

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### AWARD CATEGORIES

- Artist of the Year
- Album of the Year
- Song of the Year
- New Talent of the Year
- Film Clip of the Year
- Community Music Project- Community Music Clip of the Year
- Indigenous Language Award
- Hall of Fame
- Traditional Music Award

### HOW THE NIMA WINNERS ARE DETERMINED

All entries received by NIMA are first assessed to ensure that they are eligible for the particular Awards for which they have been entered. Once eligibility has been confirmed, all eligible entries received by NIMA are then presented to the NIMA Ambassador group for their consideration. Finalists in each category will be judged by an independent panel of interstate and NT music industry professionals.

Six (6) categories (Artist, Album, Song, New Talent, Film clip, COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT - COMMUNITY MUSIC CLIP ) are judged by an independent panel of interstate and NT music industry professionals with expertise in the category.

The Traditional Music Award and Hall of Fame Awards are awarded at the discretion of the NIMA Ambassador group.

### Artist Eligibility for the NIMAs is defined by MusicNT to be:

#### 1. Entry

- (a) Independent artists as well as signed artists may enter.
- (b) You may enter an Artist or yourself in either one or multiple categories.
- (c) For song of the year only 2 entries per artist
- (d) Must be released between dates 1st of June 2020 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2021 - 2.

#### Recordings

- (a) Release is defined as the date the recording was first officially commercially released in Australia through retail channels (including digital only releases).
- (b) Eligible recordings must have been released during the period 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021
- (c) Unless otherwise specified, multi-artist compilations are not eligible. (d) Re-released recordings are not eligible. All entries must comprise at least 50% (by number of tracks)

previously unreleased recordings.

(e) New recordings, including new live recordings, of previously released compositions are eligible.

(f) All recording artists credited on the release must meet the artist eligibility criteria (see below: 3. Artists)

(g) Where the entered release comprises more than one disc, the discs must be sold as one set to qualify.

### **3. ARTISTS**

Any artist that satisfies the following criteria will be deemed to be eligible: Any artist who is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, i.e. this is defined as someone who is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identifies as such and is accepted as such in the communities where he or she lives or comes from.

In the case of groups or duos at least 50% of the members of the group must satisfy at least one of the above criteria. The NIMA Ambassador group reserves the discretion to grant eligibility in special circumstances.

### **4. INELIGIBILITY**

All entries will be reviewed for eligibility by Music NT Inc and/or the National Indigenous Music Awards Reference Group, who reserve the right to make the final judgement on category, artist and product eligibility.

MusicNT and/or the Event Coordinator will provide notice citing reasons for any entries deemed ineligible. The entrant will have two (2) days from such notice to respond, at which time MusicNT will review the entry and make a final decision.

## **CATEGORY DEFINITIONS**

### **1. ARTIST OF YEAR**

Criteria: This award will be awarded to an artist who has had made a significant impact in the Australian music industry i.e. performances, recordings, TV & media appearances, musical skills, innovation, originality, marketability, other achievements in the music industry during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

Eligibility: Australian Indigenous solo artists and groups

### **2. ALBUM OF THE YEAR**

Criteria: Originality & innovation in songs, music skills & arrangements, quality of recording & production, marketability

Released during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

Eligibility: Australian Indigenous solo artists and groups Only album recordings are eligible.

### 3. **SONG OF THE YEAR**

Criteria: Originality & innovation in songs, music skills & arrangements, quality of recording & production, marketability

Released during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

Eligibility: Australian Indigenous solo artists and groups, maximum entry of 2 songs per artist. Songs released during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

### 4. **NEW TALENT OF THE YEAR**

Criteria: Impact in the Australian Music industry i.e. performances, recordings, TV & media appearances, musical skills, innovation, originality, marketability, other achievements in the music industry from 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

Eligibility: Australian Indigenous solo artists and groups in the early stages of their career

### 5. **FILM CLIP OF THE YEAR**

Criteria: concept, direction and performance, artistic merit, storyline, quality of production, marketability & entertainment value, TV & media broadcasts

Released during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

Eligibility: DVD/Film-clip of an Australian Indigenous solo artists and groups Concept, direction and performance of the video are major criteria, not necessarily the excellence of the music. This Award is presented to the Artist who must meet the general eligibility criteria for artists as laid out in Paragraph 3 as well as the Director. The Director does not have to meet the general eligibility criteria. If the clip was not commercially released, then the media servicing date must fall within the eligibility period.

### 6. **COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT - COMMUNITY MUSIC CLIP OF THE YEAR**

This is a special category this year to acknowledge the role that music plays in Indigenous communities.

Criteria: innovation and artistic merit in musical performance, performance, concept, direction, storyline, entertainment value. Innovation and merit in the musical performance in the video are major criteria, not necessarily the excellence of the music or the direction of

the clip.

**Eligibility:** Community Project Film Clip of a National Indigenous community, released during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021.

Artist/s and Directors must meet the criteria outlined in "[Paragraph 3](#) of Eligibility. If the clip was not commercially released, then the media servicing date must fall within the eligibility period. Maximum 2 clips per Director.

### **INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE AWARD**

**Please note that this category is judged by a First Nations industry panel.**

**Indigenous language through music, is important to the revitalisation and continuation for the survival of the oldest living culture in the world.**

Please let us know of any traditional Indigenous Language recordings during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021 or traditional Indigenous Language performances that occurred at significant public events during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021

**Eligibility:** Indigenous solo artists and groups or communities. The song or album or performance must be majority Indigenous Language.

### **HALL OF FAME**

Name of band/musician Please note that this category won't be judged – You may nominate any artist/group that has made a significant, long-term contribution to the national music industry and Indigenous communities. Your nomination needs to be accompanied with supporting documentation.

The Hall of Fame is awarded at the discretion of the NIMA Ambassador group.

### **TRADITIONAL MUSIC AWARD**

**Please note this category is considered by a First Nations panel consisting of Elders, Songman and music industry experts.**

**“ Traditional music is important to the revitalisation, continuation and survival of the oldest living culture in the world”**

This criteria must consist of Traditional instruments only, for example; The Yidaki, Clap sticks, The Bullroarer, Voice etc The exception of recording no modern or electronic

add ons will be accepted.

Please let us know of any traditional music recordings during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021 or traditional music performances that occurred at significant public events during 1st of June 2020 to the 31st of May 2021