THE LONGFORD LYELL AWARD

First presented in 1968, the Longford Lyell Award (formerly the Raymond Longford Award) is the highest accolade the Australian Academy can bestow on an individual. The award is given to a person who has shown an unwavering commitment over many years to excellence in the film and television industries, and who has, through their body of work to date, contributed substantially to the enrichment of Australian screen culture.

The Award honours great Australian film pioneer Raymond Longford and his partner in filmmaking and in life, Lottie Lyell.

AFI Raymond Longford Award Recipients

Those awarded the Raymond Longford Award under the AFI between 1968 and 2010 are as follows.

1968  Ian Dunlop (Director)
1970  Stanley Hawes (Director/Producer)
1976  Ken G. Hall (Director)
1977  Charles Chauvel (Director/Producer/Writer)
1978  Paulette McDonagh, Phyllis McDonagh and Isobel McDonagh (Filmmakers)
1979  Jerzy Toeplitz (Founding Director of AFTRS)
1980  Tim Burstall (Director)
1981  Phillip Adams (Producer/Journalist)
1982  Eric Porter ( Animator)
1983  Bill Gooley (Film Technician)
1984  David Williams (Exhibitor/Distributor)
1985  Don Crosby (Actor)
1986  Barry Jones MP (Federal Minister & first Chairman of AFTRS)
1987  Paul Riomfalvy (First Director of the NSW Film Corporation)
1988  Russell Boyd (Cinematographer)
1989  John Meillon – Awarded posthumously (Actor)
1990  Peter Weir (Director)
1991  Fred Schepisi (Director)
1992  Lee Robinson (Director)
1993  Sue Miliken (Producer)
1994  Jack Thompson (Actor)
1995  Dr George Miller (Director)
1997  Jan Chapman (Producer)
1998  Charles ‘Bud’ Tingwell (Actor)
1999  John Politzer (Exhibitor/Distributor)
2000  Anthony Buckley AO (Producer)
2001  David Stratton (Film Critic)
2002  Patricia Edgar (Producer)
2003  Ted Robinson (Writer/Producer/Director/Choreographer)
2004  Patricia Lovell (Producer)
2005  Ray Barrett (Actor)
2006  Ian Jones (Writer/Producer/Director)
2007  David Hannay (Producer)
2008  Dione Gilmour (Natural History Filmmaker)
2009  Geoffrey Rush (Actor)
2010  Reg Grundy AC OBE (Broadcaster/Producer/Entrepreneur)

AACTA Raymond Longford Award Recipients

In 2011, the AFI established the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA). Therefore, Don McAlpine was the first screen practitioner to be awarded the AACTA Raymond Longford Award.

Inaugural AACTA Awards (2012)  Don McAlpine (Cinematographer)
2nd AACTA Awards (2013)  Al Clark (Producer)
3rd AACTA Awards (2014)  Jacki Weaver (Actress)
AACTA Longford Lyell Award Recipients

Originally known as the Raymond Longford Award, in honour of the great Australian film pioneer Raymond Longford. The name of the Award was changed in 2015 following extensive industry consultation, in recognition of Raymond Longford’s partner in filmmaking and in life, Lottie Lyell. Therefore, Andrew Knight was the first screen practitioner to be awarded the AACTA Longford Lyell Award.

4th AACTA Awards (2015) Andrew Knight (Writer/Producer)
5th AACTA Awards (2015) Cate Blanchett (Actress)
6th AACTA Awards (2016) Paul Hogan (Actor)
7th AACTA Awards (2017) Phillip Noyce (Director)