



Southern Exposure Film Fund

Information and Eligibility Guidelines Autumn/Winter 2011

The Southern Exposure Film Fund (SEFF) is open to residents from Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham who are seeking funding for their films. It is one of four film funds in London co-managed and funded by Film London. SEFF encourages creative excellence and originality in our local filmmakers with a sustained support programme from development to distribution. SEFF and Film London will be running a ten-part series of workshops to be held at various venues across London with professional mentors. The workshops will be compulsory for all successful applicants and will run in the early evenings from December through to February.

The application process this year is entirely ONLINE via Film London. Please visit www.filmlondon.org.uk for more details. Please note, it is highly recommended that all supporting materials (such as storyboards, previous work etc) be sent electronically. If hard copies (such as DVDs) must be sent, please make sure they are clearly labelled, to the address below.

What kind of projects are we looking for?

We are looking to support projects that offer original, stylish approaches to filmmaking supported by a well-considered application. We welcome all genres including fictional shorts, documentaries, features and animation.

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

This year, SEFF is operating under very strict budgetary constraints.

- Only three films will be commissioned, one from each borough
- Grants of £3000 will be awarded per project (paid in three installments)
- Projects must be completed by 19 June 2012 – failure to do so will result in all or part of your grant being revoked

Who are we looking for?

Applicants must live in the London Boroughs of Lewisham, Southwark or Lambeth. Proof of this will be required. Teams of writers, directors and producers, as well as individuals and production companies, are welcomed.

Applicants can submit more than one project for consideration but should bear in mind SEFF looks for quality and not quantity. The applicant must be the borough resident and must also be a 'senior' member of the team, i.e. writer, writer/director, lead actor, director or producer only.

Students cannot apply to the fund but we do offer work placements on the films to students from local schools, colleges and universities. Please contact Elizabeth Mitchell for more information.

Budget

As we expect SEFF to be used in conjunction with other sources of funding, please give careful estimates, including in-kind support, of all income and expenditure likely to be incurred. Proof of match funding will be required in the form of letters of commitment. If you are not VAT registered, please ensure that your budgeted items are inclusive of VAT.

Recoupment

Though recoupment is not expected, successful applicants who intend to sell on the rights to their work will have to sign a contract with the Production Fund detailing our recoupment policy. Please contact Elizabeth Mitchell for more information.

Supporting materials

Supporting materials should include examples of previous work that relate to your proposal and demonstrate your potential to realize the project. Clearly indicate your role in the production of the supporting material. We prefer to view work online but DVD is accepted. Please send all scripts in .pdf or Word formats, not Final Draft or any other screenwriting programme.

What is the Selection Procedure?

The applications will be assessed by relevant officers from Lewisham, Southwark and Lambeth alongside representatives from Film London and the fund's professional mentors, against the following criteria:

- originality of proposal and use of medium,
- effective techniques,
- the ability of the applicant to deliver the proposal,
- the likelihood that the proposal can be realised within the outlined budget and schedule and its suitability for distribution.

The short-listed applicants will be interviewed week of 21 November before final decisions are made week of 28 November. Due to the exceptionally high levels of applications, SEFF cannot enter into any communication regarding unsuccessful applications.

Training

Following last year's successful pilot training scheme, SEFF will continue to work with the chosen applicants in a structured way during development and pre-production. Experts in various fields such as producers, script editors, 1st ADs, DPs, actors, location managers, art directors and casting directors will be invited to join us for weekly masterclasses over ten non-consecutive evenings from December to February before the production period starts in March. At least one member of each filmmaking team will be required to attend each session. Of the ten masterclasses, seven will be open to all four film funds across London. SEFF will provide an additional three exclusively to their filmmakers in script development and casting. In addition, one-to-one advice will be available on the usual issues of location permits, crewing up, insurance and facilities hire etc.

Approvals

Representatives of the fund will approve budget, schedule and final shooting script before production can start and will also need to see the final cut of the project before picture lock.

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 three films will be screened at The Best of Borough Awards in June/July 2012 alongside films from all the borough funds. Details to be announced at a later date.

Timetable

Applications	Monday 31 October 2011
Interviews	Week commencing 21 November 2011
Notification	Week commencing 28 November 2011
Workshops	7-9pm from 7 December 2011
Production period	March - April 2012
Delivery	19 June 2012
BFI Showcase	Week commencing 19 July 2012

Please send supporting materials ONLY by Monday 31 October 2011 to:

Southern Exposure Film Fund c/o Lewisham Arts Service, 2nd Floor, Laurence House, Catford Road, London SE6 4RU