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SAFC and Screen Australia partner for DOCULAB 2018 Call for submissions

Doculab 2018, a new initiative supporting the development of a range of documentary and factual projects in South Australia, was launched today by the South Australian Film Corporation in conjunction with Screen Australia's Screen Sector Development Program.

Doculab 2018 is an intensive three day lab for six teams of factual screen-makers – mid-career and experienced teams alike.

During the first two days, participants will take part in a structured masterclass and lab program, led by three experienced industry mentors, to assist in developing their projects to market-ready stage.

Doculab culminates on the third day in a **Meet the Buyers** event which will see the participants pitching their projects to broadcasters, sales agents, and distributors, before opening up to the wider industry for a presentation and open forum discussion with the broadcasters and sales agents covering their commissioning requirements and current/anticipated trends in the marketplace.

Doculab 2018 will support participants to hone their pitching skills ahead of AIDC in March 2019, as well as provide grants of \$5000 to each project to prepare their pitch materials.

SAFC Chief Executive Courtney Gibson said "Doculab is about putting weight behind SA documentary projects and teams, bringing them together as a community to provide latest market intelligence and develop their projects to optimal creative strength before they're out to market, and we're so pleased to be partnering with Screen Australia to make this happen.

"The calibre of content emerging from South Australia is both locally and internationally recognised and it's important to continue nurturing its vibrant screen community." said **Sally Caplan, Head of Content at Screen Australia**.

"The Doculab initiative is committed to developing the skills and knowledge of diverse documentary filmmakers. We firmly believe that incubating people and projects through mentorships, funding and fostering pitching skills to penetrate specific markets is essential. We're excited to see new South Australian projects develop from this initiative that we hope provide longevity for the industry."

In line with both agencies' ongoing commitment to increasing screen industry diversity, Doculab 2018 will encourage participants from under-represented groups (defined in South Australia as female, female identifying and non-binary practitioners, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practitioners, those from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds, from LGBTQI communities, regional and remote practitioners and those with disability) to apply for this opportunity.

More information: <http://www.safilm.com.au/funding-and-support/development-support/doculab/>

MEDIA CONTACT Cathy Gallagher 0416 22 72 82 cathy@abcfilm.com

Both SAFC and Screen Australia are proud members of the Screen Diversity and Inclusion Network.

