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NORTHERN TERRITORY  
**FILM OFFICE**

# NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2011

## NTFO FUNDING

Applications for an additional round of the Screen Grants Funding Program 2010-11 are now open.

Applications to all funding strands, except travel funding, close **5.00pm, Wednesday 13 April 2011**.

Funding is available through application for:

### Project Development – Draft Funding

Draft funding is available for practitioners to develop feature films, drama series, telemovies, documentaries, animation and digital media projects that are able to demonstrate marketplace interest, or significant benefits to the Northern Territory screen industry.

### Project Development – Seed Funding

Seed funding is available for practitioners to develop feature films, drama series, telemovies, documentaries, animation and digital media projects that are able to demonstrate significant benefits to the Northern Territory screen industry.

### Production Funding

Production funding is available for the production and post production of feature films, drama series, telemovies, documentaries, animation and digital media projects that have secured the majority of finance and have marketplace commitment.

### Industry Development Funding

Industry development funding is available to support Northern Territory screen organisations develop and grow, and provide opportunities for skills training, professional development and building partnerships for the local screen industry.

## Screen Culture Funding

Screen culture funding is available for events and activities that provide a screen experience, and encourage promotion of the screen industry to the Northern Territory public.

## Travel Funding

Funding is available to support Northern Territory screen practitioners with travel costs for professional and business development – to attend Australian markets, conferences, festivals, screenings, seminars and workshops and, if appropriate overseas festivals and markets.

### Deadline

Applications for travel funding must be received no later than **four weeks** prior to the date of travel. The NTFO will process all applications within four weeks of the date received by the NTFO.

If you are intending to apply for funding you must ensure all the submission materials listed in the guidelines are submitted. Failure to do so may result in your application being rejected by the NTFO. The NTFO strongly encourages applicants to submit audio visual examples if appropriate with their application.

For further information on the Screen Grants Funding Program including guidelines and application forms [click here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Documentary Filmmaking Information Session - Darwin

As part of the REALISATOR 2011 program the NTFO will be hosting a special documentary filmmaking information session with acclaimed Australian documentary producer Sally Ingleton (*Penguin Island*, *John Gollings: Eye for Architecture*, *Community Cop*, *Tibet: Murder in the Snow*, *Seed Hunter*) and Claire Jager, Investment/Development Manager, Documentary, Production Investment Department, Screen Australia.

The session will provide documentary filmmakers or those interested in documentary filmmaking with the opportunity to hear about the experiences of one of Australia's acclaimed documentary producers.

Attendees will also be given an overview of Screen Australia's documentary funding programs, and NTFO Director Penelope McDonald will also be on hand to answer any questions in relation to the NTFO's Screen Grants Funding Program.

**Date:** Tuesday 22 March 2011

**Time:** 5.00pm to 6.30pm

**Venue:** Red Building 6.1.01 – Lecture Theatre, Casuarina Campus, Charles Darwin University

**RSVP:** Please RSVP to the NTFO by **COB, Monday 21 March 2011** by phoning 8952 5222 or e-mailing [film.office@nt.gov.au](mailto:film.office@nt.gov.au).

## Screen Australia Documentary Briefing and One-on-One's – Alice Springs

Claire Jager, Investment/Development Manager, Documentary, Production Investment Department, Screen Australia will be in Alice Springs on Thursday 24 and Friday 25 March 2011 to meet with documentary filmmakers and provide them with an overview of Screen Australia's documentary funding programs.

To request a one-on-one meeting with Claire please contact the NTFO on 8952 5222 or e-mail [film.office@nt.gov.au](mailto:film.office@nt.gov.au) by **COB, Tuesday 22 March 2011**.

The details of the Screen Australia Documentary Briefing are:

**Date:** Thursday 24 March 2011

**Time:** 4.00pm to 5.30pm

**Venue:** NTFO, the Old Courthouse, Corner of Hartley and Parsons Streets (entry via Parsons Street)

**RSVP:** Please RSVP to the NTFO by **COB, Wednesday 23 March 2011** by phoning 8952 5222 or e-mailing [film.office@nt.gov.au](mailto:film.office@nt.gov.au).

## NEWS

### AIDC 2011

The NTFO through the Screen Grants Funding Program supported 12 Territorians with Travel Grants to attend the 2011 Australian International Documentary Conference (AIDC) held in Adelaide from Tuesday 1 to Friday 4 March 2011.

Penelope McDonald and Kira Tapps from the NTFO supported a Territory delegation including Lisa Albert, Adam and Erin Britton, Rachel Clements, David Curl, Mark Grose, Vincent Lamberti, Danielle Loy, Simon Manzie, Skye Raabe, Vikki Riley and Tim Wood.

AIDC provided Territorians with the opportunity to network, deal and be inspired through attendance at master classes, panel discussions and keynote addresses, as well as through attending meetings about their projects.

The Territory project, *Lucky Country*, was one of four projects publicly presented to broadcasters and distributors at Trailer Park Pitch. As a result of that, Vincent Lamberti and Lisa Albert have developed further interest in their documentary, that was originally developed through the NTFO's REALISATOR documentary development program.

*Croker Island Exodus*, another documentary developed with support from the NTFO, to be directed by Steven McGregor, and produced by Danielle McLean and Anna Grieve, was presented to broadcasters and distributors at the AIDC forum, MeetMarket.

Kira Tapps attended sessions presented by ABC and SBS. The following are her notes from these sessions:

## ABC TV: Commissioning in the age of Controllers

Speakers: Jennifer Collins, Head of Factual, Alan Erson, Head of Documentaries, Karina Holden, Commissioning Editor – Science and Natural History, and Chris Thorburn, Commissioning Editor – Contemporary Documentaries

- ABC has four distinct platforms and channels; ABC1, ABC2, ABC3 and iView.
- ABC now operates under a controller model. The controllers are:
  - Brendan Dahill, Controller ABC1
  - Stuart Menzies, Controller ABC2
  - Tim Brooke-Hunt, Controller ABC Children's
  - Arul Baskaran, Controller ABC Multiplatform
- Competes for audiences.
- Is willing to do stuff the market won't.
- Content needs to be entertaining and thought provoking.
- Lifestyle programs are acquired not commissioned.

### History:

- Can't repeat history stories, but can repeat periods.
- History should chart change in a country.
- Can do war stories, but they must appeal to younger audiences.
- Will do social or powerful documentaries.

### Science:

- Prioritising short series – 8.00pm for 30 minutes or 8.30pm for one hour.
- Have previously done environmental science.
- Like science to look big and expensive.
- Are interested in hard science as there has been a swing towards softer science recently.
- Need to think about form, visual appeal and narrative.
- Have to consider what makes this project different from a segment for *Catalyst* or *Australian Story*.
- Are interested in co-productions as well as domestic programs.

### Religion:

- *Compass* is the dedicated program for screening religious or ethics based content.
- Have a small commission window for *Compass*, however, most content is produced in house.
- Looking to commission a three part series.
- Stories need to be real, relevant and speak to a contemporary audience.

For further information on factual and documentary commissioning at the ABC [click here](#).

## In Conversation with SBS Documentaries

Speakers: Matt Campbell, Director of Television and Online Content, John Godfrey, Commissioning Editor Factual, Peter Newman, Commissioning Editor, Documentaries – Commissioned Content, and Jane Roscoe, Network Programmer

- The documentary budget is a leveraged \$10M - \$11.5M.
- Are looking for the very best ideas that are distinctly SBS.
- Values; create debate, push boundaries, surprise audiences and inspire change.
- Will take on tough subjects.
- Is looking for new talent, particularly a provocative multicultural voice that can look at Australia.
- Documentaries need to surprise audiences.

#### **SBS will commission:**

- Short run series that look at immigration, race and religion (particularly Islam).
- Science, however, the series needs to better reflect the charter. As an example; health issues that effect multicultural Australia.
- Single documentaries, however, these need to throw some serious punches and may be built into a season around the theme.
- Indigenous documentaries that tackle big issues i.e. deaths in custody, domestic violence.

#### **SBS don't commission:**

- Half hours, shorts or interstitials.
- Arts, however, SBS now has an arts channel, Studio, on pay TV.
- Natural history.
- Feature length documentaries with the exception of *The Tall Man* which will go to air later this year.
- Projects without significant Australian content.

For further information on SBS commissioning [click here](#).

#### **Opening Shot**

During the official opening of AIDC, Kim Dalton, Director of Television, ABC TV announced *Opening Shot*, a joint initiative of ABC TV and Screen Australia and a continuation of the *triple j tv docs* initiative which will be open to emerging filmmakers aged 35 years or under.

Further information on *Opening Shot* will be provided as it comes to hand.

## **SCREEN AUSTRALIA FUNDING AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Screen Australia Funding**

Screen Australia is the Commonwealth Government's screen agency providing support to Australian film, television, documentary and digital media makers.

Screen Australia's funding programs aim to support the development of a highly creative, culturally relevant, innovative and commercially sustainable Australian screen production industry.

For further information on the funding available and upcoming deadlines visit the Screen Australia [website](#).

## YouTube Map My Summer

Screen Australia in collaboration with YouTube are calling on Australians to share their summer experience by picking up a camera and uploading their videos to the YouTube Map My Summer portal.

Footage uploaded will then be used by one of three upcoming Australian filmmakers, Amy Gebhardt, Ariel Kleiman or Luke Doolan to create a final short film. The selected filmmaker will be chosen and mentored by Dr George Millar and the short film produced will premiere at a gala event at the Sydney Film Festival in June 2011.

Five Australians whose footage is included in the final film will be invited to attend the premiere at the Sydney Film Festival with return flights to Sydney and accommodation provided.

To upload your video to the YouTube Map My Summer portal [click here](#). Videos must be uploaded by **Thursday 31 March 2011** for the chance to be included in the final film.

For further information on YouTube Map My Summer visit the Screen Australia [website](#).

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Melbourne International Film Festival

The Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) is calling for submissions for the 60<sup>th</sup> MIFF which is being held from Thursday 21 July to Sunday 7 August 2011.

MIFF is seeking short and feature fiction, animation, documentary and experimental films.

For further information on submitting to MIFF [click here](#). Regular submissions close **Friday 18 March 2011** and late submissions close **Thursday 31 March 2011**.

### Katherine, NT

As part of the ABC Open program in the Top End, ABC Open are calling for contributions to Katherine, NT an audio visual project that will showcase some of the characters living in Katherine.

For further information on contributing to Katherine, NT visit the ABC Open [website](#) or contact ABC Open Producer Top End, Will Tinapple by e-mailing [abcopen.topend@abc.net.au](mailto:abcopen.topend@abc.net.au). The project ceases on **Sunday 27 March 2011**.

### 2011 Revelation Perth International Film Festival

The Revelation Perth International Film Festival is calling for entries for its 2011 Festival which is being held from Thursday 14 July to Sunday 24 July 2011.

The Festival is driven by works that explore style, content and form and accepts all types of films from animations to documentaries to features.

For more information on entering the 2011 Revelation Perth International Film Festival [click here](#).  
Entries close **Friday 8 April 2011**.

The Revelation Perth International Film Festival is also calling for applications from Territorians with a genuine interest in cinema and screen culture for the Revelation Travel Fellowship.

The Revelation Travel Fellowship will provide three successful applicants from any state or territory of Australia (excluding Western Australia) with a contribution of \$1 000 towards attendance at the festival. Successful applicants will also receive a Festival Gold Pass, a Revelation Guest Pack, Opening Night tickets, free access to all RevCon Sessions and masterclasses and the opportunity to be a special part of the event.

To be eligible for the Revelation Travel Fellowship applicants are required to tell the festival in 500 words or less why attending the festival will benefit their craft, skill, network, knowledge or personal gratification.

For further information on the Revelation Travel Fellowship [click here](#). Submissions close **Saturday 30 April 2011**.

### **MIFF 37°South Market**

MIFF is calling for applications for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual MIFF 37°South Market which is being held from Thursday 21 to Sunday 24 July 2011.

MIFF 37°South Market is Australia's only film co-financing market to occur in the context of a major festival.

For further information on applying to the MIFF 37°South Market [click here](#). Applications close **Tuesday 12 April 2011**.

### **Pitch It! @ Message Sticks**

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) are calling for applications from Indigenous filmmakers for Pitch It! a workshop and pitching session aiming to provide participants with the opportunity to learn the art of pitching and receive feedback from industry professionals.

Up to 10 Indigenous filmmakers will be invited to attend a three day workshop which will be held at the AFTRS in Sydney from Wednesday 11 to Friday 13 May 2011. The workshop will be led by Glenys Rowe, a marketing strategist specialising in film and audio productions. Following the workshop participants will have the opportunity to pitch their project to a panel of broadcasters at the Message Sticks Indigenous Film Festival on Sunday 15 May 2011.

The winner of Pitch It! will receive \$4 000 in prize money from AFTRS which will allow them to develop their pitch into a treatment.

For further information on Pitch It! or to request an application form contact Pauline Clague on 02 9805 6416 or e-mail [pauline.clague@aftrs.edu.au](mailto:pauline.clague@aftrs.edu.au). Applications close **Friday 15 April 2011**.

## MIFF TAKE /60 Short Film Competition

To celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MIFF the Festival is calling for filmmakers to submit a short film which will go into the running to be screened at MIFF 2011.

Films can be shot on any device, must feature a reference to MIFF, but must not be longer than six minutes.

For further information on the MIFF TAKE /60 Short Film Competition [click here](#). Entries close **5.00pm, Friday 29 April 2011**.

## Fist Full of Films

Fist Full of Films is calling for entries for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Fist Full of Films.

Fist Full of Films is a short film competition that accepts films across a variety of genres as well as music clips. Eligible films and music clips submitted to Fist Full of Films go in the running for the Galah Awards and may also be screened at the Fist Full of Films Festival which is being held in Darwin on Friday 3 and Saturday 4 June 2011.

Filmmakers submitting short films to Fist Full of Films are encouraged to use the key word CROCK in their film, although this is not compulsory.

For further information on Fist Full of Films and to download the entry form [click here](#). Entries close **5.00pm, Tuesday 3 May 2011**.

## One Small Window

ABC Open are calling for submissions to One Small Window, a project which invites people to submit a raw video of between 30 and 60 seconds that captures a moment in life.

For further information on submitting a video to One Small Window [click here](#). Submissions close **Friday 29 May 2011**.

## Robert McKee Australian Seminar Tour 2011

In June 2011 Screen Australia and Epiphany will present a series of seminars from renowned screenwriting lecturer Robert McKee.

The Robert McKee Australian Seminar Tour 2011 will commence with the universally acclaimed *Story Seminar* which is being held in Sydney from **Friday 17 to Monday 20 June 2011**.

Following *Story Seminar* Robert McKee will present three new *Genre Seminars* in Melbourne on *Thriller*, *Comedy* and *Love Story*. The *Genre Seminars* will be held on **Friday 24 June 2011** (*Thriller*), **Saturday 25 June 2011** (*Comedy*) and **Sunday 26 June 2011** (*Love Story*).

For further information on the Robert McKee Australian Seminar Tour 2011 and to book online [click here](#) or phone Epiphany on 02 9572 7222.

## SCREEN FUTURES SUMMIT

The 2011 Screen Futures Summit, presented by Australian Teachers of Media (ATOM) and Metro Magazine, is being held in Melbourne from Saturday 9 to Tuesday 12 July 2011.

The Screen Futures Summit will bring together media educators, filmmakers, producers, distributors, academics, film critics, bloggers and publishers from around the world to explore two dynamic areas, Screen Worlds and Screen Education.

Screen Worlds will explore the online world in relation to broadcasting, publishing, video games and film distribution, whilst Screen Education will explore education in relation to the place of media in the new national curriculum.

Sessions in each strand will include workshops, lectures, screenings, Q&A's and presentations.

For further information on the Screen Futures Summit [click here](#). To register for the Screen Futures Summit [click here](#).