



INDIGENOUS DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES: Indigenous Producers Program

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If you've ever thought about a career in the screen industry, and more specifically as a producer, we would like to hear from you!

Screen Australia in partnership with Film Victoria, Screen NT, Screenwest, Screen QLD, the South Australian Film Corporation, Screen Canberra, Screen Tasmania, Create NSW, the Australian Film Television Radio School and Screen Producers Australia, will support up to ten placements who are committed to building a career in the screen industry as a producer through The Indigenous Producers Program. Queensland based Indigenous Producer Dena Curtis (*Grace Beside Me*), will facilitate the 12 month program.

We are looking for self-motivated, organised, energetic collaborators who have an understanding of the art of storytelling. This program aims to develop emerging Indigenous creative producers within the industry.

The Indigenous Producers Program will involve four intensive workshops that cover all aspects of producing and will be tailored to suit the needs and skills of participants. This is not a full-time program, but will require commitment over a 12-month period to cover workshops, mentoring, participation in external conferences/markets, and guidance related to the individual's slate of projects in development, as well as any other proposed activities as per the individual's development plan. Throughout the 12 months, producers will also be paired with a mentor – to be funded and decided in consultation with the producer and their relevant state agency.

The 12 month program will culminate in a 3 – 6 month placement at a Production Company that suits the needs of the successful applicants. The placement will be awarded to each of the ten successful participants through their relevant state agency upon completion of the Producer Program Workshops.

What is a producer?

There are many types of screen producers – a project starts and ends with the producer. The producer is the person who leads the team by caretaking and managing the shared vision of the director across all aspects of the production. This starts with investor requirements (cost reports and all contractual obligations) and continues through to crewing the entire team. They are the ‘keeper of the vision’ and the person responsible for ensuring the director stays true to their original intentions through the entire process. In essence, the producer reminds the team of the bigger picture and ensures that the project is completed and delivered based on the agreed script and, most importantly, the agreed budget. Once production has wrapped, the producer is then responsible for marketing the film – pushing projects out to an audience is key!

Funding available

Screen Australia will fund participation in the program for up to ten individuals in collaboration with the State and Territory Agencies. This includes travel, workshop/s, placement and mentoring costs.

Eligibility

All applications must meet the criteria below as well as our [Terms of Trade](#), in order to be eligible to apply:

- Applicants must be Indigenous Australians.
- Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia and be 18 years or older.
- Applicants cannot be in default of any previous contractual obligations to Screen Australia, or any other State agency.
- An applicant cannot be a full-time student at film school or enrolled full-time in a similar tertiary film, television or interactive digital media course. Applications from part-time students will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- An applicant cannot be a full-time employee of a state or federally funded film or television agency or organisation (including Screen Australia, the ABC, NITV and SBS).
- Have at least one broadcast/online producer credit or have had a project that has screened at a film festival.
- For practitioners from sectors other than screen, applicant must have production/curatorial experience in their sector, or proven project management experience.

Applicants must be able to attend the following workshops:

Workshop 1: 30 July – 2 August 2019, Melbourne

Workshop 2: 09 November – 14 November 2019, Melbourne (includes three days at SPA’s Screen Forever conference)

Workshop 3: 29 February – 06 March 2020, Melbourne (dates subject to change with release of AIDC 2020 schedule)

Workshop 4: 26 May – 29 May 2020 (location to be confirmed)

Application process and materials

Applications close midnight, Friday 28 June 2019, and can be made through the application portal.

Applications must include the following materials:

- A cover letter outlining your passion to be part of, and your commitment to, the program
- A 500 word summary of your project's creative details including; logline, short synopsis, and why you think this idea would be of interest to an audience.
- A current CV with two professional/industry referee contacts and company bio (if applicable).

Funding decisions

Eligible applications will be considered by Screen Australia's Indigenous Department, the applicant's local state or territory agency, and industry specialists. Applicants may be interviewed as part of the process.

Funding decisions will be made against the following criteria:

- Demonstrated ability to communicate a story idea to an audience as evidenced by the story outline and explanation of pathway to audience
- The strategic benefit of the program to the applicant and demonstrated desire for a career in screen producing as evidenced by written application, supporting materials and interview (if short-listed)
- Collaborative abilities as evidenced through written application, supporting materials and interview (if required)

Decisions on applications are final. Screen Australia will advise applicants of the outcome of their application.