



RISING STAR AWARDS 2025  
**TIPS AND TRICKS FOR AN  
OUTSTANDING NOMINATION**

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# WHAT ARE THE RISING STAR AWARDS?

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The Rising Star Awards are the first to focus on the UK's female talent pipeline below director-level and to support it's winners through ongoing learning and networking opportunities, long after the award's process has concluded.

Now in their eleventh year, the Rising Star Awards are the first to focus on the achievements of women below Senior Management or Director level – representing the female talent pipeline and the next generation of future leaders.

The awards also recognise the efforts of senior leaders who are championing gender equality, as well as putting the spotlight on a “company of the year” that is actively supporting its female talent pipeline above and beyond industry norms.

Over the past ten years and with the support of leading organisations, WeAreTheCity has been able to highlight the achievements of over 1050 women (950 in the UK, 100 in India) through the Rising Star Awards process.

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# RISING STAR AWARDS BACKGROUND

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- We have been seeking incredible diverse women since 2015
- To date, we have a family of 1150 Rising Stars, 100 in India, and 950 across the UK
- We are primarily interested in women below director level
- There are no age limits on our awards
- Rising Stars is a two-step process – Short nomination (either self or from someone else), then supporting information from individual
- There is no cost to enter our awards
- We welcome nominations from all individuals who choose to identify as women
- Our judges reflect our community
- We are one of a few awards that provide education opportunities, e.g. membership to CMI, learning day at WBS
- You don't have to be nominated by your company to enter!

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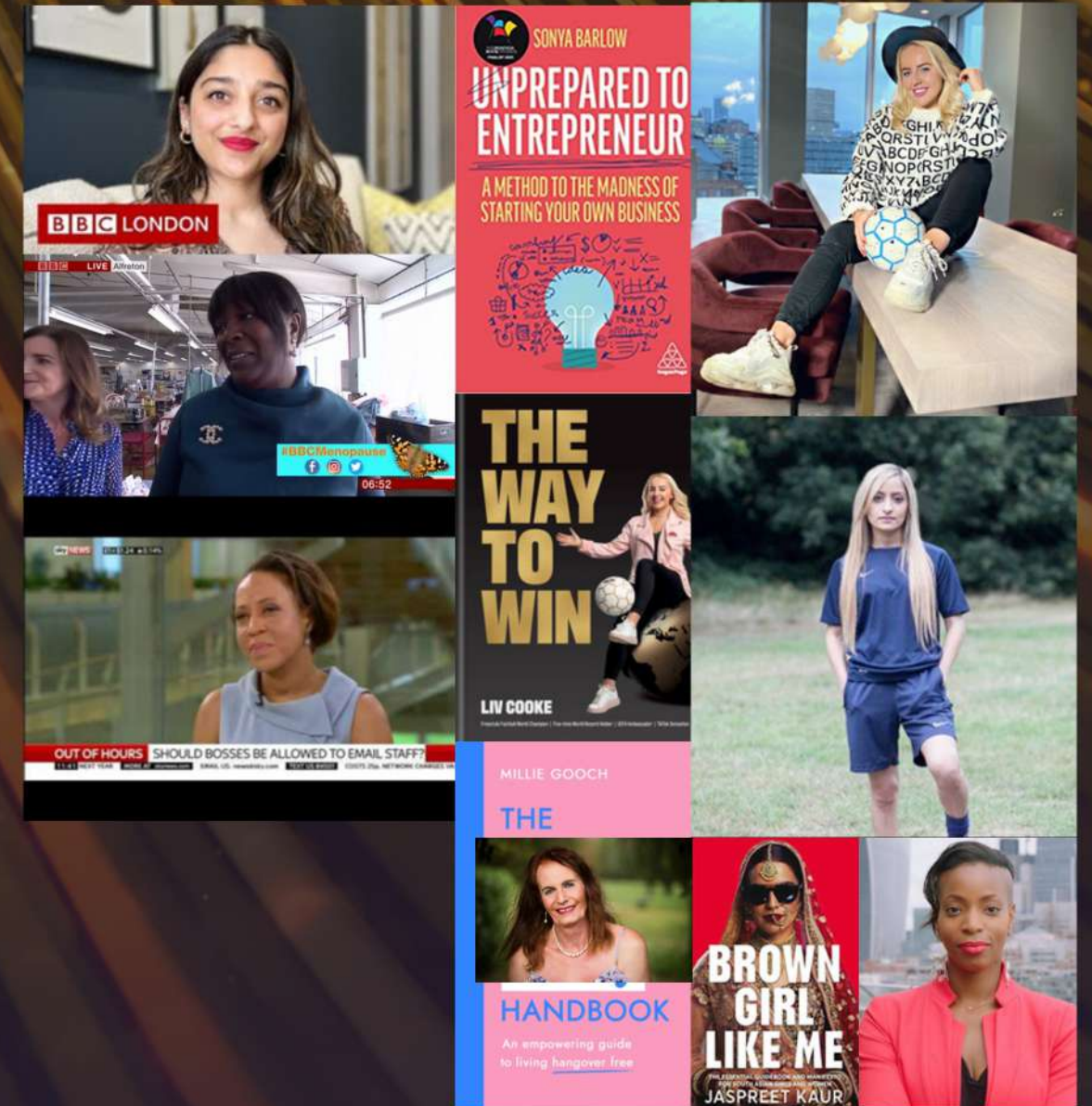
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# OUR FAMILY OF RISING STAR WINNERS



- World champions
- Leading campaigners
- 40 new authors
- 60% promotions/additional responsibility
- 20 Kings honours (BEM's, MBE's, OBE's, CBE's)
- Speaking careers and panels
- Interviews, TV and radio
- Documentaries
- Ambassadors for their companies
- Started their own business/side hustles



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# RISING STAR AWARDS CATEGORIES

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- **Individual:** A female individual who works within one of the categories whose current position is below director level.
- **Champion:** A senior individual of any gender who is championing gender equality either inside or outside their organisation.
- **Men for Gender Balance:** A senior man who is championing women and gender balance either inside or outside their organisation.
- **Company:** A company that clearly articulates their commitment to supporting their female talent pipeline.
- **Global Achiever:** A female individual from outside the UK, across any industry, whose current position is below director level.

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# RISING STAR INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRY CATEGORIES

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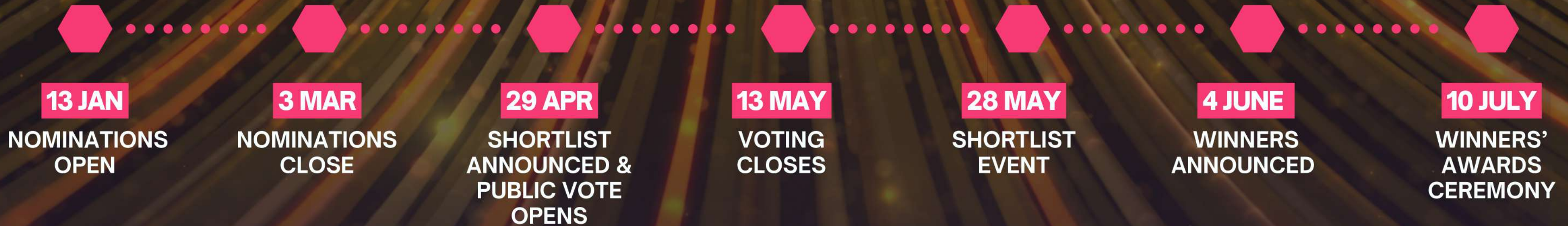
- ★ All other industries
- ★ Banking & Capital Markets
- ★ Charity and not for Profit
- ★ Defence
- ★ Digital
- ★ Diversity & Inclusion
- ★ Education & Academia
- ★ Energy & Utilities
- ★ Entrepreneurs & Startups
- ★ ESG
- ★ Healthcare & Wellbeing
- ★ HR and Recruitment
- ★ Insurance
- ★ Law
- ★ Media and Advertising
- ★ Professional Services & Consulting
- ★ Property
- ★ Public Sector \*NEW\*
- ★ Technology
- ★ Telecoms \*NEW\*

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# RISING STAR AWARDS TIMELINE 2025



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# RISING STAR AWARDS SPONSORS 2025



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# WHY ENTER THE AWARDS?

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- Opens doors of opportunity for you
- Provides a platform for you to tell YOUR story
- Raises awareness of your achievements
- Raises visibility of who you are in your industry/profession
- Gives you a platform to do more in your chosen area/pay it forward to others
- Showcases you as a role model
- Provides a talking point for opportunities
- Adds to your digital story on socials – e.g. award winning.
- Can help drive awareness of your achievements within your firm or business



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# WHY IS IT STOPPING YOU?

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- It may feel like you are putting yourself out there
- Your imposter syndrome may be on fire (questioning your achievements)
- You might feel it's a bit like bragging or boasting (especially when penning your nomination or if you get shortlisted)
- You might be worried about what other people will think
- You might feel like you haven't done enough to enter an awards or need to do more
- You might disagree with the fact that awards are a great platform for you to spring from



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# WHAT MAKES A GOOD NOMINATION?

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- It's not rushed
- It tells a story and captivates the reader
- We get to know you, your background and whatever history you choose to share
- What have you overcome to get where you are?
- It shouldn't be just a list of previous achievements, we need a little context!
- It shouldn't be pages and pages – be concise
- Detail how have you helped others, where have you lifted as you have climbed?
- Detail cause and effect, where have you made an impact and what did that impact lead to?
- It contains context, numbers, breadth and scope
- Where have you gone above and beyond?
- Did you do anything innovative to deliver an outcome?
- Self nominations are awesome!

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# WHAT ARE OUR JUDGES LOOKING FOR?

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- That you meet the criteria for the awards
- That you have spent time on your nomination/supporting information and it shows (spelling, layout, easy to read)
- You are telling your judge a story
- Your achievements and impact are there clearly for us to see, you have used cause and effect. This is the problem, this is how I solved it (and here are some bells and whistles I added too!)
- We can see you putting things in place or delivering initiatives that also help others – lifting as you climb, paying it forward (this could be helping younger generations, enabling others to learn, sharing your experiences)
- Examples of where you have defied the odds to achieve your goals
- Where you may have taken some risks

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# RISING STARS 2025 AWARDS PLATFORM



## Step 1

- Create an account with your details
- Choose which category your nomination best fits in to
- Select if you are nominating yourself or someone else
- Complete all the required information
- Submit nomination when ready (you can save and go back to your nomination at a later date, before submitting)
- Your nominee will receive an email with next steps

## Step 2 (Self-nominations only)

- Check your inbox/spam/junk folder for your link to submit your supporting information
- Complete supporting information (save as you go)
- Review and submit

Log in or register

Email

Must be a valid email address.

Continue

Share

[f](#) [X](#) [p](#) [in](#) [v](#)

## 2025 - Rising Star Awards

Start here

- 1 Register an account.
- 2 Start your entry (save it in-progress).
- 3 Submit your entry to be judged.

Best of luck!

For any questions, please contact [info@wearethecity.com](mailto:info@wearethecity.com)

My nominations → Entry form → Start nomination

All questions must be answered, unless marked optional.

Start here

Nominate Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to submit a nomination for our Rising Star awards.

Category

Nominee name

Who are you nominating?

I am nominating myself

I am nominating someone else

Please note that self-nominations will also require you to complete a two-step process. You will receive an email requesting you to submit your supporting information for our judges.

Save Save + close Cancel Preview Submit nomination

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# IMPORTANT REMINDERS

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- Don't underplay your achievements!
- Avoid listing every single certification - summarise, highlighting the most impactful
- Try not to write a statement without explaining the impact
- Always ask someone to review
- Remember, what you write in your bio will be published!
- Get the headshot right!
- Save what you write
- You have until 03 March to submit your nomination and your supporting information



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# OTHER AWARD WINNING OPPORTUNITIES

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The National Diversity Awards  
Asian Women of Achievement Awards  
EY Entrepreneur of the Year  
Global Women Awards  
WinTRADE Awards  
Women in Defence Awards  
Natwest EveryWoman Awards  
Inspiring Women in Business Awards  
Black British Business Awards  
Northern Power Women Awards  
Women in Credit Awards  
The Great British Entrepreneur Awards  
Forward Ladies Awards  
Women in Science Awards  
Arab Women of the Year Awards  
Women of the Year  
Precious Women Awards  
The Baton Awards

Computer Weekly Top 50  
The WISE Awards  
Black Women in Business Awards  
The HERoes Women Role Model Lists  
Best Business Women's Awards  
Women of the Future Awards  
The Global Women in Leadership Awards  
Forbes most powerful women in Business  
FDM Women in Tech Awards  
Women in Insurance Awards  
Women in Sales Awards  
Women in Construction Awards

Resources and links  
<https://awards-list.co.uk/uk-awards/business-leaders-awards-and-awards-for-women/>

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**ANY QUESTIONS?**

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