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australiansin**film**

MEDIA RELEASE

Applications now open for Talent Gateway and Global Producers Exchange 2022

Wednesday 6 April 2022: Screen Australia and Australians in Film (AiF) have announced the return of the Talent Gateway program and the Global Producers Exchange, two joint initiatives for established Australian creatives to expand on their skills and connect with key US decision makers, as well as help position Australian projects for success in an increasingly global market.

Supporting Partners for these industry development programs are Screen NSW, VicScreen, South Australian Film Corporation and Scripted Ink. Industry Partners are Australian Directors' Guild, Australian Writers' Guild, Screen Producers Australia, Screen Canberra, Screen Queensland, Screen Tasmania, Screen Territory, Screenwest and Screenworks.

Screen Australia's CEO **Graeme Mason** said, "With last year's programs still underway, we're already seeing those participants gaining great exposure in the US market, honing their skills and fostering important relationships. With thanks to additional support from the Federal Government, we're delighted to partner again with AiF to offer these invaluable opportunities for another crop of talented creatives this year. The US is the key territory for screen sector finance, distribution and careers, and these initiatives allow filmmakers to build networks and find pathways to tell distinctive Australian stories on a world stage and create career opportunities for themselves and our sector as a whole."

Australians in Film Executive Director **Peter Ritchie** said, "What AiF does best is support and open doors for Australian producers, writers and directors. To that end, we help them establish meaningful partnerships and create strategic pathways to investment, development and casting here in LA. Working with highly-respected and connected industry leaders such as Rebecca Yeldham, Sheila Hanahan Taylor and Jennifer Kushner, and with the incredible support of Screen Australia and all our partners, we have been able to deliver exceptional access to the key creatives and decision makers in the US."

Matthew Greenfield (President of Searchlight Pictures), **William Horberg** (Founder and Producer Wonderful Films - *The Queen's Gambit*), **Lynette Howell Taylor** (Founder and Producer 51 Entertainment - *A Star is Born*), **Alan Khamoui** (Senior Film Executive Amazon Studios), **David Levine** (Chief Creative Officer Anonymous Content - *True Detective*), **Ben Lusthaus** (Manager Original Films Netflix), **Bruna Papandrea** (Founder and Producer Made Up Stories - *Pieces of Her*), **Quan Phung** (Senior Vice President Original Series Topic Studios), **Emile Sherman** (Co-Founder and Producer See-Saw Films - *The Power of the Dog*), **Brad Simpson** (Partner and Producer Color Force - *Crazy Rich Asians*), **Bec Smith** (Partner at UTA), **Geoff Stier** (Senior Vice President of Original Programming SHOWTIME) and **Carolyn Strauss** (Executive Producer Sister - *Game of Thrones*) were just some of the leading guest speakers who attended last round of Exchange and Gateway programs.

Vanessa Alexander, participant of the 2021 Talent Gateway program said, "The program was really well crafted to the needs of creatives looking to the US and international market. I appreciated the opportunity to grow my work and my thinking around my work with the support of top speakers and consultants. I was terrified of pitching because it's quite different from how we do it in Australia but this program got me over it."

Erin Bretherton and Darren Dale of Blackfella Films, 2021 participants of the Global Producers Exchange said, "The Global Producers Exchange delivers unparalleled insights and access to some of the world's best content makers and drivers. It's been a game-changer for us as we expand our international footprint and position our projects in the global content marketplace."

Information about the 2021 delegates is available [here](#).

These initiatives follow on from [Untapped](#), an initiative designed to give emerging Australian screenwriters and directors the education and access needed to fast track their careers and their projects, which has also launched for its second year. Together, these three new programs provide professional and project

Media enquiries: Lidia Williams
+61 2 8113 1091 | +61 468 784 170 | lidia.williams@screenaustralia.gov.au
www.screenaustralia.gov.au



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development opportunities for Australian creatives of varying skill levels, bridging the Australian and US screen industries.

TALENT GATEWAY

Talent Gateway provides screenwriters and directors who have had some success either internationally or in Australia, with the skills, knowledge, access, and relationships necessary to succeed further in the global market. The program aims to attract US support, investment and partnerships for Australian content and careers.

Up to six delegates will be selected to participate in the bespoke program which will include roundtables, masterclasses, introductions with key US based screen decision makers and individualised mentorships. Each delegate will receive grants of up to \$20,000 to enable them to take part in the program which will run from November 2022 to June 2023. Funding will also be used to develop, refine and market the IP on their slate that receives any positive interest, to quickly engage international partners for their careers and projects.

For further details, eligibility requirements and how to apply see Guidelines [here](#). Applications close 5pm AEST Thursday 12 May 2022.

GLOBAL PRODUCERS EXCHANGE

The Global Producers Exchange provides Australia’s leading scripted producers the skills, knowledge, access and relationships necessary to succeed in the global market and to attract foreign investment and marketplace partnerships for Australian scripted content. The exchange aims to give Australian IP and cultural stories the opportunity to be developed with internationally based collaborators who possess a global outlook and a proven track record of success with international audiences and to help position projects for success in the global market.

Up to six production companies/producers will be selected to participate in this scripted development lab that features a series of roundtables and masterclasses with key US based screen decision makers, and 1:1 mentorships. Each of the six participants will receive grants of up to \$60,000 to enable them to take part in the program which will run from October 2022 to June 2023. Funding will also be used to work with writers and directors to quickly develop, refine and market the scripted projects on participant’s slate based on feedback and positive interest from mentors and US executives throughout the program. The Exchange will culminate in a two day market where participants will meet with and pitch projects to an individually curated group of high level US industry executives, including production companies, studios, financiers, distributors, broadcasters and streamers, in order to attract international partners and investment for their slates.

For eligibility requirements and how to apply see Guidelines [here](#). Applications close 5pm AEST Thursday 12 May 2022.

ENDS

Supporting Partners



VICSCREEN



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