

BASA Awards Entry Guidelines

The 27th Annual BASA Awards are open for entry to all arts-business partnerships – this includes businesses sponsoring/partnering with arts events, projects or organisations in South Africa, as well as businesses sponsoring/partnering with South African and/or African arts events across borders. Partnerships between arts organisations and support provided by non-profits may also be considered, provided their support falls outside of their basic mandate.

BASA Awards Entry Rules and Eligibility

- There is no entry fee.
- An Expression of Interest (EOI) form must be submitted via the **online entry platform** - no hard copy or email entries will be processed.
- No incomplete EOI will be processed.
- EOI entries that are eligible will be invited to proceed to complete a full entry. This also takes place online and no hard copy or email entries will be processed.
- The BASA Awards nominations process requires one of the partners to enter in order to nominate their partnership, and while the entry may be completed by either party, it must be endorsed by both partners.
- The sponsorship/partnership must have taken place **between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023**; this includes long-term or ongoing sponsorships current during that period.
- Where sponsorship of a project, event or organisation has been shared, all sponsoring companies are eligible for entry.
- A separate Expression of Interest and entry should be submitted for each sponsoring company, and the differences between each sponsor/partner must be clear in terms of the partnership relationship and objectives.
- Projects may be entered on a year-on-year basis, as part of BASA's sustainability strategy, regardless of prior wins. In assessing these entries, judges will consider the evolution and growth of the partnership from previous years.
- Eligible creative mediums include *visual arts, dance, theatre, physical performance, music, architecture, fashion, design*, and **any other form of creativity** appropriate to the understanding of arts and culture.
- There are no limitations regarding the arts partner or creative medium – whether an individual, a small or large organisation/project, or an emerging or established organisation/project, the project impact and achievement of objectives will be considered by judges in relation to size, experience and the sponsorship value.
- Entrants are required to motivate for the entry's alignment to the selected category.
- Please note that the categories open for entry are not restricted to any particular creative medium (i.e. design projects, theatre projects, etc.), but rather apply to the **nature** of the partnership or sponsorship relationship and its impact or objectives.
- While there is a category specifically for long-term relationships, such partnerships may enter into any other category where alignment can be motivated.
- Similarly, while there are categories focusing on recognising SMMEs for sponsoring the arts and on medium to large businesses supporting the arts through CSI/CSR programmes, they are not limited to this category alone, and such partnerships may enter into any other category where alignment can be motivated.

- The same applies to the Community Development category, which recognises non-profit support for the arts – these partnerships may enter into any other category where alignment can be motivated.
- A sponsorship programme/project/partnership may be entered into a **maximum of two** categories.
- BASA may use information and images (excluding confidential financial information) for publicity purposes.
- By submitting an entry, the entrant agrees to abide by the terms, conditions, rules and regulations governing the Awards programme, and declare that the information provided is true and correct.

BASA Awards Entry Process

- Expression of Interest forms must be completed via BASA's online entry platform by **no later than close of business (17h00) on Friday, 30 August 2024**.
- Entrants who are invited to submit a full application will be required to complete this by **(17h00) on Monday, 16 September 2024**.
- The online entry platform allows entrants to view all required fields, as well as word limits and file specifications.
- The online entry platform also allows entrants to save and edit responses before the final submission.
- Should you need to work on your entry offline, download the soft copy of the entry form from BASA's website. Please bear in mind that once complete you must upload your entry via the online entry platform, as no emailed submissions will be accepted.
- No adjustments can be made once the entry has been submitted.
- The entrant will receive a copy of the final submission via email.
- Supporting material (in the form of all relevant logos and 1-3 high-res images) is required and must be uploaded via the online entry platform. This will assist the judges and may be used for publicity purposes. Entries will not be considered complete without images and logos.
- Other supporting material (in the form of videos, testimonials, interviews, news clippings, reports or any other images or documentation) is encouraged, though a maximum of 5 additional files can be uploaded via the online entry form. Where possible, entrants are encouraged to submit links to relevant material as opposed to the full files, due to file size and storage limits on the entry platform.
- Please note that **only** data and supporting material submitted via the online entry platform can be considered by the judging panel, as the entry and judging processes take place via the same online platform.

BASA Awards Judging Rules and Criteria

- All BASA Awards judges are appointed by BASA and are professionals with expertise in business and/or arts. As per BASA's Awards Judging Policy, judges serve a three-year term, after which time their position becomes available for rotation.
- The primary concern of the BASA Awards' judging panel is to evaluate each nomination by reference to its level of success and creativity in achieving both the business and arts organisations' objectives, and its fit within the category.

All arrangements are correct at the time of going to press; however, *the BASA Awards judging panel reserves the right to:*

- Decide the judging criteria and their respective importance.
- Shift entries into different categories, should they be deemed more appropriate than the category in which the entry was originally submitted. This will only be done with the consent of the entrant.
- Add or withdraw award categories at their discretion, or choose not to grant an award in any category where the highest standards of excellence are not met.

Judging panel deliberations are **confidential and decisions are final**. No discussion or correspondence will be entered into concerning the results.

For quick reference, the judging criteria are as follows:

- **Overall project:** How strong is the project? Who are the beneficiaries and how did it impact them? How does the impact compare against the size of the project, arts organisation and sponsorship value? Did the project speak to broader society? Does the arts organisation/project demonstrate a variety of income streams and the ability to generate its own income (as opposed to relying solely on support from sponsors, grants, etc.)? Would the arts activity have been able to develop without sponsor support and, if so, what particular benefits did the sponsorship bring? Is there a good regional balance across the judges' choice?
- **Partnership:** Was the partnership a valuable one? Was the partnership purely financial? Is the sponsorship imaginative and/or innovative? The majority of sponsorships are CSI or marketing related, but BASA advocates for more diverse sponsorship strategies – how innovative was the partnership when it comes to the sponsorship strategy and objectives? The most popular art forms for sponsors are music, festivals and visual arts; how creative has the sponsor been in choosing their art form? Is the company likely to continue in arts sponsorship, either with the current arts partner, or a different one, in future?
- **Balance and equity:** Is there a balance between the size of the sponsor and the creative project/organisation they have sponsored? Was the partnership mutually beneficial for both the partners? In terms of return on investment or return on objective, what are the benefits to the sponsor (these might not be exclusively commercial)? Does this seem a sound investment for the sponsor? Is the arts organisation truly benefiting from the sponsorship (again, these benefits may not be exclusively financial).
- **Visibility and reputation:** What was the impact of the promotion and publicity strategy, and how does this weigh up against organisational/project capacity? Did the partnership/project present a good reputation during and after the event/project? Did the reputation of the sponsor and/or the arts organisation/project improve directly as a result of its association with the project?
- **Alignment:** How well does the partnership align with the category?

Finalists and winners in each category will be announced during October and November 2024.

For further information on opportunities and entries for the BASA Awards, please contact the awards team on awards@basa.co.za or call 011 447 2295 during business hours.