

## **Film and Video Arts Project Grant**

**September 3, 2019 deadline**

### **General Expert Panel Comments**

Comments made by the Expert Panel during the assessment of applications submitted to the September 3, 2019 deadline are outlined below.

Please note: these comments provide a summary of the expert panel's assessment and do not necessarily relate to every application submitted to this deadline.

**The Expert Panel does not provide individual comments.**

### **General Suggestions**

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to reach out to the AFA well in advance of grant deadlines to consult on their application prior to submitting.

### **Project Description**

- The panel valued those projects with a strong exploration of subject matter that was original and stretched the applicant's creative abilities in terms of artistry and/or medium.
- The panel strongly recommends applicants give thought to what will happen when the film or script is completed. Be specific about dissemination and explain why specific production companies or festivals will be targeted if that is part of the strategy.
- Applicants are recommended to include a short synopsis of the project at the beginning of the project description.
- The panel appreciated a creative approach regarding the presentation of the project description.
- The panel recommends applicants identify their role(s) and crew roles clearly and accurately. Identify also the running time of the film.
- The panel encouraged emerging artists to find collaborators, mentors, and experienced filmmakers with additional skills in areas where needed, e.g. cinematography, writing, producing, etc.

### **Support Materials**

- Those applicants who provide letters of support are encouraged to ensure their letters are current and relevant to their proposed project.

- If your project involves the production of a film, applicants are encouraged to upload the entire script.
- If your project involves screenwriting, please include writing samples of past work or drafts.
- If your project specifically involves post-production, applicants are strongly recommended to upload a link to the rough-cut or similar production material.
- It is vital applicants provide video examples or appropriate portfolio material of past or current work in progress. Video material needs to be available as downloadable links added under support material in the online application or e-mailed separately to the AFA.
- When appropriate, applicants are encouraged to provide additional visual material (stills, look book, mood board) to help communicate the intent of the project.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to supply documents as PDF files (rather than docx, or other formats).

### **Budget**

- Applicants are encouraged to be as detailed as possible in explaining their budgets, and to use the description boxes in the application form. Applicants are welcome to supply a standalone PDF budget using industry standard best practices, in addition to the AFA budget tool, and are encouraged to include relevant costing and quotes for expenses (e.g. travel, equipment rentals, etc.).
- Define units (hours, days, weeks, etc.) in the comment boxes located on the budget expense page in the online application.