

Music Nova Scotia Awards Manual - 2017



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Introduction

Music Nova Scotia is pleased to present the 2017 edition of the Music Nova Scotia Awards Manual. It is to be used as a reference guide for the 2017 Music and Industry Awards. Please read the information contained in this document carefully to ensure that your submission(s) fulfill the criteria for the award categories.

This information is updated annually and is valid only for the Nova Scotia Music Week event in Truro, Nova Scotia, November 2 - 5, 2017. If you still need clarification or have questions after reading the Awards Manual, please contact:

Blaise Theriault
Event and Marketing Manager
Music Nova Scotia
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Award Nomination Process (Music & Industry)

The following section outlines the award nomination process for 2017 Music Nova Scotia Awards. **Please review this section carefully.**

Fees & Payment

Music Nova Scotia Awards are divided into 'Music Awards' and 'Industry Awards'. The 'Music Award' nomination submission fee is \$30.00 CDN (HST included). Your fee allows you one (1) nomination in **any or all** applicable categories for **one artist only**.

The 'Industry Award' nomination fee is also \$30.00 CAD (HST included). This fee allows you to **nominate any person or organization in any (or all) of the categories**. For example, you may nominate yourself for "Manager of the Year", but you may also nominate a colleague or someone you feel deserving in another category. Please note that you cannot nominate more than one name in any one category (unless you submit a second, separate submission and pay a second submission fee).

If you would like to nominate both an artist **and** industry professional/organization across both the music and industry awards fields, you must submit two applications and pay a total of \$60.00 CAD (HST included).

Submissions can be paid online through PayPal. Once you make your Paypal payment, you will be given a Paypal transaction ID number which will give you access to the online submission form. If you cannot use Paypal, please contact our Member Relations/Operations Manager Lisa Stitt (902-423-0291) to pay by credit card (VISA or MC), or come into the office with any method (debit, cash, etc.). Once you make your payment, Lisa will provide you with access to the nomination form which will bypass the Paypal submission form.

Submission Deadline

The final deadline for submissions (including payment) is **Friday, July 21st, 2017 at 5pm, ADT**. Submissions that have not been paid for by 5pm on this date will be considered incomplete and will not be juried. Please consider adding this date to your e-calendar (and setting reminder notifications) to avoid disappointment.

Nomination Process & Selection

Each award category must receive a minimum of three (3) eligible nomination submissions before that category is activated for the current year. All submissions must be made by members in good standing with Music Nova Scotia. Submissions are sent to a committee of jurors with a demonstrated expertise and knowledge of the overall industry and individual categories, and the ballot is formed by the jury's choices. Winners are then chosen by the combined votes of all eligible members of Music Nova Scotia, with the exception of the Entertainer of the Year Award. This award is chosen by a public fan vote. Music Nova Scotia staff are not involved in the selection of nominees.

To submit an award nomination for any category, please visit:

<http://nsmw.ca>

The following award categories DO NOT require a recording: Acadian/Francophone Artist of the Year, African Nova Scotian Artist of the Year, Children's Artist of the Year, DJ of the Year, Electronic Artist of the Year, Entertainer of the Year, Indigenous Artist of the Year, Musician of the Year, and Digital Artist of the Year. All other 'Music Award' categories require recordings (see **Music Award Eligibility**, below). **For 'Music Award' submissions, please note that we will ONLY accept links to websites hosting the full album/recording you intend to nominate** (e.g. your own website, Bandcamp, etc).

This submission format facilitates the selection process by providing jurors with streaming access to your music, giving them ample time to review your submission(s). If you wish to submit the nominated album/recording via a private weblink (i.e. not streaming to the public), sites such as Soundcloud provide this option. Only Music Nova Scotia staff and jurors will be able to access the music. There is a field in the online submission form to include your link to the nominated album/recording. If you have questions or require assistance, please contact **Event and Marketing Manager, Blaise Theriault** either by email at (blaise@musicnovascotia.ca) or by phone at **(902) 423-4153**. Please consider contacting us before the last day of the deadline as there is always a high volume of calls at that time and you risk not getting the application finished before the deadline if you leave it to the last day.

The nominees in each category will be announced on September 6, 2017. Voting will also open on September 6. To vote, members must be in good standing during the voting period. **Winners will be announced at Nova Scotia Music Week in Truro, Nova Scotia, November 2 - 5, 2017.**

Music Award Eligibility

All Music Award submissions, except where indicated, require a commercially available recording (physical and/or digital) which was **released between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017**. A 'recording' is defined as a sound recording that contains a minimum of four (4) tracks **or** 20 minutes of music. At least fifty percent (50%) of the tracks on a recording must be previously unreleased. Commercially available releases are defined as releases available for sale either through live performances, record stores, online digital stores or mail order.

Note that any recording that has previously received a Music Nova Scotia Award nomination (e.g. a nomination in any category in 2016) is **NOT ELIGIBLE** for a nomination in any category for 2017.

The following 9 (nine) categories do not require, and are not based on recordings: Acadian/Francophone Artist of the Year, African Nova Scotian Artist of the Year, Children's Artist of the Year, DJ of the Year, Electronic Artist of the Year, Entertainer of the Year, Indigenous Artist of the Year, Musician of the Year, and Digital Artist of the Year.

Submissions must include supporting information detailing/highlighting the artist's activities during the eligibility period including, but not limited to: touring, recording, significant accomplishments, media attention, etc. There is a field called "Nomination support material" provided to enter this information within the online submission form.

Eligible artists must be Nova Scotian. A Nova Scotian is defined as:

1. A person who was born in Nova Scotia; or
2. A person who has lived in Nova Scotia for not less than one year by **July 21st, 2017**.
3. For groups, at least fifty percent (50%) of group members must be Nova Scotian.

All submission requirements must be met.

Any occurrences of questionable eligibility shall be dealt with at the discretion of the Music Nova Scotia Awards jury.

DEADLINE: Submissions for all categories must be received by **Friday, July 21st, 2017 at 5pm ADT**.

Music Award Categories

A single award is presented in each category.

General Music Award Categories

Artists representing any genre are eligible for the following 13 award categories:

- **Acadian/Francophone Artist of the Year.** This award recognizes outstanding achievement in the industry by an Acadian or Francophone artist or group in any genre. If a group, at least 50% of members must be (or self-identify) as Acadian or Francophone and fulfill the eligibility criteria. A list of professional accomplishments from the eligibility period should be included in the “support material” field in the online nomination form. This award does not require a release.
- **African Nova Scotian Artist of the Year.** This award recognizes outstanding achievement in the industry by an African Nova Scotia artist or group in any genre. If a group, at least 50% of members must be African Nova Scotian and fulfill the eligibility criteria. A list of professional accomplishments from the eligibility period should be included in the “support material” field in the online nomination form. This award does not require a release.
- **DJ of the Year.** A list of professional accomplishments from the eligibility period should be included in the “support material” field in the online nomination form. This award does not require a release.
- **Digital Artist of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in online and digital presence, taking into account various elements of digital and social media, including online video platform views (e.g. Youtube, Vimeo, etc.), and social networking platform followers (e.g. Facebook fan page, Twitter). This award does not require a release.
- **Entertainer of the Year.** This award recognizes the accomplishments of a performing artist within the dates of the eligibility period. This award does not require a release. This award is decided by a public fan vote.
- **Group Recording of the Year.** Only groups qualify for this category. This

award recognizes excellence in group recordings and may represent all genres and styles of music. At least 50% of the members of the group must fulfill the eligibility criteria.

- **Indigenous Artist of the Year.** This award recognizes outstanding achievement in the industry by an Indigenous artist or group in any genre. If a group, at least 50% of members must be Indigenous and fulfill the eligibility criteria. A list of professional accomplishments from the eligibility period should be included in the "support material" field in the online nomination form. This award does not require a release.
- **Music Video of the Year.** This award recognizes a music video which was released during the eligibility period. This is awarded to the artist/group and director. An online url link (e.g. Youtube or Vimeo) must be included in the "support material" field in the online nomination form.
- **Musician of the Year.** This award recognizes the accomplishments of a recording/performing musician within the dates of the eligibility period. The spirit and intent of this award is to recognize musicians who perform in a supporting or "side-player" capacity, although "feature" may be eligible, depending upon their "side-playing" activities. This award does not require a release.
- **New Artist Recording of the Year.** This award recognizes an artist who has released their first recording within the eligibility period. If a group, at least 50% of members must fill the eligibility criteria.
- **Recording of the Year.** This award recognizes overall excellence in a recording, regardless of style or genre. The recording must be released within the eligibility period to qualify. A 'recording' is defined as a sound recording that contains a minimum of four (4) tracks or 20 minutes of music.
- **SOCAN Songwriter of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in the lyrics and melody of an originally composed song. The song submitted must be recorded as well as be commercially available within the eligibility period, but not necessarily recorded by a Nova Scotian artist or group. In collaborations, at least one of the songwriters must be from Nova Scotia. Multiple submissions by a single songwriter are accepted, but only one entry per nomination fee.

- **Solo Recording of the Year.** Only solo artists qualify for this category. This award recognizes excellence in solo recordings and may represent all genres and styles of music. This single category replaces both the “Female Recording of the Year”, and “Male Recording of the Year” categories of previous years.

Genre Specific Music Award Categories

Artists may only be nominated in one of the sixteen genre specific categories listed below (in addition to any applicable general categories outlined above).

1. **Alternative Recording of the Year.** This award recognizes a recording by an artist whose music encompasses the “alternative” genre, broadly defined as music not generally accessible on mainstream radio. Alternative music may consist of various subgenres that have emerged from the independent music scene including, but not limited to: Alt-rock, Garage-Rock, Britpop, Indie Pop, and Indie Rock. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
2. **Americana/Bluegrass Recording of the Year.** Americana is contemporary music that incorporates elements of various North American roots music styles, including country, roots-rock, folk, bluegrass, R&B and blues, resulting in a distinctive roots-oriented sound that lives in a world apart from the pure forms of the genres upon which it may draw. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
3. **Blues Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
4. **Children’s Artist of the Year.** The artist must include a repertoire suitable and obviously directed to a young listening audience. Material must be musical in nature or contain musical elements. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill eligibility criteria.
5. **Classical Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
6. **Country Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of the members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
7. **Electronic Artist of the Year.** This award recognizes an artist whose works

and recordings have primarily been composed with, or prominently features, electronic equipment and which is defined by its electronic elements. Musical genres and respective sub-genres such as, but not limited to, Electro-Pop, Techno, House, Trance, Drum'n'Bass, Dubstep, Electro-Acoustic, Ambient, Downtempo and sample-based music are eligible for this category. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria. A list of professional accomplishments from the eligibility period should be included in the "support material" field in the online nomination form. This award does not require a release.

8. **Folk Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
9. **Hip Hop Recording of the Year.** If a group or collaboration, at least 50% of the members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
10. **Inspirational Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
11. **Jazz Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
12. **Loud Recording of the Year.** This award recognizes a recording within the Loud genre and respective sub-genres such as, but not limited to: Hard Rock, Metal (including Speed, Thrash, Death Metal), Industrial, Punk, etc. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
13. **Pop Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
14. **Rock Recording of the Year.** If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
15. **Traditional/Roots Recording of the Year.** All vocal or instrumental ethnically-specific traditional music is eligible (e.g. Acadian, Celtic, Irish, Scottish, etc). This category recognizes a group or soloist. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.
16. **Urban Recording of the Year.** This award recognizes a recording within the

Urban genre and respective sub-genres such as, but not limited to: Soul, R&B, Funk, Reggae, Urban-Pop, Ska, World Beat, and Dance Hall. If a group, at least 50% of members must fulfill the eligibility criteria.

Industry Award Eligibility

The Music Nova Scotia Industry Awards recognizes the achievements and contributions of our industry professionals and leaders from across Nova Scotia over the past year. These awards celebrate the people and companies who are working to build a strong and vibrant Nova Scotian music industry.

All submissions must be made by members in good standing of Music Nova Scotia using the aforementioned **Award Nomination Process** (see above). Submissions are sent to committees of jurors with a demonstrated expertise and knowledge of the overall industry and individual categories. A minimum of three (3) nominations is required to activate any category.

Supporting information for each submission, listing the nominee's accomplishments and contributions over the eligibility period, as well as a short bio, is strongly encouraged. There are fields provided within the online submission form for your convenience.

To be eligible for the Industry Awards, individuals and organizations/companies must be Nova Scotian. A Nova Scotian is defined as:

1. A person who was either born in Nova Scotia; or
2. A person who has lived in Nova Scotia for not less than one year by **July 21, 2017**.
3. Organizations (including non-profits) and companies must be registered with the Nova Scotia Joint Registry of Stocks.

All submission requirements must be met.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Any occurrences of questionable eligibility shall be dealt with at the discretion of the

Music Nova Scotia Awards jury.

DEADLINE: Submissions for all categories must be received by Friday, **July 21, 2017 at 5pm ADT.**

Industry Award Categories

A single award is presented in each of the twenty-one categories.

1. **Booking Agent of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in artist booking. For the purposes of this award, a booking agent works to secure performance engagements on behalf on an artist/group. In-house bar/venue promoters are not eligible (see below for "Promoter of the Year"). Presented to an individual.
2. **Community Presenter of the Year.** This award goes to a non-profit community organization that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to presenting musical performances in Nova Scotia.
3. **Company of the Year.** This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a company to the development of the music industry in Nova Scotia.
4. **Corporate Sponsor of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in outstanding support of Nova Scotian music by a company through sponsorship.
5. **Educator of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in music education. Presented to an individual.
6. **Event of the Year.** This award recognizes an event held during the eligibility period in which live Nova Scotian musical performances are prominently featured.
7. **Industry Professional of the Year.** This award recognizes the outstanding contribution of a music industry professional, in any field to the development of the music industry in Nova Scotia. Presented to an individual.
8. **Live Technician of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in the fields of

live sound, lighting and technical. Presented to an individual.

9. **Manager of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in artist management. Presented to an individual.
10. **Media Professional of the Year.** This award recognizes the outstanding support from an individual from the media in the promotion of Nova Scotian artists. Presented to an individual.
11. **Promoter of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in the field of artist or event promotion. In-house venue/bar promoters and talent buyers are eligible for this category. Presented to an individual.
12. **Producer of the Year.** This award recognizes a producer who has made an outstanding contribution to Nova Scotian music through album production. Presented to an individual.
13. **Production Company of the Year.** This award recognizes a production company who has made an outstanding contribution to the Nova Scotia music sector this past year.
14. **Publicist of the Year.** This award recognizes a publicist who has made an outstanding contribution to the Nova Scotia music industry. Radio promoters/trackers are eligible for this category. Presented to an individual.
15. **Radio Program of the Year.** This award recognizes a radio program that actively promotes and/or devotes airplay to Nova Scotian artists. Presented to a station.
16. **Radio Station of the Year.** This award recognizes a radio station for outstanding achievement in radio broadcasting.
17. **Recording Studio of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in sound recording services.
18. **Studio Engineer of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in the field of sound recording. Presented to an individual.
19. **Venue of the Year.** This award recognizes a club, soft seat theatre, arena, or

any venue that features live Nova Scotian performances. Presented to a venue.

20. **Visual Artist of the Year.** This award recognizes excellence in graphic design, photography or other visual media for CD packaging and/or artist or music event promotional materials. Presented to an individual.
21. **Volunteer of the Year.** This award recognizes an individual who has made a difference in the Nova Scotia music industry through volunteering.

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To submit an award nomination for any category, please visit:

<http://nsmw.ca>