



MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA  
STEVIE® AWARDS

جوائز ستيڤي الشرق الأوسط وشمال أفريقيا

# 2026 ENTRY KIT

7th Annual Middle East & North Africa Stevie® Awards



[MENA.StevieAwards.com](https://MENA.StevieAwards.com)

# WELCOME

We invite your organization to submit nominations to the 2026 (seventh annual) Middle East & North Africa Stevie® Awards, presented with the support of **RAK Chamber of Commerce & Industries**. The focus of these awards is on recognizing innovation in every aspect of business and work life.

All organizations in these 18 nations in the Middle East and North Africa are welcome to submit nominations: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

The Stevie Award, the prize that is conferred in the Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards and all other Stevie Award programs, is one of the world's most coveted prizes. The Stevie Awards were founded in 2002 and host nine business competitions annually.

This booklet explains how to prepare and submit nominations to the Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards. The first important step to entering is to review the categories and to choose the categories in which you'll participate.

In these pages you will find explanations of the submission requirements for all of these categories, and an outline of how to submit your entries through our website at <http://MENA.StevieAwards.com>. All of this information is also available on the website in both Arabic and English.

We hope your organization will submit entries to the 2026 Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards. Please don't hesitate to contact us with your questions about how to participate.

Cordially,

**MICHAEL GALLAGHER**

*Executive Chairman, The Stevie® Awards*





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# 2026 CALENDAR

**20 NOVEMBER 2025**

Webinar: Preparing Effective Nominations for the 2026 MENA Stevie Awards

**3 DECEMBER 2025**

First entry deadline, with reduced winner fees

**21 JANUARY 2026**

Final entry deadline

**27 JANUARY 2026 -  
24 FEBRUARY 2026**

Judging of the 2026 Awards

**24 MARCH 2026**

Temporary winners notified

**14 APRIL 2026**

Deadline for payment of winners fees

**16 APRIL 2026**

Winners publicly announced

**14 MAY 2026**

**Awards banquet**  
InterContinental Hotel, Istanbul, Türkiye

**READY? ENTER NOW**



# THE 2025 AWARDS

[BROWSE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE AWARDS EVENT](#)



[WATCH THE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION CLIPS](#)



[WATCH INTERVIEWS WITH STEVIE WINNERS](#)



[DOWNLOAD THE AWARDS EVENT PROGRAM BOOK \(PDF\)](#)



## SELECTION OF 2025 WINNERS





# AWARDS PROCESS

All entries are first reviewed by Stevie® Awards staff to ensure that eligibility requirements are met, that entries are formatted properly in order to go forward to be judged, and that entries have been submitted in appropriate categories.

## DETERMINATION OF GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE STEVIE WINNERS

Judging will be conducted in January-February 2026. Judges will be recruited worldwide, will be invited or will apply to judge on the Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards website, and if accepted will be assigned to category groups by Stevie Awards staff, based on their industry, function, and experience. A judge will not be assigned categories to which their own organization has submitted entries.

During the judging, each entry will be reviewed and rated by no fewer than five (5) judges who have been approved as qualified (by Stevie Awards staff) to judge those entries. Rating will be done on a scale of 1-10.

All nominations that receive an average score of 7.75 out of a possible 10 from the judges will be eligible for Stevie Award status. The highest-scoring qualifying nomination in each category will be designated the Gold Stevie Award winner. Other qualifying nominations with average scores of at least 8.25 will be designated Silver Stevie Award winners. All other qualifying nominations will be Bronze Stevie winners.

The veracity of claims made in entries may be audited. Any entry found to contain false or misleading information will be disqualified. Gold Stevie-winning entries will be published on Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards website. Winners will have the opportunity to redact any confidential or non-public information from their entries before publication.

## DETERMINATION OF GRAND STEVIE AWARD WINNERS

Two Grand Stevie Award winners will be selected and announced at the awards banquet. The organization that wins the most Gold, Silver, and Bronze Stevie Awards will be presented with the Grand Stevie Award for Organization of the Year. The top-scoring nomination in the entire competition will also be recognized with a Grand Stevie.



# HOW TO ENTER

Visit the website at [mena.stevieawards.com](http://mena.stevieawards.com) or click the **READY? ENTER NOW** button at the bottom of any page in this kit.

Complete the form to create your account, or login to your existing account if you have already made one in our new entry system.

Within your entry-submission account, select Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards from the program drop-down in the top right of your screen.

Follow the instructions to create and save your first entry. Repeat the process as necessary to create and save additional entries.

When you've created all of the entries you will submit, click the check boxes next to their titles, then click the **SUBMIT SELECTED NOMINATIONS** button to begin the submission process.

Review and agree to the Terms and Conditions of Entry, and choose how to pay your winners fees.

## SUBMIT NOMINATIONS IN ANY OF 30+ LANGUAGES

New for 2026, we have a translation tool built into our entry system. You may submit written nominations in any of 30+ languages, and our system will translate them to English for our judges to review and score. Please note that only your written submission will be translated, not any supporting material uploads or links. All judging will be done in English, and judges will be told that a translation tool may have been used.





# WINNERS FEES

The Middle East & North Africa Stevie® Awards does not charge an entry fee for each nomination submitted. You may submit unlimited nominations in any number of categories without the payment of entry fees.

Instead of paying an entry fee for each of your applications, you only pay a Winners Fee for each successful nomination. That is, for each nomination that wins a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Stevie Award, a prize-winner fee is due. If deemed a Stevie winner, you must pay the Winners Fee(s) for all successful nominations:

- \$545 if the winning nomination was submitted through the first entry deadline, 3 December 2025; or
- \$585, if submitted after 3 December.

Winners fees must be paid by 14 April 2026 at the latest. Nominations whose Winners Fees are not paid will be disqualified. With payment, successful nominations will pass from temporary to permanent prize-winner status.

The Winners Fee per successful Stevie nomination includes the following benefits for the applicant:

- The right to publicly claim the Stevie Award winner status for the nomination on or after 16 April 2026
- The inclusion of the successful nomination in the official prize-winner lists published on 16 April 2026 on the Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards website and other Stevie Awards media
- The right to use the award-winning signs or logos of the 2026 Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards
- A personalized Gold Stevie Award trophy, Silver Stevie medallion, or Bronze Stevie medallion
- Access to all the jury's comments regarding all your applications
- The right to buy tickets for the award ceremony on 14 May 2026 in Istanbul, Türkiye and make an acceptance speech on stage.

You can easily pay the Winners Fee by credit card or bank transfer.



# 2026 CATEGORIES

The focus of all categories in the Middle East & North Africa Stevie® Awards is on innovation: innovation in all its forms, in every aspect of work life and achievement. The 2026 awards will recognize achievements since the beginning of July 2023.

Nominations that won in the 2025 edition of the awards may be resubmitted for consideration to the 2026 awards. If they have been updated with recent achievements, they may be resubmitted to the categories in which they won. If they have not been updated, they must be submitted to categories different from those in which they won.

We accept entries in scores of categories, grouped as follows.

## ACHIEVEMENT CATEGORIES



## AI INNOVATION CATEGORIES *(NEW FOR 2026)*



## ANNUAL REPORT & OTHER PUBLICATION CATEGORIES



## APP CATEGORIES



## COMPANY / ORGANIZATION CATEGORIES



## CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS, INVESTOR RELATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS CATEGORIES



## CUSTOMER SERVICE CATEGORIES



## HUMAN RESOURCES CATEGORIES



## INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES



## MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES



## MARKETING CATEGORIES



## NEW PRODUCT CATEGORIES



## PUBLIC SECTOR INNOVATORS CATEGORIES *(NEW FOR 2026)*



## SOCIAL MEDIA CATEGORIES



## SUSTAINABILITY CATEGORIES



## TECHNOLOGY CATEGORIES



## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP CATEGORIES



## VIDEO CATEGORIES



## VIRTUAL & LIVE EVENT CATEGORIES



## WEBSITE CATEGORIES





# HEAR FROM PAST WINNERS

“Winning a Stevie® Award is a landmark moment for MCI. As the leading mobile operator in Iran, this recognition affirms that we can be successful not only nationally but also regionally. These awards are an inspiration for us and for the entire digital ecosystem of Iran. With this honor, expectations are higher, and we are more committed than ever to driving innovation and growth.”

**Mobile Communications  
Company of Iran (MCI), Iran**

“Winning a Stevie Award enhances our reputation and strengthens our value proposition by recognizing our human capital practices as exemplary. As first-time Gold winners of the Best HR Innovative Team, this honor serves as a benchmark of excellence, attracting top talent while boosting both internal and external credibility. We look forward to continuing to compete in the Stevie Awards, as this recognition is invaluable for our team and our organizational brand.”

**Riyadh Airports Company,  
Saudi Arabia**

“Winning a Stevie Award means a great deal to us, as it confirms that we are on the right track—keeping our customers at the heart of everything we do. It motivates us to continuously deliver better and showcases the quality and dedication of our team. Despite the challenges in the market, this recognition reinforces our position as a leading logistics company worldwide. We thank the Stevie Awards, the juries, and extend our congratulations to all the winners.”

**DHL Express, UAE**

# HOW TO SUBMIT WINNING ENTRIES

## Subscribe to the Free Stevie Awards Email Newsletter

Stay up to date on entry deadline extensions, new categories, and other important announcements by subscribing to the weekly Stevie Awards email newsletter. We respect your privacy and will never share your email address with anyone else. [Click here](#) to subscribe.

## Determine Who or What You Want to Nominate, and in Which Categories

Decide which individuals, departments, teams, achievements, solutions, or implementations in your organization you wish to nominate, then select the most appropriate categories for those entries. For help with category selection, fees, or other questions, contact us at +1 703-547-8389 or [Help+MENA@stevieawards.com](mailto:Help+MENA@stevieawards.com).

## Submit Your Entries By the Entry Deadline

The first entry deadline is 3 December 2025, through which winner fees are discounted. The final entry deadline will be 21 January 2026. The deadline for payment of winner fees is 14 April 2026.

## Register for our Live Informational Webinar | Thursday, 20 November 2025

[Click here to register](#) for our webinar about how to prepare successful nominations and learn more about what is new and different in the 2026 competition. The webinar will be available to watch on demand anytime after it airs live.



# RULES, TERMS & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The following are the terms and conditions of entry to the 2026 Middle East & North Africa Stevie® Awards. By submitting entries to the competition you assent that you have read and agree to abide by these terms and conditions.

## WINNERS FEES



## ACCEPTANCE OF STEVIE AWARDS CORRESPONDENCE



## MAINTENANCE OF YOUR ENTRY ACCOUNT INFORMATION



## FINAL DECISION



## DISPOSITION OF SUBMITTED MATERIALS



## PAYMENT OF SHIPPING FEES



## PUBLICATION OF STEVIE-WINNING ENTRIES



## NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY AT THE BANQUET



## IDENTIFY VERIFICATION



**Failure to comply with these Terms & Conditions will render your entries ineligible. Winners fees will not be refunded.**



# ENTRY PREPARATION TIPS

**1**

## Write Your Entries Offline Before Submitting Them

Write your entries offline to keep a permanent record. Then, submit them through our simple online system. Avoid writing directly online, as technical issues with your computer or our system could cause you to lose your work.

**2**

## Include Supporting Materials and Links

For most categories, supporting files or URLs are optional. However, we strongly recommend including at least your organization's website URL so judges can access basic information about your organization.

**3**

## Focus on Achievements During the Eligibility Period

The 2026 Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards eligibility period is from 1 July 2023, through January 2026. Entries may mention earlier achievements but must focus on this period—the judges will not score entries highly if they do not.

**4**

## How to Submit Entries for Multiple Clients

PR and marketing agencies submitting for multiple clients should create one account under the agency's name with agency contact details. Start each entry title with the client's name so awards are correctly presented to the clients, not the agency.

**5**

## Test Your Links

If you include links to videos, images, or other materials, be sure to test them before submitting. Preview your entry and click the links to ensure they work and show the intended content to the judges.

**6**

## Video Entries and Other Media Materials

Attachments should be directly downloadable and easy to access. For videos, use a YouTube, Vimeo, or similar link that plays instantly. If that's not possible, upload the video file instead.

**7**

## Giving Titles to Your Entries

When choosing a title for your entries, don't include the category name — judges will see it. For individual nominations, simply use the person's name and job title unless additional text adds meaningful context. Keep titles simple.

**8**

## Well-Written and Succinct

Stevie-winning entries are clear, focused, and modest. Highlight a few key accomplishments in detail rather than listing many briefly, and keep the writing concise.

**12**



**READY? ENTER NOW**



# 10 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD ENTER

1

Stevie® Awards offer a cost-effective way to recognize and celebrate your valued employees for their efforts and accomplishments—boosting morale, inspiring pride, and motivating your team to keep striving for excellence.

2

The winners fees are nominal compared to the publicity and credibility you or your organization can reap from winning a Stevie Award. Past winners use their Stevie Awards to enhance their reputation, attract clients, and engage top talent.

3

Small organizations have just as much chance to win a Stevie as big companies. Every year, household-name companies are joined in the winners' circle by small and medium-sized organizations that are still building their brands

4

There are dozens of categories for Organizations, Sustainability, Management, Marketing, Tech, AI Innovation, Public Sector Innovation, and much more.

5

Winners are celebrated globally at our galas and promoted across our website, blog, social media, and PR. With more than 70,000 monthly site visitors and 60,000 newsletter subscribers, your win gets wide exposure.



6

When you win a Stevie Award, you and your colleagues get to accept your award on stage, deliver a speech before a global audience, and network with top professionals at our March 5 gala in New York City, also broadcast live worldwide.

7

The awards are a great way to benchmark your achievements against competitors in your industry.

8

Stevie Awards impress clients, partners, colleagues, and staff. Since 2002, the Stevie Award trophy has become one of the business world's most coveted prizes; it's a global symbol of excellence and innovation.

9

Winners may order additional copies of their awards to share with employees, executives, and clients. Official winner logos, social media graphics, and press release templates are provided to all winners at no extra cost.

10

Judges include many of the world's most respected executives, entrepreneurs, innovators, and business educators. You'll have access to all of the judges' feedback for all of your entries; an invaluable resource.

13



**READY? ENTER NOW**

# 2026 SPONSOR

## ABOUT THE RAK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

RAK Chamber of Commerce and Industry is the second chamber of commerce commissioned in the UAE, as the Late Sheikh Saqr bin Mohammed Al Qasimi issued His High Decree for the incorporation of the Chamber on 22 October, 1967, so that it may become the cornerstone for a more optimal regulation of the commercial affairs of the Emirate. The Chamber is a public interest organization, possessing a legal personality and administrative and financial independence within the scope of law, the Chamber's Articles of Association and its resolutions, along with the other regulations in force in the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah.

## ABOUT RAS AL KHAIMAH (RAK)

Originally known as Julfar, Ras Al Khaimah's history dates back several millennia with it being inhabited for as long. Over time, several historical and archaeological sites have been discovered throughout the emirate—dating from different time periods. Today, the emirate boasts many heritage and tourism sites and is also considered the most fertile agricultural land amongst all the emirates. Thus, in addition to an active tourism sector, Ras Al Khaimah also had a vibrant industrial sector. With many widespread development plans in the pipeline. [Click here to learn more.](#)



غرفة رأس الخيمة  
Ras Al Khaimah Chamber





# THE STEVIE® AWARD

The Stevie Award trophy is one of the world's most coveted prizes. Since 2002 the Gold Stevie Award has been conferred for achievement in the workplace to organizations and individuals in more than 70 nations and territories.

The name Stevie is taken from the name Stephen, which is derived from the Greek for "crowned."

The crystal pyramid held aloft by Stevie represents the hierarchy of human needs, a system often represented as a pyramid that was developed in the 1960s by psychologist Abraham Maslow, who observed that after their basic needs are met, human beings seek the esteem of their peers.

## RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PREPARE YOUR ENTRIES

Most public relations agencies and independent practitioners have experience writing Stevie® Awards entries. If you don't have the time to prepare, write and submit your Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards entries, we suggest you turn to a PR pro to help you. There are also several communications professionals who specialize in writing Stevie Awards entries. We recommend the following:

August Recognition, Donna O'Toole, [hello@augustawards.com](mailto:hello@augustawards.com)

Award-Winning Results, Jacque Burandt, [jacqueline.burandt@gmail.com](mailto:jacqueline.burandt@gmail.com)

Boost Awards, Chris Robinson, [info@boost-awards.co.uk](mailto:info@boost-awards.co.uk)

Business Awards Consulting, Cagatay Kayabas, [awards@kuzeygelisim.com](mailto:awards@kuzeygelisim.com)

Green Door Co., Heather Marano, [heather@greendoor.co](mailto:heather@greendoor.co) (Australia/New Zealand)

Martha Hooper, [hooperconsultinginternational@gmail.com](mailto:hooperconsultinginternational@gmail.com)

Melissa Sones, [melissasonesconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:melissasonesconsulting@gmail.com)

Susan Turkell, [info@pairelations.com](mailto:info@pairelations.com)

The Audacious Agency, Lauren Clemett, [info@theaudaciousagency.com](mailto:info@theaudaciousagency.com)



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### The Stevie Awards

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