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## CHANGES IN 2023

Please note that BreakOut West Showcase Festival submissions and Western Canadian Music Awards Submissions are now separate. Awards submissions will begin on March 27, 2023.

BreakOut West Showcase Festival submissions are now closed.

You must create a login profile on Awardstage to begin your submission. The platform this year is new and things may look slightly different than previous years. You will have to create an account to start but if you submitted to the festival, you will already have an account so just login. If you experience issues with Awardstage please contact [johnny@breakoutwest.ca](mailto:johnny@breakoutwest.ca).

The fee structure has changed. Details are provided in the Award Submission Fees section.

If submitting to more than one award, please note that the process has changed, if you need any assistance we invite you to watch the short video we have prepared.

*Submissions to the Industry Awards are separate, you may apply at the following link*

*<https://westerncanadianmusicawardsindustry.awardstage.com/>*

## CONSIDERATIONS

- Submission to the awards does not guarantee a nomination.
- All submissions are only accepted online. If internet access is a barrier to submission, please contact your local Music Industry Association or [johnny@breakoutwest.ca](mailto:johnny@breakoutwest.ca)
- Submission fee payments must be made online by credit card

- Read all guidelines and category requirements carefully to ensure qualification.
- It is highly recommended that applications are submitted well in advance of the deadline to ensure there are no unforeseen issues. Submissions that experience technical issues within 24 hours of the deadline will not be granted exemption if they are late. This may lead to your application not being eligible

#### Award Submission Fees

MIA Member	Non-Member
Early Bird 15% Off	15% Off
Regular \$18.00 per award	\$20.00 per award

# Awards and Festival Guidelines

## 1. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: ARTISTIC

- All artistic award nominees must be residents of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, for at least six months between **January 1, 2022 and March 27, 2023**. The mandate of the Western Canadian Music Alliance is to support artists and companies who reside in western Canada a majority of the time and as such contribute to healthy and thriving music communities in the region.
- Groups: 50% of group members must meet residency requirements.
- Must be able to provide residency upon request

## 2. RELEASE REQUIREMENTS: ARTISTIC

- The nominee must have a commercial release between **January 1, 2021 and March 27, 2023**.

### A commercial release is defined as:

- A minimum of 3 new songs must be commercially released to the public, radio or retail and not be part of a collection previously nominated within 24 months of the submission deadline.
- At least 50% of the tracks on the recording must be previously unreleased cuts.
- Exceptions to this are Jazz and Classical, and Electronic/Dance and Instrumental categories which must be at least 75% previously unreleased cuts.

- 'Cut' is defined as material previously released to the public, radio or retail
- All recordings must properly credit all songwriters.
- All mechanical royalties must be paid.

### **3. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS: INDUSTRY**

- *All industry award nominees must be residents of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, for at least six months between **January 1, 2022 and March 27, 2023** Companies must be registered companies in Western Canada. The mandate of the Western Canadian Music Alliance is to support artists and music companies who reside in western Canada a majority of the time and contribute to a healthy and thriving music community in their respective region.*
- *Groups: 50% of group members/company must meet residency requirements.*
- *Proof of residency may be required.*

### **4. MUSIC INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

It is recommended that submitting artists and industry members be a member of a western Canadian music industry association, but is not required. If accepted, the submitting artist or industry member will be contacted to ensure current membership with their local music industry association.

The western Canadian music industry associations include the following:

- **Music BC**
- **Manitoba Music**
- **SaskMusic**
- **Alberta Music**
- **Music Yukon**
- **Music NWT**

### **5. NOMINATION & SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

- Submissions Open: 11:00 a.m. CST on Monday, 27 March 2023
- Submissions Close: 11:00 p.m. CST on Monday, 22 May 2023

Instructions for Submitting an Entry:

- **Submission to the awards does not guarantee a nomination**
- All submissions are accepted online only.
- **Payment of the entry fee may only be made by credit card online.**
- Online submissions must be completed by 11:59 PM CST on Monday, 22

May 2023

- One submission must be completed for each category submitting to.
- Read all guidelines and category requirements carefully prior to submission to ensure eligibility.

- Please complete submissions accurately and in full. **Submitted information is what jurors consider when adjudicating final completed submissions.**

## **6. NOMINATION AND VOTING PROCEDURES**

Each submission will be considered for selection as one of the five nominees in each category. The submissions will be screened upon completion to ensure that each submission is complete and meets all eligibility requirements. Any submissions that are incomplete or ineligible will be disqualified. No refunds will be issued.

A panel of impartial jurors from across Canada will adjudicate all submissions and select the final five nominees in each category. The jury committee reserves the right to categorize a submission at their sole discretion.

In the event that a category is overpopulated, a 'super jury' will be convened to conduct the first review.

Electronic voting will be open to all current members of the western Canadian music industry associations and to jurors for final voting to select the winners. Final voting results are equally weighted between western Canadian music industry association members and jurors.

\*The Audio Engineer, Jazz, Francophone and Classical, Producer, Children's, Excellence in Visual Design will be selected and voted on solely by jurors and will not be open to voting by music industry association members

## **7. MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS OF ONE ALBUM**

Each category has its own restrictions and requirements. Make sure to read the [Artistic Awards Categories](#) for a complete list of all category specifications.

## **8. NOMINATION SUBMISSION IN SUCCESSIVE YEARS**

Because the eligibility period is longer than one year, an album may be eligible for two consecutive years.

However:

- The album must still meet all release requirements.
- No album will be selected as a final nominee in the same category two years in a row.
- An album cannot be submitted in one genre category one year and in a different category the next.

All details are subject to change.

## **9. MINIMUM NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS**

There must be a minimum of four (4) submissions for a category to proceed in any year. If four (4) submissions were not received for a particular category, that category is skipped for that year and nominees can resubmit their album the following year.

## **10. JURY SELECTION**

Each award category will be juried by a group of at least ten jurors unless otherwise stated in Guideline #5. The jurors will be chosen for their demonstrated knowledge and expertise in their fields, and so that collectively they capture a diverse range of cultures and backgrounds. No WCMA board or staff member is permitted to vote or influence any adjudication.

The WCMA reserves the right to select juror(s) who are not a resident of one of the five member regions if it is necessary to compile a strong, impartial jury in a given year.