

PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL 2003
The best regional television programmes in Europe

PROGRAMME ENTRY PACK
Rules, Categories, Criteria, Entry Form

**This information is also available on the Circom Regional
website**

www.circom-regional.org

CHAIRMAN: DAVID LOWEN

RULES OF ENTRY

Please read these rules very carefully because it is important that all entries conform fully. A breach of any of the rules may mean disqualification.

1. Entries can be accepted only from the member stations of Circom Regional.
2. Each regional station may enter ONE programme only in each category: News, Documentary, Current Affairs, Cross Border. The selection for the Prix Spécial de F3 and Most Original Programme Award will be made from entries in those four categories.
3. Programmes must have been broadcast for the first time since January 2002 and should not have been entered in Prix Circom Regional 2002.
4. Programmes must be submitted as actually broadcast, except for the additions required by Rule 6.
5. Each entry must be accompanied by a brief outline of the programme in English or in French which is sufficient to help the judges to understand more about the reasons for making the programme and the main theme or stories.
6. Each entry, including those in the English language, must have adequate sub-titles in English. A copy of the script in English or French should also be provided: this will be kept with the programme tape in the Circom Regional archive.
7. The entry form, with outline, must be at the TVR Romania office by Friday 21 March 2003. The Beta SP tape, with a copy of the form and any other supporting material, must be with TVR Romania by Friday 28 March (to allow for a technical check). VHS cassettes are not acceptable.
8. Entrants agree in advance that, should theirs be a category winner (not second prize or highly commended), they permit one regional transmission of that winning entry by any Circom Regional member station within its own region during 2003 free of any licence or rights payments. An international version, without sub-titles, will be required for this.
9. Entrants agree in advance to one transmission of a winning programme (not second prize or highly commended) by EbS (the European Commission's satellite channel) during 2003 free of any licence or rights payment.
10. Entrants agree in advance to promotional non-broadcast showcase screenings organised on behalf of the Prix Circom Regional.
11. Entrants agree in advance that brief excerpts from programmes may be broadcast as part of regional news reports or promotional items about Prix Circom Regional.
12. The cost of despatch, customs, insurance will be paid by the entrant.
13. Programme cassettes and texts will not be returned but remain in the archives of Circom Regional.
14. In any dispute, the decision of the chairman of the judges, David Lowen, will be considered final and binding on all entrants.

PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL AWARD CATEGORIES

The following award categories will be contested in 2003

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| 1. | Documentary | Grand Prix Circom Regional trophy
10000 euros, trophy, free visit to Trieste conference |
| 2. | Regional News | Grand Prix Circom Regional trophy
7000 euros, trophy, free visit to Trieste conference |
| 3. | Current Affairs | European Parliament award
6500 euros, trophy, free visit to Trieste conference |
| 4. | Cross-Border | Committee of the Regions award
4000 euros, trophy, free visit to Trieste conference |
| 5. | Special | Prix Spécial de France 3
3000 euros, trophy, free visit to Trieste conference |
| 6. | Most Original | TVP award
3000 euros, trophy, free visit to Trieste conference |

AWARD CRITERIA

It is important that all entrants should check the criteria for each award before entering. Please make sure your programme does qualify for the award category you are choosing. If you enter in the wrong category, you may be disqualified. Entrants should also read the Rules of the competition to make sure of all entry details.

1. DOCUMENTARY PROGRAMME

Entries should be documentary programmes on a single subject. Neither the topic nor transmission need be regional but judges would welcome the examination of issues which have particular regional relevance even if they are set in an international or national context.

Judges will seek evidence of a strong storyline and outstanding professionalism in direction and technique. Programmes of strong journalistic investigation are encouraged but so are programmes with a personal view or an unusual perspective. Documentaries which show fresh techniques or great imagination are welcome.

Please note that this category is for complete programmes with only one subject. Magazine programmes must be entered under other categories as must items which are longer than news items but still contained within another programme.

2. REGIONAL NEWS PROGRAMME

Entries should be complete news programmes made and transmitted in the region for people living in the region: the very essence of regional broadcasting. It does not matter whether the news programme is daily or weekly. There is no restriction on the running time of the programme.

Judges will look for a blend of strong journalistic content, a clear understanding of the needs of its regional viewers, an element of originality, with a clean and stylish presentation.

Some "news programmes" may be better suited to the Current Affairs category. The Regional News category is for general news and news magazine programmes, not "special topic", "event" programmes, news items, or extended single news stories within a programme.

3. CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMME

This category recognises programmes which may be magazine programmes or special report programmes but which do not qualify as “news programmes” or “documentaries”. The programmes should cover issues of social, political, or topical debate in a way which encourages the interest and understanding of viewers.

Judges will pay special attention to the journalistic approach, the quality of reporting or interviewing, the impact of the programme on the viewer and the clear explanation of complex issues. Topics need not be regional but judges would welcome the examination of issues which have particular regional relevance.

Judges will give preference to those programmes which explore issues which are common across Europe and which stimulate the democratic processes of Europe.

4. CROSS-BORDER PROGRAMME

This prize recognises any programme which is produced by one station but covers an issue or issues on either side of a national border OR any programme which is produced as a co-operative venture by two or more regional stations in different states.

The subject matter should highlight topics which have wider European interest or which explore cultural similarities or differences across borders. In particular, judges will welcome programmes which reflect increasing participation in decision making at a regional level.

Please note that this category needs a more focused approach than just being an “international” story.

Where the entry is a joint entry, the prize money will be divided between the co-production partners.

5. PRIX SPECIAL DE FRANCE 3

This award will be given at the discretion of the judges to an entry in ANY of the categories which shows particular qualities of special value for regional viewers. Stations cannot enter programmes for this category only.

Judges will seek to reward a programme which shows extra brilliance in deep research, journalistic endeavour, exclusivity (“scoop”) or visual impact.

6. MOST ORIGINAL PROGRAMME

This award will be given at the discretion of the judges to an entry in ANY of the categories which demonstrates outstanding originality in approach. Stations cannot enter programmes for this category only.

Judges will be seeking a programme which captures their imagination with an unusual story, or because it has a very different and original treatment, or includes some wonderful and unforgettable characters, or some haunting music, or brilliant presenters: something, in short, which makes the programme different to the normal expectations of regional programmes.

ENTRY FORM PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL 2003

Please fax or email this form when completed to TVR Romania by 21 March 2003.

The Beta SP tape, together with a copy of the form and any additional supporting material, should reach TVR Romania by 28 March 2003. Please make sure you despatch in good time.

Please write clearly. Please read the Rules of Entry and the Category and criteria guidelines.

IMPORTANT: Please include a script in English

Send entry forms and tapes to:

Elena Spanily

PRIX CIRCOM REGIONAL

TVR Romania

Departamentul Relatü Internationale

Calea Dorobantilor 191

Sector 1, Bucharest

Romania

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Elena Spanily's office will answer all questions about the dispatch of forms, tapes and formats

Enquiries about criteria, categories, rules should not be directed to TVR Romania but to the chairman of the awards, David Lowen, at david.lowen@tesco.net, tel +44.7710.745905, fax +44.113.224.9970.

