Southern Exposure Film Fund 2017-18
Information and eligibility guidelines

Background

The Southern Exposure Film Fund (SEFF) is open to residents of Lambeth and Southwark Councils seeking development support and funding for their short films. Southern Exposure is part of Film London’s city-wide fund, London Calling. Funded by the BFI, Creative Skillset and the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark, London Calling is part of the BFI NETWORK.

SEFF encourages creative excellence and originality in our local filmmakers to work towards a sustained support programme from development to distribution. After an initial online application process, up to eight projects will be shortlisted for a one-day networking and story event on 15th September, followed by four evening sessions of intensive development and pitch training before a final interview on 16th October to determine which projects will be given further support and cash grants.

Film London will then run a six workshops with professional mentors. The workshops are compulsory for all successful applicants and will run in the early evenings and one weekend in November 2017. Areas to be covered include budgeting and scheduling, casting, locations, distribution and post-production.

The initial application process is entirely online via Film London – www.filmlondon.org.uk/londoncalling.

What kind of projects are we looking for?

We are looking to fund projects of no more than 10 minutes’ duration that offer innovative and engaging approaches to filmmaking supported by a well-considered application. We welcome all genres of fiction, documentary and animation.

Due to the tight schedule, we are looking for productions and teams who show evidence of advanced development to move into pre-production by year end, ready to shoot in January/February 2018. Projects must be completed and fully delivered by 30th April 2018. Failure to do so will result in all or part of your grant being revoked.

Please note that students, options on previously published material, writers’ fees, filmed performances, video art and installations are not eligible for this fund.

Who are we looking for

Applicants must live in the London Boroughs of Southwark or Lambeth. Proof of this will be required. The applicant must also be a ‘senior’ member of the team, i.e. writer, writer/director, director or producer only.

We prefer applications from teams with a producer on board already but will accept submissions from individuals. Please note that a producer must be in place and committed to attending both SEFF and Film London workshops by 15th September. Production companies based in Lambeth or Southwark are also welcome to apply.

Applicants may submit more than one project for consideration but should bear in mind SEFF looks for quality, not quantity. Students cannot apply to the fund but we do offer work placements and some training to students and young people from local communities and higher education. Please contact Brek Taylor for more information.

Budget

SEFF funding can be used in conjunction with other sources of funding. Please give careful estimates, including in-kind support, of all potential income and expenditure. Proof of match funding will be required in the form of letters of commitment before we release funds. You will be required to pay crew National Minimum Wage (NMW). Even if you are not VAT registered, please ensure that your budgeted items are inclusive of VAT.

Recoupment

SEFF maintains a recoupment policy to ensure the legacy of its work. This is a contractual requirement in the event that successful applicants sell on the rights to their work to a third party at a profit.

Supporting materials

Supporting material should provide insight to the applicant(s) narrative, dramatic and/or visual style. Links to previous work must be accessible online and should relate to your proposal and demonstrate your potential to realize the project. Clearly indicate your role in the production of all supporting material. Please send any written material as attachments in .pdf format, not Final Draft or any other screenwriting programme. Please label these clearly with the name the primary applicant and project title.

What is the Selection Procedure?

The initial applications will be assessed by SEFF’s Executive Producer and officers from Southwark and Lambeth alongside representatives from Film London against the following criteria:

- originality of proposal and creative use of the moving image medium;
- effective storytelling and production techniques;
- ability of the applicant(s) to deliver the proposal;
- likelihood that the proposal can be realised within the outlined budget and schedule;
- suitability for distribution on a range of platforms.

The shortlisted applicants will be notified by 18th August and development will commence with the networking and story event on 15th September. 1-2 lines of feedback will be provided on each application to benefit further production development but no further communication can be entered into with Film London or SEFF staff thereafter.

Approvals & Credits

Film London and SEFF representatives reserve the right to meaningful consultation at all stages of development, production and post, including final edit. For the avoidance of doubt, films cannot be picture locked without prior written approval from Film London and SEFF. Film London, SEFF and its partners will also have contractual credit requirements. Copyright resides with the filmmaker.

Music

Because music is often costly and/or difficult to clear, we have to stipulate that only music specifically commissioned for the film or pre-cleared ‘library’ music can be used on this scheme. All music must have worldwide rights clearance in all media in perpetuity.

Delivery & Exhibition

The films will be screened at a London Calling Showcase in June 2018 alongside films from all the borough funds. Some films may also be entered into the London Film Festival programme. Details to be announced at a later date.

Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications open</td>
<td>13th June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEFF official launch</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications close</td>
<td>Noon, 25th July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlisted candidates notified</td>
<td>16th August 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Story workshop &amp; networking</td>
<td>15th September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEFF Workshop Tuesdays</td>
<td>19th Sept- 10th Oct 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final interviews</td>
<td>16th October 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Successful applicants notified</td>
<td>19th October 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL Workshop Wednesdays</td>
<td>25th Oct - 22nd Nov 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-production period</td>
<td>Dec 2017 – Jan 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production period</td>
<td>Jan– Feb 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-production period</td>
<td>February - April 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final delivery</td>
<td>30th April 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFI Southbank Showcase</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact

For general enquiries:
Brek Taylor - brek@tailormadeproductions.com
For technical support with your application:
Film London - shorts@filmlondon.org.uk