



## Equity Committee elections 2019

# NOMINATION FORM

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### INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES

Screen and New Media  
Stage  
Variety, Circus and Entertainers

### SPECIALIST COMMITTEES

Audio  
Dance  
Directors and Designers  
Singers  
Stage Management

### NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Northern Ireland  
Scotland  
Wales

### EQUALITY COMMITTEES

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and  
Transgender+  
Deaf and Disabled  
Minority Ethnic  
Women

Young Members

**CLOSING DATE: NOON, FRIDAY 10 MAY**



Dear Equity member,

Equity is committed to ensuring that we are a powerful industrial force and that every voice in the union is heard.

To achieve this the Equity Council has created a structure for the union's network of committees, at the heart of which are three influential industrial committees — Screen and New Media, Stage and Variety, Circus and Entertainers — with the authority to conduct negotiations. These committees, made up of members with recent experience of relevant work and elected by members with similar experience, are at the forefront of improving pay and conditions for members. Supporting them are five specialist committees — Audio, Dance, Singers, Stage Management and Directors and Designers — all made up of members with recent relevant working experience.

There are also committees of members in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, four equality committees — Deaf and Disabled; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender +; Minority Ethnic; and Women — and a Young Members' Committee.

These committees are an important part of the union's democracy and a dynamic force for change. With the support of the Equity Council they are taking forward the industrial agenda, driving the union's policy making and ensuring that the voice of working members is heard at the centre of the union's work.

I hope that you will read this leaflet and decide that you can make a contribution to one of Equity's committees. If so, there is a nomination paper attached — please complete it and send it back to us by 12 noon on Friday 10 May 2019. You can also submit your nomination online at [www.equity.org.uk](http://www.equity.org.uk).

If you need any more information please call our elections helpline on 020 7670 0266 or email [elections@equity.org.uk](mailto:elections@equity.org.uk). You can also watch a short video setting out how Equity's committees work on our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/EquityUK](http://www.youtube.com/EquityUK).

But if you feel you cannot stand for election yourself, please do use your vote in the elections in June.

Yours sincerely



Christine Payne  
GENERAL SECRETARY

# BEING ELECTED TO AN EQUITY COMMITTEE

## What are they?

In this round of elections, Equity members are electing:

- eight industrial and specialist committees representing members working in different areas of the entertainment industry;
- three national committees representing members in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales;
- four equality committees — Deaf and Disabled; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender +; Minority Ethnic; and Women.
- the Young Members' Committee.

All 16 committees are elected by and from Equity members themselves. Any member who qualifies can stand. There is a more detailed summary of each committee on page 6 of this document.

## Am I qualified to stand?

- To stand for an industrial or specialist committee you must submit evidence of professional earnings of £500 or more from the part of the industry covered in the three years prior to the close of nominations.
- To stand for a national committee you must live in the nation the committee covers.
- To stand for one of the four equality committees you must identify as a member of the group represented and you must also submit evidence of professional earnings of £500 or more from any part of the industry in the three years prior to the close of nominations
- To stand for the Young Members' Committee you must be 30 or under at the close of nominations and you must also submit evidence of professional earnings of £500 or more from any part of the industry in the three years prior to the close of nominations.
- You must be up-to-date with your Equity subscription.
- You may not stand for more than one of the eight industrial or specialist committees.
- Student and child members of Equity are not eligible to stand in these elections.

## How much of my time will being on a committee take?

You need to be enthusiastic and ready to give your time to being an Equity committee member, but you are not expected to devote excessive amounts of time. Most committees meet four or five times a year and attending those meetings, if you can, is the basic commitment. But you might also want to be involved in a specific campaign, help formulate a new industrial agreement or represent the committee at Equity's annual conference. If elected you will serve on the committee for two years. All reasonable expenses for attending meetings of the committee will be met by the union.

## How do I stand?

Simply complete pages 4 and 5 of this form and find a fellow member to propose you or you can propose yourself. You must be seconded by another member. Return your form, with a photograph of yourself, an election statement of up to 150 words and evidence of professional earnings if required, by the close of nominations at 12 noon on Friday 10 May 2019. You can also complete your nomination online.

You can also be nominated by an Equity branch. Any proposal by a branch to nominate a candidate must appear on the agenda circulated in advance of the branch meeting and an officer of the branch must complete and sign the nomination form stating clearly the name of the nominating branch. Branch nominations cannot be completed online.

## When are the elections?

The elections will start in June this year and the results will be announced in July. If you are elected, your term of office will start immediately the results are announced and last for two years. Give it a try! You will get to discuss key issues about the entertainment industry with like-minded professionals and you will get a real say in how Equity operates. Call 020 7670 0266 or email [elections@equity.org.uk](mailto:elections@equity.org.uk) if you want more information on how the committees work.

# THE NOMINATION FORM

If you want to stand for election and make your voice heard it just takes four easy steps:

## 1. ON WHICH COMMITTEE WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE?

Please tick the  next to the committee or committee section you wish to stand for.

PLEASE NOTE — you may not stand for more than one of the eight industrial or specialist committees or in more than one section of any one committee.

### INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES

#### SCREEN AND NEW MEDIA

- Actors (10 seats)
- Walk-ons (3 seats)
- Stunt Performers/Co-ordinators (1 seat)
- Black and Minority Ethnic (2 seats)

#### STAGE

- Actors (10 seats)
- Black and Minority Ethnic (2 seats)

#### VARIETY, CIRCUS AND ENTERTAINERS

- Variety, Circus and Entertainers (12 seats)
- Black and Minority Ethnic (2 seats)

### SPECIALIST COMMITTEES

AUDIO (9 seats)

DANCE (9 seats)

#### DIRECTORS AND DESIGNERS

- Theatre Designers (4 seats)
- Theatre Directors (4 seats)
- Theatre Fight Directors (2 seats)

SINGERS (9 seats)

STAGE MANAGEMENT (9 seats)

### NATIONAL COMMITTEES

NORTHERN IRELAND (9 seats)

SCOTLAND (12 seats)

WALES (12 seats)

### EQUALITY COMMITTEES

#### LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER +

- Female-identifying members (3 seats)
- Male-identifying members (3 seats)
- Trans (including, but not limited to transgender, non-binary, genderfluid, genderqueer and intersex members) (3 seats)

DEAF AND DISABLED (9 seats)

MINORITY ETHNIC (9 seats)

WOMEN (9 seats)

YOUNG MEMBERS (9 seats)

- **EVIDENCE OF WORK** If you are standing for an **INDUSTRIAL OR SPECIALIST COMMITTEE** you must provide evidence of professional earnings of £500 or more in the area represented (see page 6) in the three years prior to the close of nominations. This might be a copy of a contract, a cast list or a playbill. For the **EQUALITY COMMITTEES** and the **YOUNG MEMBERS' COMMITTEE**, you must provide evidence of professional earnings of £500 or more in any area of the entertainment industry in the three years prior to the close of nominations. If you do not submit evidence of work with your nomination form your nomination may not go through.
- If you are standing for the **YOUNG MEMBERS' COMMITTEE** you must tick the box below to confirm that you are 30 years of age or under at the close of nominations. Please tick

PLEASE TURN OVER ▷

# NOMINATION FORM (continued)

## 2. YOUR DETAILS

I have read this document and declare that I am qualified to stand for the committee indicated and I enclose evidence of work in the past three years if required. Please tick

Equity name .....Equity number .....

Telephone ..... Email.....

Signature .....

## 3. YOUR PROPOSER AND SECONDER

Unless you are nominated by an Equity branch, you will require a proposer and a seconder. You may propose yourself. You, your proposer and your seconder must all be up-to-date with your Equity subscription. If you are nominated by an Equity branch then an officer of that branch must sign.

Proposer	Seconder
Equity name .....	Equity name .....
Equity number .....	Equity number .....
Signature .....	Signature .....

OR

Branch Nomination
Branch name .....
Branch officer .....
Signature .....

## 4. YOUR ELECTION STATEMENT

You are encouraged to submit an election statement of up to 150 words. You are entitled to write what you like, but in order for members to compare different candidates' suitability, we suggest that your statement answers these four questions:

- What is your experience in the area covered by the committee?
- What do you want the committee to achieve in the next two years?
- What do you believe you will be able to contribute to the committee?
- What is your experience in Equity?

You can write as much as you like for each answer but the total statement must not exceed 150 words. If it does, we will have to cut it after the 150th word in the interest of fairness.

Election statements will be published with the ballot papers. You may also include a photograph of yourself to be published next to your election statement. Please email your election statement and photograph to elections@equity.org.uk. If you do not have email, you may attach your statement and photograph to this nomination form.

## 5. CHECKLIST – HAVE YOU:

- Completed sections 1, 2 and 3?
- Attached evidence of work if required?
- Emailed your election statement and photograph to elections@equity.org.uk?

Please detach and return this form to: Equity Elections, Guild House, Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9EG by 12 noon on Friday 10 May 2019.

# THE COMMITTEES

## INDUSTRIAL AND SPECIALIST

There are three industrial committees and five specialist committees. You may stand for one of these committees only and you must be able to demonstrate professional earnings from the relevant part of the entertainment industry covered by the committee in the three years prior to the close of nominations.

- **Screen and New Media** This committee has delegated authority from the Equity Council to negotiate industrial agreements in all areas of work to be shown on screen in television, film, games, internet, non-broadcast and commercials. The committee is made up of ten actors, three walk-ons, one stunt performer/co-ordinator and two black and minority ethnic members. The chair or vice-chair or another member of the Audio, Dance and Singers Committees shall be a member of the Committee with full voting rights.
- **Stage** This committee has delegated authority from the Equity Council to negotiate industrial agreements in all areas of live performance, other than variety, including West End theatre, commercial theatre, national and regional subsidised repertory theatre, independent theatre, street theatre, fringe theatre, outdoor and overseas touring, theatre-in-education and young people's theatre, opera, ballet, dance and role play. It is made up of ten actors and two black and minority ethnic members. The chair or vice-chair or another member of the Audio, Dance, Directors and Designers, Singers, Stage Management, West End Deputies and Opera Deputies Committees shall be members of the Committee with full voting rights.
- **Variety, Circus and Entertainers** This committee represents members who work as "act as known" in variety, cabaret, burlesque, circus, story-telling or similar entertainment and is made up of 14 members. The committee will meet once a year with representatives of all the Variety Branches.
- **Audio** This committee represents members who work as audio artists anywhere in the entertainment industry.
- **Dance** This committee represents members who work as dancers or choreographers anywhere in the entertainment industry.
- **Directors and Designers** This committee represents members who work as designers, directors or fight directors in all areas of theatre.
- **Singers** This committee represents members whose work includes concerts, recordings (BPI agreements), church choirs, sessions singing and freelance opera singing.
- **Stage Management** This committee represents members who work as stage management anywhere in the entertainment industry.

## NATIONAL

There are three national committees representing members in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. You must ordinarily be resident in the relevant nation to stand for any of these committees.

## EQUALITY

Equal opportunities is a key and developing area for Equity and informs everything we do. Our four equality committees drive forward union policy and work in the interests of the members they represent. The four committees are: Deaf and Disabled; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender +; Minority Ethnic; and Women.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender + Committee has three reserved seats for female-identifying members, three reserved seats for male-identifying members and three reserved seat for a trans members, including, but not limited to, transgender, non-binary, genderfluid, genderqueer and intersex members.

To stand for these committees you must be a member of the group represented and be able to demonstrate professional earnings of £500 or more from any part of the entertainment industry in the three years prior to the close of nominations.

## YOUNG MEMBERS

This committee represents the interests of young members of Equity and comprises members who are 30 or under at the close of nominations. To stand for this committee you must be able to demonstrate professional earnings from any part of the entertainment industry in the three years prior to the close of nominations.

RULES for all these committees are available on the Equity website at: [www.equity.org.uk](http://www.equity.org.uk).