

GUIDELINES

Film Lab: New Voices

Providing a platform for the next generation of diverse, South Australian filmmaking talent, **Film Lab: New Voices** is a low-budget, feature film skills development initiative.

Film Lab: New Voices is co-funded by:

- The South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC),
- Adelaide Film Festival (AFF),
- Screen Australia, and
- Mercury CX (formerly known as Media Resource Centre).

What is on offer?

Film Lab: New Voices will offer a bold, ambitious, and creative program to:

- foster a new generation of key creatives, and
- provide a tangible production and exhibition outcome.

The program will give three South Australian creative teams industry mentoring across a 12- month period. During this time, the teams will develop a low-budget feature film script. The project will be conceived and designed for the allocated budget.

Industry mentors with expertise in low-budget filmmaking. The mentors will guide the three teams through a rigorous skills development program.

At the end of the development phase, one project will receive a \$400,000 production grant to produce a feature film. The film will premiere at the Adelaide Film Festival 2022. Teams are encouraged to be entrepreneurial, but teams must obtain prior approval for:

- any additional finance
- in-kind support and
- be able to demonstrate that their films can be completed to a professional standard for the approved budget and timeframe.

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Who is eligible?

The SAFC is seeking applications from South Australian residents who are:

- early career writer, producer and director teams.

Applicants are expected to have short film, web series or narrative documentary credits. The teams must show their ability to deliver the project:

- to professional standards
- on schedule, and
- within the allocated budget.

Applications must:

- Be from South Australian teams who own or have the option to acquire the rights to develop and produce the work.
- Key creative team (writer/director/producer) must have at least one member from a group underrepresented in the South Australian screen industry.

Key creatives with prior feature film credits will be considered on a case-by- case basis.

The SAFC is committed to supporting increased participation of people from groups underrepresented in the South Australian screen industry. These include:

- female identifying writers and directors,
- First Nations practitioners,
- practitioners from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds,
- Deaf or disabled practitioners,
- practitioners from LGBTQIA+ communities and
- practitioners from regional and remote areas of South Australia.

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What projects are eligible?

This program is for new feature-length projects of any genre that show:

- a strong authorial voice,
- authentic storytelling, and
- independent spirit.

Projects must be designed with consideration to the available production funding. Projects are to be wholly produced and post-produced in South Australia.

The SAFC and industry mentors will work with teams to develop a production methodology. This methodology will be used to deliver within the project's approved budget.

Who is not eligible?

- Key creatives from interstate are not eligible for this program.

How will applications be assessed?

- The originality and creative ambition of the concept
- The marketability and potential audience for the project as presented in the pitch documents
- The overall quality of the pitch materials
- The diversity of the key creative team
- The authenticity of the storytelling
- The track record of the writer, director and producer
- The potential for the project to be realised within the proposed budget
- The commitment of the applicants to engage in the Film Lab: New Voices development process and to work professionally and to a high technical standard within the budget.

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How do I apply?

Applications will be made in the form of an Expression of Interest to the SAFC. Teams can pitch up to three projects within a single application.

Before applying: Applicants must discuss their application with the SAFC Production and Development Team.

Applications can be made via the SAFC's online grants portal safilm.smartygrants.com.au

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to pitch to an industry panel. The panel will comprise SAFC, AFF, Mercury CX and industry representatives.

Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified by email.

No late applications will be considered. Decisions on applications is final.

Important dates

Expressions of Interest Open: 1 December, 2020

Information Session: 1 December, 2020

Expressions of Interest close: 8 January, 2021 at 11.59pm ACDT

Shortlisted teams selected for interview: Week beginning 1 February, 2021

Confirmation of Film Lab: New Voices Teams: Week beginning 12 February, 2021

Development Phase: February, 2021 to December, 2022

Pitching of projects: January, 2022

Final Project moves into production: February, 2022

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Marketing materials made available to Adelaide Film Festival: July, 2022

Delivery to Adelaide Film Festival: September, 2022

World Premiere: October, 2022

Application materials

- A completed Film Lab: New Voices application form via Smarty Grants.
- A maximum 2-page pitch document for each project being submitted. This includes project logline, one paragraph synopsis (no longer than 1/3 page), genre, format, audience, potential market pathways.
- Statement of creative team's proposed low budget methodology for each submitted project. (maximum 1-page each).
- Curriculum vitae of all principals named in the team (maximum 2 pages each).
- One paragraph biography for all principals named in the team (for publicity purposes).
- Evidence of chain of title.
- Examples/links to previous work.

Funding conditions

The SAFC will provide funding as a grant.

The SAFC will only contract with the copyright holder(s). Transfer of copyright is a matter for the applicants, not the SAFC.

The program will not require projects to attach a Completion Guarantor.

Please refer to the SAFC's [Terms of Trade](#) Statement of Expectation regarding requirements on engaging with crew and other third parties. Reporting requirements will be stated in the relevant agreements.

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Projects successful in the development stages must enter into a Development Grant Agreement (DGA) with the SAFC. All approved projects are subject to SAFC terms and conditions.

The final project that is selected for production must enter into an agreement with the SAFC and Adelaide Film Festival (AFF). The project will be subject to SAFC and AFF terms and conditions.

Before you apply, please make sure you are familiar with the SAFC's [Terms of Trade](#).

Our commitment to diversity and accessibility

The SAFC is committed to supporting the increased participation of people from underrepresented groups in the screen industry.

Access requirements

If you have access requirements for this program, please contact us.

Email: programs@safilm.com.au

Telephone: 08 8394 2029 or via the National Relay Service

Where can I find out more?

Contact Jess Cahill on 08 8394 2029 or email programs@safilm.com.au and cc kath.mcintyre@safilm.com.au