

## **SBS/FILM VICTORIA – Scripted Short Initiative**

### **About the opportunity:**

Film Victoria and SBS are calling for short form, drama ideas from diverse and under-represented Victorian creative teams. Up to five teams will be selected to participate in an intense development process with the aim of selecting up to two projects to go into production for broadcast on SBS.

SBS is looking for distinctive and thought provoking ideas that reflect the SBS charter and explore multiculturalism and diversity in ways we've rarely seen on Australian television. We encourage bold content producers to think outside the box - focusing on ways to provoke debate, push boundaries, surprise an audience and inspire change.

#### **Summary of Process and Key Dates:**

##### **Stage One:**

Up to five projects will be selected to participate in further development including a facilitated workshop.

##### **Stage Two:**

At the end of the development process participants may submit their projects for production support.

Up to two projects will receive production funding and, on completion, be broadcast on SBS.

#### **Stage One**

- / 16 July 2018 - Deadline for Stage One Development applications
- / 15 August 2018 - Shortlisted teams notified
- / 29 August 2018 - Shortlisted teams will meet and pitch to SBS executives during the SBS Roadshow
- / 3 September 2018 - Notification of Stage One Development selection
- / Week commencing 10 September 2018 - Script Development workshop with SBS (TBC)
- / September – October 2018 - Script writing phase/Stage Two preparation

#### **Stage Two**

- / 22 October 2018 - Submission of Stage Two materials (including scripts, A-Z budget, production schedule)
- / 21 November 2018 - Notification of Stage Two selection
- / November – December 2018 - Contracting
- / January – March 2019 - Production
- / March – April 2019 - Post production
- / 31 May 2019 - Delivery to SBS

### ***Before applying:***

- / Read these guidelines and the [Terms of Trade](#) which set out the core terms on which Film Victoria conducts its business. Terms [underlined in green](#) appear in the [website glossary](#)
- / Check eligibility and review the [online application form](#)
- / Refer to Film Victoria's [Gender & Diversity Statement](#) and the SBS Charter. Questions can be directed to [Jana Blair](#), Manager – Industry Skills and Inclusion.

### ***Available funding:***

- / At Stage One successful applicants will be supported to attend a script development workshop
- / At Stage Two up to two successful applicants will receive up to \$70,000 for the production of their project.

### ***Eligibility:***

The applicant must be the individual or company with whom Film Victoria would contract if the application is successful. The applicant must:

- / Be [Victorian](#)
- / Have an ABN
- / Own the rights to the project that is part of the application

Film Victoria and SBS expect that each project will have a key creative team comprising a writer, a producer and a director. The key creative team must include at least two individuals from a diverse and/or under-represented group. Each member of the key creative team must:

- / Be [Victorian](#)
- / Be able to demonstrate a commitment to a career in the screen industry.

Projects must be:

- / Narrative, live action, short form drama of 5 to 15 minutes
- / Be able to attain a classification of no more than [M]
- / Able to be realised within the proposed budget
- / Produced and post produced entirely within Victoria, utilising an all Victorian crew.

#### Exclusions:

- / The project cannot be a student production or contribute to credits for a course of study.

#### ***Note:***

All applicants must be available to attend the SBS Roadshow pitching session in Melbourne on 29 August 2018 and the script development workshop the week commencing 10 September 2018. Applicants should also be aware of the production timelines should their project be selected.

### ***Application process:***

#### **Stage One:**

Applicants need to submit:

- / A completed application form
- / An overview of the proposed idea including:
  - A headline summary of the project
  - One paragraph synopsis
  - Project outline that details the characters and overall story arc.
  - Statement describing the creative vision for the project
  - Statement articulating how the members of the creative team can contribute to more diverse and inclusive storytelling on screen with reference to their background and/or experiences e.g. cultural background, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity or First Nations status
- / A pitch to camera presenting both the project and the creative team, provided as a weblink and no more than three minutes in duration (optional)
- / Short bio of all key creatives
- / Evidence of each of the key creative team's experience in their respective roles of writer, director or producer, such as links to clips, trailers, showreels or completed productions or evidence of theatre, literary or other artistic achievement.

### **Stage Two:**

- / Projects and teams selected for development will need to submit revised script materials and a production budget at the completion of the development process in order to be considered for production support.

### **Assessment process:**

Selection is competitive. Applicants will be assessed by representatives of Film Victoria and SBS taking into account the following assessment criteria:

- / **Story:** The strength and distinctiveness of the narrative, with an emphasis on bold, innovative and fresh storytelling concepts that will work in short form format and appeal to the SBS audience. The execution and quality of the submitted materials.
- / **Talent:** Is there something about the team that generates excitement about their creative potential? The ability of the team to develop the project and execute the vision.
- / **Experience:** The quality and content of previous work undertaken in storytelling.
- / **Diversity:** How the content/storylines and creative team address diversity
- / **Relevance to SBS:** How the project aligns with SBS's charter and audience. Will the project adhere to SBS programming requirements?

### **Successful applicants:**

- / Applicants will need to enter into an agreement with Film Victoria and SBS.

### **Contacts:**

#### Initial queries:

Program Services Officer, [Denise Bohan](#) 03 9660 3261

#### Program Manager:

Manager – Industry Skills and Inclusion, [Jana Blair](#) 03 9660 3273.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Special Conditions

Film Victoria funding will be provided as a grant. Successful applicants will enter into a grant agreement with Film Victoria specifying the terms of the funding and what the applicant will need to deliver to receive their scheduled payments.

Film Victoria and SBS require that all freelance crew and cast be employed and paid in accordance with the producer's obligations under the law.

A mentor may be appointed if and when needed by SBS or Film Victoria, to mentor the successful applicants and support the selected programs through the production process to deliver on time and on budget in line with the Timeline.

SBS and Film Victoria will have final approval over the following:

- / Final Script
- / Key production personnel
- / Budget
- / Shooting Schedule
- / Rough cuts and Fine cuts

### SBS Commissions

SBS will enter into an SBS Development Investment Agreement (DIA) and an SBS presale licence agreement with the successful applicants. These agreements will detail the terms and conditions of the licence fee as well as SBS' Free Communication Rights. It is a condition of funding that successful applicants must deliver the finished project to SBS by 31 May 2019.

### Branding

SBS requires the option to brand the shorts under an umbrella initiative for broadcast, should it be required by SBS and at the expense of SBS.

### Codes and Guidelines

Program must conform to the SBS Codes of Practice and SBS Editorial Guidelines. SBS's codes of practice and editorial policies and requirements can be located [here](#)

And must attain a classification of no more than [M]

### Shooting

Program must be shot and mastered on HD.

### Rights

Applicants will need to secure the online rights in line with the 2016 Actors Television Repeats and Residuals Agreement (ATTRA.).

### Free Communication Rights

SBS will license the following rights (in Australia) in and to the Program for a period of three years:

- the exclusive right to exercise the Free VOD Rights;
- the exclusive right to exercise the Free Online Rights;
- the exclusive right to broadcast the Program by way of exercising the Free Television Rights;
- customary publicity and promotional rights.
- subject to the terms of the Presale Agreement.

### **Reserved Rights**

It is agreed that Rights (outside of Australia) are reserved to the Production Company (to be more fully outlined in the Presale Agreement).

Further information on SBS Program Resources can be found [here](#)