



## Acronym Application 2023

South African Guild of Editors  
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[www.editorsguildsa.org](http://www.editorsguildsa.org)

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### THE SAGE ACRONYM

Is given by editing peers and has a high value attached to it.

Is an acknowledgment of excellence in body of work over a period of time.

Is an acknowledgment of an editor currently working in the field.

Is an acknowledgment of an editor who has continued to pass on the craft of editing to those who want to learn.

Is an acknowledgment of an editor who has continued to work actively in promoting the values of good editing practices.

Is an acknowledgment of an editor who has shown loyalty to SAGE.

The SAGE Acronym is the highest honour the Guild can bestow on an editor. To be considered for the acronym, applicants must be current financial full members of the Guild with a minimum of 5 years paid up membership, and must have a body of work that exhibits a **consistently high standard of editing** in well respected platforms. Applicants should also display a commitment to the Guild and its aims, as well as their ability to advocate the role of editors in the industry. Once an application is received it will be judged by the acronym sub committee.

It is important to note that the acronym should not be thought of as a rite of passage for an editor, but rather a special accolade to celebrate excellence within the craft. The application process is rigorous and does not guarantee a positive result. This is a SAGE decided acronym and is in no way related or weighted to any SAFTA achievements or other accolades. The acronym process also seriously considers the applicant's ability to articulate their creative process in relation to their creative expression exhibited in the projects they choose to submit, the judging committee will need to understand the applicant's thinking around choices made in the examples provided. The judging committee will also consider the applicant's ability demonstrate a commitment to uphold the craft of editing and SAGE as an organisation .

The Guild has 37 active accredited editors.

The deadline for applications is the end of September and the application must be sent on or before this date. Please specify if you are applying as an offline, colourist, or sound editor and only submit work that corresponds to this skill. If you are apply as a colourist please submit examples of ungraded vs graded footage. It would be good to also include specific colour examples such as: if editing narrative pieces examples that show progression in the colour through the story (selecting maybe short pieces across the edit for one example of work) or if cutting a magazine show the written motivation should speak to why there is consistency rather than progression. If you are unsure about anything, please email us.

### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The acronym sub committee, which makes recommendations to the executive, is comprised of at least three SAGE Acronym holders and a moderator, and this committee will judge entries on the information and materials provided by yourself. If applicants do not fulfil the requirements of the application, their application will be rejected. Accreditation by the Guild is deemed an honour and the accredited editor shall have the right to use the letters S.A.G.E. after his or her name. In order to retain this entitlement, the accredited editor must continue as a financial member of the Guild. If an



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editor is no longer a paid up member of the Guild they forfeit the right to use the acronym. Accredited members will be presented with a certificate bearing their name and the date of their accreditation. In the event that a bid for accreditation is unsuccessful, that member may re-apply in any subsequent years. The Executive Committee's decision is final. No discussion or correspondence will be entered into.

### DOCUMENTATION:

All documentation should be submitted by wetransfer (or similar) with your creative work.

Please submit:

1. A CV with Personal Details including 3 references and their contact details, a detailed Filmography (please order your filmography according to genre), and a 1-page bio.
2. Letter of Motivation - should address the applicants opinion on the following:
  - Why would you like to receive the SAGE Acronym?
  - Who or what has had the greatest influence to date on your work and why?
  - If selected, what would you do to actively promote the values of good editing practices within the industry?
  - Briefly explain your vision as an artist and a motivation for your submitted sequences
3. Creative Motivation
  - Please explain your approach to editing each piece - creative, ethical and technical concerns (250 - 500 words per work).

Please make the above into one document.

### CREATIVE WORK:

A minimum of 3 works should be compiled into a **single file** with your documentation. This should showcase your best work within your portfolio and should be **no longer than 20 minutes**. Since the acronym is awarded to current editors in the field we request that a minimum of **50%** of your work is from the last five years. The subcommittee is looking for pieces from existing broadcast, festival or cinematic released content, which has been cut in a professional environment with industry-normal time restrictions. For example: a scene from a feature film, drama, or documentary, or a PSA/ commercial, or a short section from a high-end corporate piece. The compilation should **not** be a montage of the works akin to a showreel but should be a collection of longer pieces (about 5 mins each) that give a sense of editing style, rhythm and pace. Please avoid promos or trailers where possible. Rough cuts are not permitted. The sub-committee believes that you know your best pieces of work and should be able to put these forward in a concise manner. Select your scenes carefully so that they are able to show narrative progression or the ability to create character identification and growth. The judging also includes your ability to select scenes. **Each example of your work must be accompanied by a written motivation (as per point 3 above)** that explains your vision as an artist (no longer than 250 words per work). This is an important part of your application and should be used to explain your artistic choices, motivations, cutting to genre, and if relevant your engagement with the director, or feelings about the



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raw footage you had to work with in each particular example. Please make it very clear if any submission **has a co-editing credit** on the work, or if another editor collaborated on the editing process.

All work samples sent to SAGE must be labelled clearly with your name and appropriate titles. The submission of an application by an applicant is an acknowledgment and acceptance of all the criteria for the SAGE Acronym and the applicant therefore agrees to abide by the decision of the executive committee as advised by the acronym sub committee.