



## Welcome to the 2024 Gabriel Awards Program

The Catholic Media Association is honored to sponsor the Gabriel Awards, a premier program honoring excellence in film, broadcast, and digital media productions released in the United States and Canada.

The Gabriel Awards were created in 1965 to “recognize outstanding artistic achievement in a television or radio program or series that entertains and enriches with a true vision of humanity and true vision of life.”

A Gabriel-worthy award entry is dedicated to authenticity and excellence. It affirms and highlights values of dignity, community, tolerance, justice, or compassion.

The primary goal of the Gabriel Awards is to encourage media professionals to serve, enrich, challenge, and uplift their audiences.

The Gabriel Awards Committee accepts professional entries for work in film, radio, English and Spanish language television and digital media projects completed in the 2023 calendar year. Categories are listed in that order on the following pages.

Judges recognize productions that:

- Are dedicated to authenticity and excellence.
- Highlight values of dignity, community, tolerance, justice, or compassion.

First-place recipients receive a coveted Gabriel statuette. Runners-up receive a beautiful certificate of accomplishment.

Gabriel Award winners are presented at the Gabriel Awards Reception, June 20, 2024 at the Catholic Media Conference, in Atlanta. The winners are publicized in *The Catholic Journalist*, as well as on the CMA website and on social media.

### Key Dates:

- November 1, 2023, Submission Process Opens
- February 7, 2024, Submission Process Closes at 11:59 a.m. CST.
- April 19, 2024, Finalists List released at 9 p.m. CT.
- June 20, 2024, Winners List released at the 2024 Gabriel Reception

## Category Overview

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## General Information

### Entry Fees

Open Submission Period - November 1, 2023 through 11:59 p.m. CT, January 31, 2024

- \$125 – Radio
- \$150 – Television/Streaming and Social Media Entries
- \$200 – Film Entries
- \$150 – Personal Achievement Award

Extension Period - February 1 and 11:59 a.m. CT, February 7, 2024

- \$150 – Radio
- \$175 – Television/Streaming and Social Media entries
- \$225 – Film Entries
- \$175 – Personal Achievement Award
- Early Bird Period (save 10%): November 7-13, 2024
- Payment due February 9, 2024

### Date and Format

All entries are for work published in the 2023 calendar year. Files should be uploaded by these formats:

- Video Formats: MP4
- Audio Format: MP3
- Document Format: PDF
- Headshot: JPEG

### Judging

A panel of elite media Judges will review all submissions documents and individually choose the most qualified by a scoring system. Finalists will be announced Friday, April 19. Winners will be announced at the 2024 Gabriel Awards Reception on June 20, 2024.

### Judging Criteria (Except for the Personal Achievement Award)

These entries highlight values such as dignity, community, tolerance, justice, or compassion, while exhibiting a dedication to authenticity and excellence.

- **Content:** To what extent does the program meet any stated objectives? Does the approach to content maintain viewer interest? Is the program well designed?
- **Technical and Creative Excellence:** Does the technical quality of the program meet or exceed industry standards? Has the program been directed and edited well? Is it enhanced by the use of music, graphics and other effects that capture the viewer or listener's attention?
- **Impact:** Does the program have an emotional and intellectual impact on viewers?

## **Category Titles and Descriptions**

### **Film**

This award goes to the best of visual storytelling that highlights the true, the good, and the beautiful. This does not have to be on a religious topic, but instead provides a story that inspires and uplifts the human person through the creative and technical beauty of cinema. Eligible entries include 2023 DVD, streaming, and theatrical releases.

#### **G105: Feature Film**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a feature film.

#### **G106: Short Film**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a short film.

#### **G107: Documentary Feature Film**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a documentary feature film.

#### **G108: Documentary Short**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a documentary film.

#### **To Submit**

Upload audio or video as MP3 or MP4 files only.

Entry Fee: \$200

## **Radio – English Language**

Eligible entries include all 2023 Broadcast and Streaming releases spoken, submitted, or dubbed in English.

### **G201: Single News Story**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a single story. The submission can be about a feature or local or national news subjects.

### **G202: Hosted Profile or Interview**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a hosted profile or interview.

### **G203: Best Use of Sound Design**

This category is for best creative use of sound in a single radio program or podcast. Entry consists of a 15-minute sample limit.

### **To Submit**

Please upload audio as MP3 or MP4 files only.

Entry Fee: \$125

## **Radio – Spanish Language**

Eligible entries include all 2023 Broadcast and Streaming releases spoken, submitted, or dubbed in Spanish.

### **G301: Single News Story**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a single story. The submission can be about a feature or local or national news subjects.

### **G302: Hosted Profile or Interview**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a hosted profile or interview.

### **G303: Best Use of Sound Design**

This category is for best creative use of sound in a single radio program or podcast. Entry consists of a 15-minute sample limit.

### **To Submit**

Please upload audio as MP3 or MP4 files only.

Entry Fee: \$125

## **Television/ Streaming – English Language**

Eligible entries include all 2023 Broadcast and Streaming releases spoken, submitted, or dubbed in English.

### **G401: Single News Story**

**NEW**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a single story. The submission can be a feature, local, or national news subject. Entry consists of 1-URL leading to the story. This entry is something that is produced for an official news outlet.

### **G402: Special Event Coverage**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a documentary, local or national release. Entry consists of 1-URL leading to the program. This includes broadcast coverage of an event.

### **G403: Streaming Scripted Series**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a streaming scripted series.

### **G404: Documentary Series**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a documentary series.

### **To Submit**

Please upload video as MP4 files only.

Entry Fee: \$150

## **Television/ Streaming – Spanish Language**

Eligible entries include all 2023 Broadcast and Streaming releases spoken, submitted, or dubbed in Spanish.

### **G501: Single News Story**

**NEW**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a single story. The submission can be a feature, local, or national news subject. Entry consists of 1-URL leading to the story. This is something that is produced for an official news outlet.

### **G502: Special Event Coverage**

**UPDATED**

This category is for outstanding achievement in a Documentary, local or national release. Entry consists of 1-URL leading to the program. This includes broadcast coverage of an event.

### **G503: Streaming Scripted Series**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a scripted series.

### **G504: Documentary Series**

**NEW**

This category recognizes an outstanding achievement in a documentary series.

### **To Submit**

Please upload video as MP4 files only.

Entry Fee: \$150



## Digital Media

These categories are open to all participants.

### G601: Best Podcast - Single Episode

This category recognizes quality podcast programming related to a single issue or specific topic. Judges will listen to the podcast and review a short letter with information about the podcast. Please submit the URL and the letter as separate PDF attached uploads.

- G601a: Audio - English
- G601b: Audio - Spanish

### G602: Best Podcast Series

This category recognizes quality podcast series programming. Judges will listen to the podcast series and review a short letter with information about the podcast. Please submit the URL and the letter as separate PDF attached uploads.

- G602a: Audio - English
- G602b: Audio - Spanish

### G603: Best Podcast

This category recognizes quality podcast shows submitting up to three episodes that best represent your show. Judges will listen to the podcast and review a short letter with information about the podcast. Please submit the URL and the letter as separate PDF uploads.

- G603a: Audio - English
- G603b: Audio - Spanish

### G604: Best Video

**UPDATED**

This category is for outstanding achievement in video produced specifically as online content. The submission can come from all websites or social media platforms.

### G605: Best Multi Cast

**NEW**

This category recognizes the excellence in combined platforms recording simultaneously. This can be live streaming, video, and audio. Judges will listen, view the elements of the work and review a short letter with information about the execution of the work.

### To Submit

Please submit the URL and the letter as separate PDF attached uploads. Please upload audio and video as MP3 or MP4 types only.

## Achievement Award

### G1001: Lifetime Achievement Award

UPDATED

This lifetime achievement award recognizes an individual's work throughout one's career. The purpose of this award is to honor a person in the media industry whose body of work consistently featured social justice and human dignity issues in an effort to improve the lives of the less fortunate.

### Requirements

Candidates must be in the media industry for at least 10 years.

### Nomination Process

Entry for this category is by nomination only. Nomination letter must be a written document uploaded as a PDF file. Entry must include three to five elements that showcase nominees' most significant contributions.

Nominators are strongly encouraged to work closely with nominees to ensure complete and accurate nominations. Nominators are to submit an essay consisting of no more than 1,000 words indicating how the nominated individual meets the selection criteria.

### Judging

A panel of elite media Judges will review all submissions documents and individually choose the most qualified by a scoring system. Finalists will be announced in May. The recipient will be announced at the 2024 CMC Gabriel Awards Reception in June.

### Judging criteria include the following:

Qualifier: Does the entry include a nomination letter and required 3-5 elements?

1. Content: Does the individual meet objectives and industry standards?
2. Technical and Creative Excellence: Do the elements meet a high level of excellence?  
Is it enhanced by quality of production?
3. Impact: How did the individuals' work impact others and the community.  
Has their work significantly advanced the mission of the church?

### To Submit

One PDF file of the document and one JPEG headshot of the nominee.

Entry Fee: \$150

## Submission Instructions

### Getting Started

Submit all entries digitally through the CMA awards website beginning Monday, November 1, 2023. [This website](#) allows you to view categories, make submissions, and pay in the same place.

Please read category descriptions to determine submission requirements for each category. For general questions about eligibility, submissions, or payment, please visit the [Gabriel Award Page](#). The CMA awards staff is currently working remotely. We will be happy to assist you by email at, Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org.

Upload video, audio, photo, and document files in the following formats:

- Audio/Video format: MP3 or MP4
- Document Format: PDF
- Headshot: JPEG

### Create a Profile First

For simplicity's sake, we recommend creating **one PROFILE account** for your organization.

- **Returning Entrants:** you can use the same login information you used last year. If you do not remember your password, go to the log-in page and click "Forgot My Password" to reset and make a new one.
- **New Entrants:** click "Enter the Gabriel Awards" on the homepage and follow prompts to create a username and password for your account.

### Create a New Submission

1. Once logged into your Profile account, click "Make Another Application" then "Enter Catholic Media Awards." You will be prompted to review your past submissions or to begin a new submission.
2. If you have any unfinished submissions from prior years, we suggest deleting them because they will not upload in the current contest.
3. Select, "Click Here," to begin a new submission, fill out the form as prompted and click "Save" and "Next" to continue. You can return to the previous form at any time.
  - a. All entries are marked "Incomplete" until paid.
4. Options after making submissions:
  - a. Save your work: Click "Save" to save your work and leave the form. You may return and edit it at any time, until you pay for it, by clicking on "My Applications" and clicking "Edit."
  - b. Prepare to pay: Click "Add To Cart" to move your saved submission to your cart.

- i. You may return and edit by clicking “Make Changes” prior to paying.
  - ii. You can also remove it from your cart.
  - iii. Click “Checkout” to pay
5. **Paid entries are marked “Complete” and cannot be edited.** We suggest you double check all submissions for duplicates, accuracy and attachments prior to paying.
  - a. To fix mistakes after completion, email [Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org](mailto:Awards@CatholicMediaAssociation.org) on or before February 7, 2024.

## Payment Instructions

### Ready for Checkout

When items are in your cart, a direct link to your cart will appear under “My Applications.” Click the link to edit submissions or pay for your entries.

1. When ready, click the “Checkout” button to select your method of payment, then click “Process”
2. The next screen allows you to print your invoice and submission forms

### Payment Options

- A. Online Credit Card: Enter the information and complete the transaction
- B. Pay by Check: Please include a copy of your invoice with your payment

### Mail Payment To:

**CMA Awards Program**  
Catholic Media Association  
10 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 875  
Chicago, IL 60606

### Key Dates

- Early Entries: 11:59 pm CT – Wednesday, January 31, 2024
- Late Entries: 11:59 am CT – Friday, February 9, 2024
  
- Finalists List released at 9 p.m. CT – Friday, April 19, 2024
- Winners List released at the 2024 Gabriel Reception – June 20, 2024

**Good luck and thank you for participating.**