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Screenwest / NITV Language Documentary Initiative 'First Voices'

Program overview

Screenwest, in partnership with National Indigenous Television (NITV), are calling for inspirational Indigenous stories that are uniquely Western Australian.

Indigenous languages are endangered across the world, but there has been a surge of interest in speaking and learning the many beautiful Indigenous languages across Western Australia and more widely, Australia.

2019 was declared the Year of Indigenous Languages, which recognizes the importance of language in unique identity, cultural history, traditions and memories. In the spirit of this, the theme of this initiative is 'Our Language, Our Culture'.

NITV and Screenwest are looking for stories that advance understanding of the power of Indigenous languages from Western Australia's remarkable First Nations film makers.

This factual development and production initiative will see NITV and Screenwest develop and commission up to two x 30-minute documentaries, intended for broadcast on NITV in 2020. Filmmakers may submit multiple submissions.

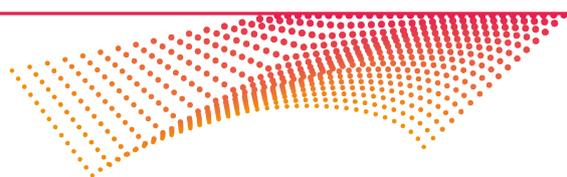
The initiative aims to further develop the skills and increase the broadcast credits of emerging to mid-level Western Australian Indigenous writers, directors and producers, while sharing their stories with a national audience.

Screenwest and NITV may decide to appoint an Executive / Series Producer or mentor to oversee the development and production of the projects.

Funding Available

Successful applicants may be offered up to a maximum budget of \$120,000 per half hour film. This amount will include development and production costs, along with any fees payable to an Executive Producer or series mentor (if appointed).

There will be a NITV licence fee of up to \$50,000 per half hour film.



Proposed Timeline

Launch of initiative/Call for filmmakers	May 2019
Development	July/August 2019
Pre-production	September 2019
Production	October/November 2019
Post-production	November/December 2019
Delivery to NITV/SW	January 2020

Eligibility

The applicant must:

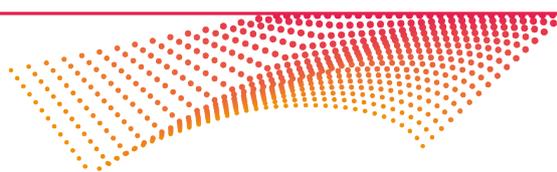
1. Meet the general eligibility requirements set out in the [Screenwest Terms of Trade](#).
2. Be a Western Australian Resident Indigenous Producer and/or filmmaker.
3. Demonstrated filmmaking experience and an interest in pursuing a career in the Screen Industry.
4. Hold the rights to the project.
5. Warrant that they can deliver the project by December 2019.
6. Warrant that they or any member of the key creative team are NOT a student at a film school or similar tertiary film, television or digital media course or institution and that the project is not and will not contribute to any course of study.

If an application has been unsuccessful in receiving funding support in the past, it cannot be re-submitted unless it has been substantially changed, developed or reworked. A document must be included with the application listing specific changes made to the re-submitted application. Re-submitted applications may not be accepted if it is determined that the project has not changed substantially.

Terms of funding

Special Conditions

Funding will be provided as a grant. Successful applicants will enter into a written Grant Agreement with Screenwest and a license agreement with NITV specifying the terms of the funding and what



the applicant will need to deliver to receive payments. Part of the budget includes a provision for the applicant to seek external legal advice when working through these agreements.

The project must be developed, produced and post-produced entirely in WA and all below the line crew **must be** West Australian residents.

An Executive/Series Producer or mentor may be appointed in consultation with the individual filmmaking teams, Screenwest and NITV, to develop and/or produce one or more of the projects. They will not retain any copyright in any of the projects and will be contracted by Screenwest.

Please note that as per Screenwest will retain a 1% Copyright each of the selected projects. For further information on this Copyright retention please refer to the Screenwest Terms of Trade.

General

The development, production and broadcast / communication on NITV of any content arising from the Initiative will be subject to further agreement on NITV's standard terms and conditions, commissioning process, the SBS Codes of Practice and Editorial Guidelines and Indigenous protocols.

The Grant funding will be allocated on Screenwest's standard Terms of Trade and will take the form of a non-recoupable grant. Screenwest will contract only with the Applicant.

Please read these guidelines alongside the Screenwest Terms of Trade and [SBS Codes of Practice](#) and [Editorial Guidelines](#) and [Indigenous protocols](#).

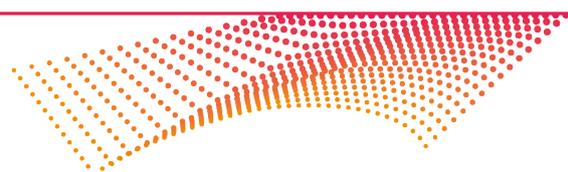
Failure to fulfil acquittal and/or meet deliverable requirements as specified within the funding agreement is a breach of contract. If contractual obligations are not met, Screenwest has the right to recoup funds already paid to the applicant and it may disqualify the recipient from being eligible for future Screenwest funding until outstanding funds are paid back, and the matter resolved with Screenwest.

How to apply

Prior to submitting an application, it's recommended that you discuss your application with the Screenwest Indigenous Program Executive.

Applicants will need to submit the following:

1. A completed Screenwest Application Form;



2. A Professional Development statement outlining how this opportunity will contribute to their professional screen career goals (half-page minimum);
3. A 1-3-page summary of the project idea and story outline, including a log line and one to two paragraph synopsis, information about any key talent, and creative vision notes from the writer/director. Include any background information of the applicant's connection to the story and addressing why the applicant wants to you want to make the film.
4. Written confirmation of the willingness of both the key talent and the community that they agree to participate in the documentary; and
5. A current CV and any key creatives attached at the time of submission.

Applicants must ensure all requested material is complete and submitted together. Applications that do not include all requested materials may not be accepted for assessment.

Screenwest will not fund projects that contain material that will bring or is likely to bring the Western Australian Government or Screenwest into public disrepute, contempt, scandal, or ridicule, or which might tend to reflect unfavourably on Screenwest.

Assessment criteria

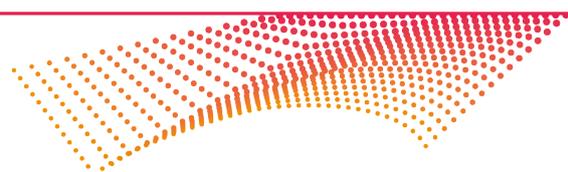
Screenwest Management and NITV representatives will jointly assess eligible applications competitively and consider all of the application materials provided, with a specific focus on the following criteria:

- The originality and quality of the story idea(s), uniqueness of voice, and potential to stand out in a competitive landscape.
- The potential NITV audience appeal.
- The exploration of form and narrative and the creative vision for the project.
- NITV programming requirements i.e. the documentary must attain a PG classification and be a maximum of 30-minutes in length per episode.
- The benefit to the applicant(s) at this stage of their career.

Assessment will be competitive, as there are limited places for this initiative. As a consequence, acceptance is not assured even where an application meets the above criteria.

Screenwest will take into consideration whether the applicant has a number of concurrent outstanding projects in development or production that may impact on the quality and timely delivery of further projects as part of its assessment of the application.

Screenwest seeks to reflect the diversity of Western Australia's community on screen and behind the camera, through projects funded and practitioners supported. The funding panel will take into consideration diversity elements of a submission during the assessment process.



Closing date

Applications must be received no later than **5:00pm AWST on Monday, 15 July 2019**.

Applicants should allow plenty of time to submit an application in case of unanticipated problems as late applications will not be accepted.

Submitting your application

Emailed applications

Applications can be emailed to funding@screenwest.com.au Applicants should forward all required application materials in a single email. Application materials **are not** to be emailed directly to individual staff members.

For emails larger than 8MB, please send via Screenwest's Hightail account by following this link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/screenwest>.

Hard copy applications

Post applications to:

Attn Indigenous Program Executive
Screenwest
PO Box 3275
EAST PERTH WA 6892

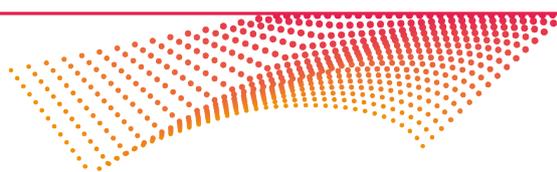
Hand deliver applications to:

Attn Indigenous Program Executive
Screenwest
30 Fielder Street
EAST PERTH WA 6004

Screenwest recommends that mailed applications are sent via registered post. No responsibility is taken for unregistered mail.

Application receipt confirmation

An application receipt will be forwarded to you within two (2) working days to confirm that Screenwest has received your application. **It is the applicant's responsibility to contact Screenwest if an application receipt has not been received within this timeframe.** Application material(s) will not be returned by Screenwest.



Program contact

If you would like to talk to someone about the Screenwest/NITV Indigenous Documentary Initiative *First Voices*, please contact:

Monique Hammond

Indigenous Development and Production Assistant, Screenwest

E: monique.hammond@screenwest.com.au

T: (08) 6169 2121

Toll free: 1800 463 043 (WA country callers only)

Devina McPherson

Indigenous Program Executive, Screenwest

E: devina.mcpherson@screenwest.com.au

T: (08) 6169 2112

Toll free: 1800 463 043 (WA country callers only)

Applicants should note that consultations can be in high demand. Consequently, it is best to telephone or email the program contact for an appointment or general advice well before planning to submit an application. Applicants are **strongly** encouraged to discuss their applications before applying.

