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Australian Screen Sound Guild

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**RECOGNISING
EXCELLENCE
IN SOUND FOR
THE SCREEN**



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THE GREG BELL STUDENT ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

BEST SOUND FOR A TELEVISION SERIES

BEST SOUND FOR LIFESTYLE, REALITY
OR FACTUAL ENTERTAINMENT

BEST PRODUCTION SOUND

BEST SOUND FOR A DOCUMENTARY

THE ANDREW PLAIN AWARD FOR
BEST SOUND EDITING

BEST SOUND FOR AN ANIMATED FEATURE FILM

BEST MUSIC PRODUCTION

BEST SOUND FOR AN INDEPENDENT FEATURE FILM

BEST SOUND MIXING

THE SYD BUTTERWORTH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD

BEST SOUND FOR A FEATURE FILM

1600 AWARDS PRESENTATION FINISHES

**CONTINUE THE CELEBRATIONS AT
THE RITZ BAR FOR DRINKS, FOOD,
AND OUR 'DAW' PRIZE**

MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY BENEVOLENT SOCIETY DONATIONS

The Motion Picture Industry Benevolent Society provides financial and emotional support to currently employed, or retired, members of our industry – exhibition, distribution or production – who have fallen on difficult times and have a genuine need.



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Every \$20 donation made during the award ceremony goes into the running to win one of these amazing lucky DAW prizes!

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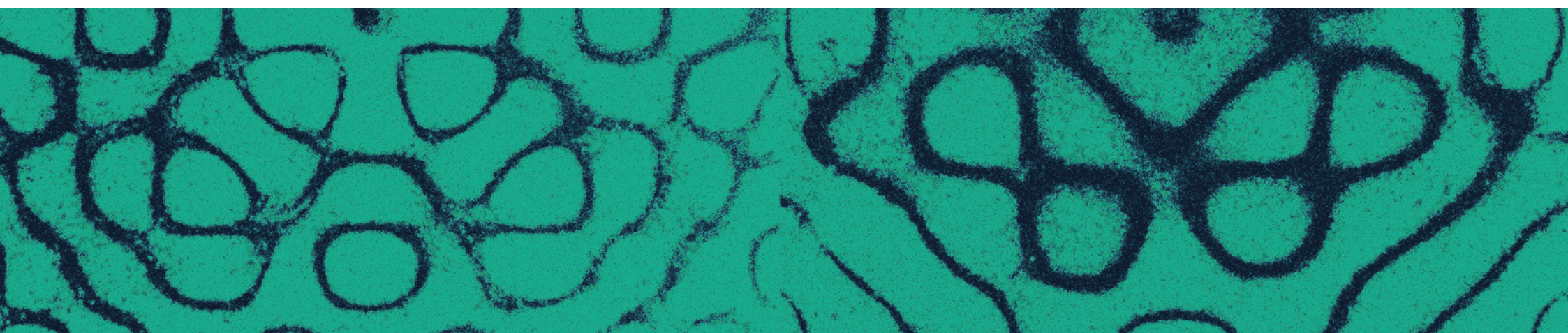
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Welcome to the 2025 ASSG Awards, celebrating excellence in sound for the screen here at the glorious Ritz Cinema. Congratulations to all our nominees and winners.

The year began with some clouds over our sector. Many members shared their concerns with me and I felt them too, with plenty of bills and not enough bookings. The closure of Cutting Edge, after decades of respected post-production work, came as a shock and highlighted the challenges facing our industry. Thankfully, things have improved and production activity is beginning to ramp up again.

Two major issues have dominated ASSG and ASIG lobbying efforts, together with SPA and MEAA: AI legislation and production quotas for streaming services.

I've held several meetings with Carol Berry MP, my local member, who has raised our concerns with the Minister for the Arts, Tony Burke. While the responses from the minister were supportive, they were often non-committal, and at one stage we heard quietly that quotas were "dead in the water". Not what we wanted to hear.

We were also deeply alarmed by the Interim Productivity Commission Report recommending suspension of copyright rules for AI training. The AWG led a rapid and united response from all guilds, including the ASSG, condemning the recommendation. We were frankly astonished that it had even been proposed.

On October 26, the Albanese government announced it would deny copyright exemptions for AI training. This is a significant first step in securing protections for writers, musicians, filmmakers and all Australian creatives. There is still much work to be done to legislate responsible use of AI in the creative industries, but this decision sets an encouraging precedent.

Another major announcement followed on November 4: the government legislated to extend local content quotas to streaming services. According to the MEAA, this legislation has been eight years in the making. The ASSG welcomes this decision and the speed with which it was enacted. While some say the quota percentage is too low or will have little impact, I can assure you the difference is substantial. Producers and streamers now have certainty around the rules, removing a major barrier to green-lighting projects. I expect production levels to rise in response and some streaming services will have some catching up to do.

You may notice the big red "N" around the awards today. Netflix sponsors the ASSG and many other guilds, and we welcome their partnership. Government, streamers and the ASSG share a common goal: to tell our stories in the best possible way and reach the largest audience. None of us wants to see the industry shrink, we all collectively want growth, opportunity and success, and working together is how we achieve that.

One way we support growth is by training new sound practitioners. Sue Kerr — Lifetime Achievement Award recipient and boom-swinging legend — identified a skills gap in young sound practitioners so she developed a course to address it, which the ASSG adopted and Screen Careers funded and delivered. The first students have completed the Sound Assistant's Course in Perth, with one securing a job almost immediately. Screen Careers plan to roll out the course in Queensland, NSW, Victoria and South Australia. Congratulations to Sue Kerr and James Nowiczewski for leading this important work. More courses are in development too, so watch this space.

The ASSG hosted and co-hosted events in many states this year, often in conjunction with our sponsors such as AVID, Sennheiser, Sounds In Sync, Soundfirm and Netflix, run by our awesome state reps, Tfer Newsome in Queensland, Andy Wright in NSW, Paul Shanahan in Victoria, Carlos Manrique Clavijo in South Australia and Trevor Hope in Western Australia. I'm hoping to find more members and reps in ACT, Tasmania and Northern Territory so we can complete the country!

This year our committee has been super busy on many fronts and I want to take a moment to acknowledge the people who make our guild run. Without these amazing individuals there would be no ASSG; Adrienne Parr, Chloe Turner, Emma Bortignon, Sue Kerr, James Nowiczewski, Micky Lucy and ASSG Vice President, Xoe Baird.

It is with sadness that we announce Xoe will step down at year's end. Her contribution over the past five years has been extraordinary, and we are deeply grateful.

Enjoy your awards, celebrate together, and let's make 2026 even bigger — or should I say louder?

Nigel Christensen
President, ASSG

MEMBER STORIES

**As a member run guild,
we want to hear from you!**

We want to know what our members are up to and what they want from us as a guild.

Our quarterly newsletter features stories about our members. We'd love for you to tell us about your new studio builds, exciting kit updates, milestones, or upcoming releases.

We'd also love to feature articles about anything interesting you've discovered or been pondering about lately.

Of course submissions can be kept anonymous!

The best way for us to keep up to date is if we get more submissions from across all crafts and all members.

You can find all of our past newsletters on our website.

Why not check them out for some inspiration on what you can submit.

Sound Check is where we shine the spotlight on a member and ask about their start in sound, most memorable project, and best advice they've ever been given.

ACCREDITATION

ASSG members can apply for official accreditation after being a financial member for at least five consecutive years.

The ASSG accreditation acknowledges not only the quality of your craft but also your commitment to sharing your knowledge with those eager to learn. It honours those who have actively championed the values of good practices, contributing to the industry's growth and success.

Our Accredited members may use the initials ASSG in their credits.

2025 Accredited members

Francis Bryne

Brendan Croxon

James 'Nova' Nowiczewski

Gavin Repton

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A SAPPORO'**

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SMARTRAVELLER

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**SPROUT X BRIGGS:
MUNARRA**

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**TELSTRA
'WHEREVER WE GO'**

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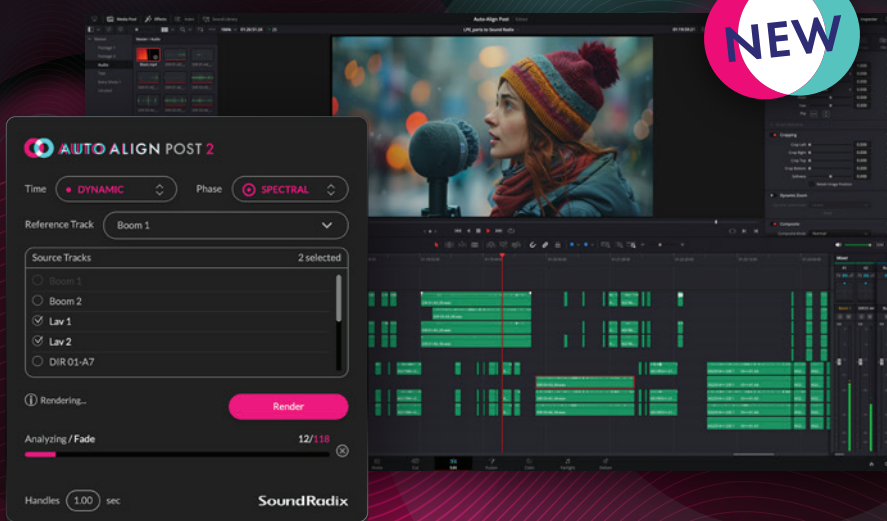
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GREG BELL STUDENT ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

**THIS AWARD IS NAMED AFTER
GREG BELL WHO WAS A PIONEERING
SOUND EDITOR AND SOUND DESIGNER.**

Greg started working in the Australian film industry in the 1970's, at the start of the new wave of Australian cinema. Greg Bell created the sound for many classic films, such as Picnic at Hanging Rock, The Last Wave, Gallipoli, and The Cars That Ate Paris.

He was ASSG member #1. Greg passed in 2008.

NOMINEES:

GUS DEVYLDER

JAMES EDWARDS

JEFFREY KEMPIN

SHERIDAN NEILSEN

SHIYING TASHAE TAY



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SERIES**

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AUSSIE GOLD HUNTERS

DEAL OR NO DEAL ISLAND

TANIWHA UNLEASHED

THE PIANO

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CONGRATULATIONS

TO ALL AWARDEES AND NOMINEES!



Here's to the artists who make every moment sound real. We're proud to support the **Australian Screen Sound Guild Awards** and the creative professionals who give stories their voice.

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THE SURVIVORS

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ANDREW PLAIN MEMORIAL FUND

To honour Andrew's lifetime contribution to the Australian film industry and his dedication to young people working in, and studying, motion picture sound, the Australian Screen Sound Guild has established 'The Andrew Plain Memorial Fund'.

This fund will provide an annual award to an Australian student, or practitioner, seeking to further their education in screen sound.

The Andrew Plain Memorial Fund will continue to remember Andrew, recognise excellence and encourage innovation in our industry.

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

To donate please go to the ASSG website, click on the fund's logo which takes you to the Australian Communities Foundation website.

The funds name, GM281- The Andrew Plain Memorial Fund, will appear and then continue with your donation.



**ANDREW'S FAMILY
AND THE ASSG
THANK YOU FOR
YOUR DONATION.**

ANDREW PLAIN AWARD FOR BEST SOUND EDITING

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BRING HER BACK

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MEMOIR OF A SNAIL

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THE ORDER

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DANGEROUS ANIMALS
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THEATRICAL ATMOS THEATRE
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POST PRODUCTION



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AN INDEPENDENT
FEATURE FILM**

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SOUNDFIRM
POST PRODUCTION

HE AIN'T HEAVY
.....

**MOONRISE OVER
KNIGHTS HILL**
.....

SPACE/TIME
.....

THE WAY, MY WAY
.....

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF THE ASSG

SPECTRUM
FILMS

**BEST SOUND
MIXING**

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SPECTRUM
FILMS

BRING HER BACK
.....

**THE NARROW ROAD
TO THE DEEP NORTH**
.....

THE ORDER
.....

WENT UP THE HILL
.....

THE ASSG IS AWARE OF THE CHALLENGES THAT COME WITH WORKING IN BOTH PRODUCTION AND POST PRODUCTION.

We are committed to helping our members and the industry.

We hope to further support our members with events and talks to help manage our mental and physical health - and do our small part in forging a cultural change in the industry.

ENTERTAINMENT ASSIST

Raising awareness about mental health in the Australian entertainment industry.
entertainmentassist.org.au

SUPPORT ACT

A sector-wide wellbeing helpline for anyone working in the arts and entertainment industry.

24/7 wellbeing helpline:
1800 959 500
supportact.org.au

ARTS WELLBEING COLLECTIVE

Practical resources promoting mental health in the arts.
artswellbeingcollective.com.au

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR PERFORMING ARTS HEALTHCARE (ASPAH)

Free access to a growing series of interviews with various healthcare professionals
aspah.org.au

CREATIVE WORKPLACES

Promoting and enabling fair, safe and respectful workplaces in the arts and culture sector.
creative.gov.au/creative-workplaces

SYD BUTTERWORTH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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and Radio School

The lifetime Achievement Award was named after our 2002 winner Syd Butterworth, a greatly respected sound recordist who died in a car accident that year.

Syd was an inspiration to us all.

Previous Winners

2024 Liam Egan	2010 Phil Heywood
2023 Pete Smith	2009 Julian Ellingworth
2022 Wayne Pashley & Libby Villa	2008 David Hannay
2021 Chris McKeith	2007 Graham Thirkell
2020 Livia Ruzic	2006 Kim Rylie
2019 Ben Osmo	2005 Phil Judd
2018 Sue Kerr	2004 Ross Linton
2017 Les Fiddess	2003 Clive Sloss
2016 Gethin Creagh	2002 Syd Butterworth
2015 James Currie	2001 Barry Fernandes
2014 Lloyd Carrick	2000 Don Connolly
2013 Gary Wilkins and Mark Wasiutak	1999 Clive Cross
2012 Roger Savage	1998 Peter Fenton and Ron Purvis
2011 Helen Brown	

PAUL 'SALTY' BRINCAT



Paul 'Salty' Brincat was a much loved and respected sound recordist and ASSG member who passed away on June 1 this year, at home with his family after battling a brain tumour. Paul's contribution to film and television cannot be underestimated. He was and remains one of the leading and most innovative sound recordists of our time and he will be sorely missed.

STEPHEN AND DIANA SMITH



Stephen Smith began his career in 1975 at Channel 7 in Sydney, right at the start of colour television. In 1987 Stephen and his wife Diana founded Tracks and have been post producing countless hours of iconic Australian television and film ever since. Many of us have worked with them over the years and Tracks has been integral to the post production sector in Australia. Stephen was President of the ASSG in the early 2000's.

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JOIN US IN 2026!

Ever considered joining the ASSG committee?

We want the Guild to remain strong and to continue providing a service to our members, including the annual awards, with integrity and professionalism. If you want the same for your Guild please consider volunteering, as there is no Guild without a robust committee.

We welcome committee members from all over Australia.

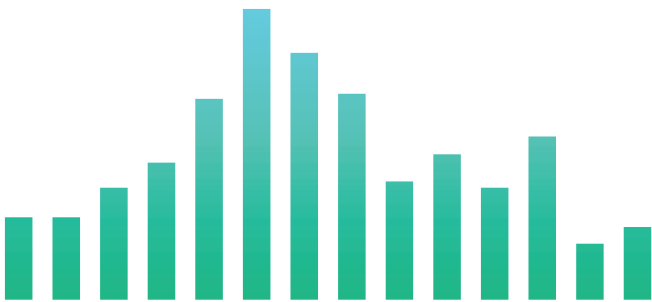
If you don't think you qualify, think again!

You just need to be a full member, attend meetings once a month via Zoom, and be willing to lend a hand to the various tasks and projects the ASSG takes on throughout the year, including the annual ASSG Awards

Why not chat to one of our committee members today?

Or you can email admin@assg.org.au and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have, and give you an idea of what's involved in being a committee member.

Being on the ASSG committee is a rewarding experience, and a great way to support your industry!



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SPECIAL THANKS TO

Angharad Yeo
for being our RADtastic MC

Aunty Lola Ryan
from La Perouse Local
Aboriginal Land Council
for welcoming us to country

Xoe Baird
for running the keynote and livestream

Melissa Davé
for always capturing our good side
with her amazing photography.

Seeing Things Graphic design
for designing all of our wonderful
content this year.

Dan Brumm for announcing our
awards.

The Ritz Cinema, Design Awards, Reacon
Group Printing, Easysigns, The Catering
Project and all the hospitality staff for
helping make today possible

THE ASSG WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR HELP IN MAKING TODAY POSSIBLE

**All our amazingly
supportive sponsors!**

SilverTrak Media Room
for hosting our video content for judging

All of our Judges
spanning across 5 states for
volunteering their time and keen ears

The ASSG Committee Members:
Nigel Christensen, Xoe Baird,
Adrienne Parr, Chloe Turner, Emma
Bortignon, Sue Kerr, James Nowiczewski.

The ASSG State Reps:
Paul Shanahan, Andy Wright, Trevor
Hope, Carlos Manrique-Clavijo, and Tfer
Newsome.

**Awards
Sub-Committee Members:**

Chloe Turner, Xoe Baird, Paul Shanahan,
Adrienne Parr, Nigel Christensen.

**Sponsorship
Sub-Committee Members:**
Emma Bortignon

**Training
Sub-Committee Members:**
Sue Kerr, James Nowiczewski.

Please consider joining the committee or
any sub-committee next year so we can
do more for our members!

