

Applications Open for Screen Australia's Enterprise 2024 Program

Wednesday 8 November 2023: Screen Australia is pleased to announce its Enterprise 2024 program is open for applications. The program aims to foster sustainable screen businesses and careers for screen practitioners in key creative roles.

Screen Australia is calling for applications from ambitious screen production businesses and creators looking to capitalise on success and expand their capacity and influence in Australian storytelling. In addition to receiving Enterprise funding, successful applicants will receive supplementary support in the form of targeted learning modules and experienced mentors who can offer individualised creative, career and business expertise.

Screen Australia's CEO **Graeme Mason** said, "Screen Australia is committed to building pathways for sustainable careers and supporting screen businesses to expand their capacity. The Enterprise Program is at the centre of this commitment and since its launch in 2009, the program has evolved to ensure it continues to best meet the needs of the industry and have the most impact."

"In this next round of applications, we're encouraging confident and tactical proposals from a range of practitioners and businesses that drive our whole sector forward to meet domestic and global demand. By empowering our local talent and facilitating professional growth and skills development, we can continue to cultivate a dynamic, diverse and competitive screen industry."

In <u>August 2023</u>, Screen Australia announced \$4.6 million in Enterprise funding shared amongst 18 individuals and 15 businesses, including Blacksand Pictures, Blackfella Films, Closer Productions, GARUWA and Alena Lodkina, Cath Moore, Christopher Amos, Mohini Herse and Larissa Behrendt.

Enterprise Business recipient **Kauthar Abdulalim** said, "The Enterprise Business has been a game changer for Blacksand Pictures. It's not just a grant; it's a comprehensive program that has significantly boosted our production company with its array of resources, mentorships, and tailored modules. The additional support has equipped us with invaluable industry knowledge and insights that we can now use to take our company to the next level. We are now better positioned to implement the right strategies to achieve our goal of becoming a thriving and sustainable Australian production company - both locally and internationally. The future is very exciting for us as a result."

Enterprise People recipient **Jessica Tuckwell** said, "Even only mid-way through my Enterprise program, I can tell it will be a major turning point in my career and an invaluable change of perspective. The conversations I've had and people I've met are so far outside my usual network that even though I'm sure there will be some concrete outcomes work-wise by the end of the program, it's the space to revive, recalibrate, let the new conversations and ideas percolate and set some new goals for my next phase that will ultimately be the thing that means I have a sustainable (and enjoyable!) career into the future."

The program is open to practitioners and businesses across First Nations, Scripted, Documentary, and Online areas of content creation. Enterprise funding continues to be available through the Business and People programs.

ABOUT ENTERPRISE

The Enterprise Program reopened in 2023 and consists of two programs: **Business** and **People**, and two streams within each: **Generate** and **Premium** and offers a secured funding amount for all successful applicants with \$75,000 available for Enterprise People and \$200,000 for Enterprise Business.

<u>Enterprise Business</u> supports proposals from screen businesses that create change, growth and pathways to sustainability and have benefit to the screen industry more broadly.

- Generate supports establishing companies, generally within their first 5 years of operation.
- Premium supports established companies, generally with more than 5 years' operation.





<u>Enterprise People</u> supports placements for individuals that create a career defining development opportunity and support a sustainable and escalating screen career.

- Generate supports early career individuals in a domestic Australian context.
- Premium supports mid and established career individuals in an international context, in order to provide returns to the Australian market and industry.

Screen Australia's Enterprise program was first launched in 2009, with the most recent participants announced in August 2023. During this time, Screen Australia has invested over \$45 million in the Enterprise program, to the benefit of more than 115 screen businesses and 118 individual creators. Learn more about the 2023 Enterprise cohort <u>here</u>.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for People and Business applicants will open on Wednesday 8 November 2023.

- Business Stage 1 applications close on 5pm AEDT Thursday 22 February 2024.
 - **Business Stage 2** is only open to those companies who are most competitive (based on assessment of their Stage 1 application). Those applicants will be invited by Screen Australia to submit to Stage 2.
- **People** applications are a one-stage application process and will close 5pm AEST Thursday 9 May, 2024.

Applicants must review the full guidelines before applying - see here for Business and here for People.

Watch Screen Australia's Enterprise series to hear from industry experts to hear advice from previous People recipients <u>here</u> and Business recipients <u>here</u>.

Applications for Enterprise Business (Generate and Premium companies) must read the <u>FAQs</u> made available by Screen Australia relating to the Enterprise program.

If you have questions about the Enterprise program and applications, please contact <u>Enterprise@screenaustralia.gov.au</u>.

ENDS

