GUIDELINES: DAF Centralised Indigenous Fellowship

As part of the Centralised initiative, Documentary Australia Foundation (DAF) will award an Indigenous Fellowship to support the career development of a First Nations’ documentary filmmaker resident in either Northern Territory or South Australia.

The Fellowship is a partnership between the Documentary Australia Foundation (DAF), the South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC), Screen Territory, National Indigenous Television (NITV) and Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS Indigenous). Running across three years, one Fellow will be selected annually for this prestigious opportunity.

Applications are now open for early to mid-career First Nations’ documentary practitioners to submit their proposal for this year-long Fellowship.

The DAF Centralised Indigenous Fellowship is an unparalleled opportunity for First Nations practitioners in the Northern Territory and South Australia to accelerate their career to a new level.

Launched in August 2019, Centralised is a ground-breaking initiative to boost First Nations filmmakers and screen creatives in South Australia and Northern Territory with specialised funding, support and development opportunities. The focus of Centralised is to encourage screen storytelling, practitioner and audience development in South Australia and the Northern Territory, with an emphasis on collaboration that crosses state borders.

What is on offer?

Each Fellow will receive support up to the value of $30,000 (excluding GST). In addition, they will receive up to $10,000 of in-kind support to attend training opportunities at AFTRS for an annual program.

Each Fellowship will be a bespoke program designed to meet the needs of the Fellow and may include, without limitation:

- Research and development of new documentary work
- Skills development and training
- Mentorship
- Attachment to a relevant professional
• Travel and accommodation expenses directly related to the Fellowship proposal
• Attendance at industry conferences or festivals
• Production expenses, including for pitching materials

The funds cannot be used to support:
• the costs of options in the work, copyright or life rights;
• the purchase of equipment, capital works or publication costs of film journals, books or magazines or the purchase of hardware, software or platform developer’s kits;
• Degree courses.

Who is eligible?
Applications must be from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander key creatives, who are residents in either South Australia or the Northern Territory. You need to have relevant experience within the documentary sector and at least one screen credit, of any genre, is required. Your previous work and current work in development will be considered as part of the assessment. You must be at least 18 years old. This Fellowship is aimed at early to mid-career practitioners, if you have one or more credits as a key creative on a theatrically released or broadcast documentary feature or broadcast television series, you are ineligible to apply. This excludes online platforms such as iView and SBS On Demand. If you have any questions about eligibility, please get in touch with the program contacts below.

How will my application be assessed?
Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:
• The quality of your proposal for professional development as part of the Fellowship
• The quality of your current documentary project(s) in development that are to be developed as part of the Fellowship
• The quality of your previous work and your commitment to the sector
• The strategic benefit of the Fellowship for your current stage of career

The application form will ask you to include the following:
• Your proposal for the Fellowship, maximum two pages. Your proposal must include indicative dates and timeline for the Fellowship as well as a realistic and achievable scope for the Fellowship.
• At minimum, a one paragraph synopsis of at least one documentary project that you will develop as part of the Fellowship
• Your CV and biography, including information on your previous work
• A description of the potential benefit of the Fellowship to your career
How do I apply?

Applications can be submitted via the Screen Territory Grants portal https://screenterritory.nt.gov.au/funding/applying-for-funding

Applications open on Thursday 4 February 2021.

Applications close on Friday 12 March 2021.

Applicants notified on Friday 9th April 2021.

DAF will notify the successful applicant via email by Friday 9 April 2021.

The successful applicant will enter into an agreement with the Documentary Australia Foundation and will need to provide an acquittal within 3 months of the completion of the Fellowship.

The decision on applications is final.

Where can I find out more?

To find out more about this opportunity, the application process and how to apply, you can either contact your State agency or the Documentary Australia Foundation.

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ABOUT CENTRALISED

CENTRALISED, developed by the South Australian Film Corporation & Adelaide Studios and Screen Territory together with collaborating partners Screen Australia’s Indigenous Department, Documentary Australia Foundation (DAF), AFTRS Indigenous (Australian Film, Television & Radio School), ABC and NITV will deliver a range of opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander screen creatives, creating clear pathways for emerging talent including mentoring, workshops, attachments and internships.