Oscars<sup>®</sup>) does not disqualify an otherwise eligible program.

## **MIXER QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY**

A maximum of 4 mixers shall be eligible for nomination for each nominated film or program. These 4 mixers shall consist of one Production Mixer and a maximum of three Re-recording Mixers in the Motion Picture, TV Movies and Mini-Series, TV Series and DVD Original Programming categories. In the TV Non-Fiction, Variety or Music Series or Specials category there will be a maximum of 4 nominated mixers – pre-production, production, or re-recording mixers are all eligible, but only those who have made significant and substantive contributions to the program are eligible.

An eligible re-recording mixer on a film or program must be on the mixing console on the final sound mix, and must have contributed substantially to the final mix.

An eligible production mixer on a film or program must have recorded the majority of the production sound for that film or program, regardless of the percentage of that recording remaining in the final sound mix. In the case of animated films or programs, the primary ADR mixer, that is, the ADR mixer that recorded the greatest percentage of the dialogue may replace the production mixer as the 4<sup>th</sup> eligible mixer on a crew.

Eligibility for all nominations and awards shall be determined by screen credits or as certified to the CAS by the producing companies, but final credit determination and nomination eligibility in any event shall be made by the CAS. Producers or others may not alter an individual's screen credit in order to qualify the individual for Award eligibility. The CAS reserves the right to make its own determination of credit for purposes of award consideration. In the event of any credit dispute, the nomination eligibility for the CAS Awards shall be determined by the CAS Awards Review Committee, whose decision will be final. Additionally, the CAS reserves the right to declare any film or program in dispute as ineligible or alternatively to list credits as being in controversy and withhold any award until the dispute is resolved.

## **NOMINATIONS - VOTING AND PROCEDURES**

- 1. Nominations Ballots will be mailed to all CAS Active Members Wednesday, December 30, 2009.**
2. Voting on all CAS Awards Ballots will be restricted to CAS Active Members.
3. All eligible films or programs in each category will be listed in the Entry Submissions list which shall accompany the Nominations Ballot. The Entry Submissions lists shall list a film or program's title, a brief synopsis of the story to help identify it for the voters (if provided by entrant), and the airdate for television programs (and the episode or part number if applicable). This list will not include the names of the mixers for any film or program.

4. No write-in votes on the Nominations Ballot will be counted.
5. From the compiled list of entries, CAS Active Members will be allowed to vote for five entries in each category, which they will list in order of preference. This is a weighted ballot. A numerical value will be assigned to each of the chosen entries, according to their order of preference as listed on the ballot, and the five entries with the highest numerical values will become the final nominees. In the event of a tie for 5<sup>th</sup> place in any category, there may be more than five nominees in that category. No one entry may be listed on the ballot more than once. If an entry is listed more than once, the entire ballot will be disqualified.
6. **Nominations Ballots must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, January 15, 2010.** Any ballots received after this deadline will **not** be counted.
7. Ballots will be received, opened and tabulated by an independent accounting firm.
8. **Final Nominees in each category will be announced Thursday, January 21, 2010.**
9. Nomination Certificates will be given to all nominated mixing crews in each category.
10. In the event that the CAS declares a nominated film or show ineligible, it shall not be replaced and the category will remain with one fewer nominee.
11. Nominated achievements may be withdrawn from nomination only by agreement of all members of the nominated crew. Individual nominees on a crew may withdraw themselves, but the film or program's nomination will stand as long as one crew member remains.
12. A petition for additional mixers to be included as part of a nominated crew shall be allowed if submitted to the CAS office in writing within 10 calendar days of the announcement of the nominations. Additional mixers must have contributed significantly to the film or program, and an explanation stating the case for the inclusion of the additional mixer(s) must be included as part of the petition. The petition must also contain contact information, phone numbers and E-mail addresses for the entrant and any other individuals who will be able to supply additional information as may be needed by the CAS Awards Review Committee. After this time, no appeals or petitions for additional mixers may be made.
13. Any appeals or petitions must be submitted to the CAS office in writing within 10 calendar days of the announcement of the nominations. After this time, no appeals or petitions may be made. Decisions regarding any and all appeals and petitions will be made by the CAS Awards Review Committee whose decisions will be final.

Each nominated film or program shall be asked to submit a DVD or Digital Betacam clip from their show, as well as a CD of the film or program's theme music no later than 15 days following the announcement of the nominations. **Clips should be 720 x 486, uncompressed 8 or 10 bit, QuickTime.** DVDs and DigiBetas should be **NOT COPY PROTECTED** and should contain no slates. They should include the main title and end credits. Label each DVD or DigiBeta with: 1. program title, 2. episode title or miniseries part, 3. category title, 4. air date or release date, 5. length of submitted DVD, and 6. picture format (4x3, Letterbox or 16x9). Specifications for submitted material will also be listed on the CAS website, [www.CinemaAudioSociety.org](http://www.CinemaAudioSociety.org).

Each nominee agrees that any film, tape, recording or supplemental printed material that is furnished to the CAS in connection with an entry may be retained by the CAS for file reference purposes. In submitting a film or program for CAS Awards consideration, the entrants are deemed to have conveyed to the CAS the right to choose excerpts from the film or program, at the CAS's discretion, for incorporation into the CAS Awards presentation. Clips from any such recording or supplemental printed material may be used on or in connection with the presentation or exhibition of the CAS Awards, including but not limited to internet exhibition in connection with promotional activities; use of such clips and material shall be subject to the clearance of any other parties that may be required.

## **FINAL BALLOT – VOTING AND PROCEDURES**

1. **Final Ballots will be mailed to CAS Active Members Friday, January 29, 2010.**
2. Voting on all CAS Awards Ballots will be restricted to CAS Active Members.
3. A list of the nominees will be enclosed with the Final Ballot. Nominee lists will include a film or program's title, a brief synopsis of the story to help identify it for the voters (if provided by entrant), and the airdate for television programs (and the episode or part number if applicable). This list will not include the names of the mixers on any film or program.
4. No write-in votes on the Final Ballot will be counted.
5. The final ballot will list the Films or Programs Nominated in each category. The Nominated Films or Programs in each category will be listed alphabetically.
6. CAS Active Members will be allowed to vote for one entry in each category. The nominee in each category with the highest total number of votes shall be the winner.

In the event of a tie for first place in the final balloting, awards will be given to more than one film or show.

7. **Final Ballots must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, February 19, 2009.** Any ballots received after this deadline will **not** be counted.

8. Ballots will be received, opened and tabulated by an independent accounting firm.

## **AWARDS**

**The 2009 CAS Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Sound Mixing** will be presented in a sealed-envelope ceremony to be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010 in the Crystal Ballroom of the Millennium-Biltmore Hotel.

Individual Awards will be given to the re-recording and production mixers of the winning title, with a maximum of four awards per winning title, consisting of a maximum of three Re-recording Mixers and one Production Mixer in the Motion Picture, TV Movies and Mini-Series, TV Series and DVD Original Programming categories. In the TV Non-Fiction, Variety or Music Series or Specials category there will be awarded a maximum of four awards to the mixers – pre-production, production, or re-recording mixers are all eligible, but only those who have made significant and substantive contributions to the film or program are eligible. In the event of a tie for first place in the Final Balloting, awards will be given to more than one film or show.

Award-winning crews will be provided eight Certificates of Recognition to be given to members of their sound crews who they feel contributed to their achievement. Additional certificates may be purchased.

There are often corrections in the lists of nominees from the nomination press release up to the winner's press release. The winner's press release should be used as the final and definitive source of winner information.