

Film Project Grant September 2015 General Expert Panel Comments

Comments made by the expert panel during its assessment of applications submitted to the September 2015 deadline are outlined below. Please note that these comments provide a summary of the expert panel's assessment and do not necessarily relate to every unsuccessful application submitted to this deadline. The expert panel does not provide individual comments.

1. The expert panel favoured applications that presented projects of strong artistic merit, original concepts, opportunities for artistic growth, and a willingness to take on artistic risk.
2. The expert panel favoured applicants that had a clearly defined artistic vision and were able to articulate proposed project that fostered their continued artistic development.
3. The expert panel felt that many applicants had strong backgrounds and production histories, however, if the proposals submitted did not address the questions of artistic impact, why here, why now and were short on specifics, then the project was not funded.
4. Several applications proposed poorly defined or poorly conceived projects. The expert panel found it difficult to assess the merit and feasibility of projects for which applicants did not appear to have a clear and focused purpose or a clearly developed vision.
5. Applicants should include recent support material relevant to the proposed project. Applicants should focus on support material that demonstrates the applicant's technical abilities and highlights their artistic voice.
6. If applicants are requesting assistance with post-production, a clip from the film in question should be submitted as part of the support materials.

Budgets

Personal expenses varied widely. Subsistence costs should be broken out to allow the expert panel to determine if costs are reasonable. Other factors such as the housing and feeding of children, food allergies and other factors that tend to increase the amounts requested need to be made explicitly clear.

Panel members dismayed by low artists fees, many actors were paid below minimum wage. Please consult equity tables when piecing together applications and pay your artists.

Research your costs and don't inflate.

Panel members scrutinized budgets closely. If they didn't balance jury tended to give very low marks to the proposal.