

**BFI** NET.  
WORK

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CYMRU WALES

# BEACONS SHORT FILM SCHEME



2016  
GUIDELINES

[www.ffilmcymruwales.com](http://www.ffilmcymruwales.com)

# BFI NET.WORK

## WALES

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The BFI NET.WORK is a UK-wide talent development programme for new and emerging film writers, directors and producers. The BFI is committed to discovering and supporting the next generation of British filmmaking talent. In Wales the NET.WORK is delivered by Ffilm Cymru Wales providing funding for the development of feature film projects, training and mentoring, as well as bespoke career development.

# INTRODUCING

# BEACONS

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Beacons shines a light on outstanding film talent from Wales, drawing attention to writers, directors and producers, helping them establish their credentials for feature production.

Short films can be a crucial stepping stone in a filmmaker's career, providing a showcase for new and emerging talent to demonstrate their abilities, as well as opportunities for experimentation, exploring different ideas and forms of cinematic storytelling. Short films help build creative professional relationships and allow industry to spot the next generation of screen talent.

We are looking for bold and unique voices, original storytelling, visual flair, and production values befitting to the big screen and film festival awards categories.

Despite significant gains in some sectors, a diversity deficit in UK film and TV - both in front of and behind the camera - remains a major problem. To address this, we are especially keen to attract filmmakers and stories currently under-represented within the industry, reflecting diversity of ethnicity, disability, gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic background.

Awards will range between £5,000 - £15,000 with producers able to raise further finance through crowd funding or third party deals. This will give producers an opportunity to test their skills in a professional capacity.

# WHO CAN APPLY?

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We can accept submissions from:

- Individual writer-directors
- Writer and director teams
- Writer and director and producer teams

We cannot accept applications which do not have a director attached. At this stage, you do not need to have a producer, however we encourage applications from teams which include a nominated producer. Any final award may be dependent on the attachment of a suitable producer. If selected, the onus will be on the filmmakers to find a suitable producer, following discussions with the Talent NETWORK Manager.

For this round, directors and writer-directors may be attached to only ONE application in total, writers and producers may be attached to up to TWO applications.

It is not necessary to apply as a company but you may do so if you wish.

You and your team must own or be in the process of obtaining the rights to any project you submit. The costs of obtaining such rights must be included in the budget.

We expect Beacons to prioritise projects from Wales-born or based talent, particularly directorial voices, however, we would encourage applications from teams comprising Welsh talent working with other nations and regions on projects they are leading on.

We regret that we cannot accept applications from individuals who are under 18 years of age and/or in full-time education.

Films may be made in English or Welsh or bi-lingually and may also include a minority language which reflects the cultural diversity of Wales.

- Number of films:** We will fund up to 9 films in year
- Duration:** 20 minutes maximum
- Budget per film:** Films must be achievable within budget of £5,000 - £15,000 or with further funding raised by the filmmakers
- Partnership funding:** Filmmakers may raise partnership funding
- Genre:** May be any genre or technique (including animation & documentary) as long as it is achievable within the budget.
- Delivery:** HD cam, Apple Pro Res, Blu-ray & DVD

# ELIGIBILITY

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- **Producers** - must have previously produced at least one live action or animated short film or other related media
- **Directors** - must have previously directed at least one live action or animated short film film at student or self-funded level or in other related media (i.e directing theatre, arts installation, creating multi-platform content etc)
- **Writers** - must have previous writing experience e.g. screen, theatre, radio, published or online work (links to online work should be provided)

# HOW TO APPLY

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You should complete an application form and submit this by e mail (we cannot accept applications by fax, disk or post) along with the following materials:

a) A completed short film screenplay (20 mins maximum) in standard industry format (e.g. Final Draft), submitted as PDF or Word doc; Pitches, treatments and outlines are NOT eligible for this scheme, however animations may submit a storyboard in place of a script and documentaries may submit a 'scriptment', outlining what is anticipated from story and characters.

b) A CV and a short biography for each member of the key talent, i.e writer, director, producer

c) Relevant examples of previous work for the director. The Director should create a profile on the BFI NET.WORK website - <http://network.bfi.org.uk> - and upload an example of work which best supports the application and demonstrates the director's abilities. Please include a link to this on the application form. If you wish to provide more than one example, please include links in the application form to Vimeo, YouTube or similar platform. All examples should be full length please – no montages or showreels and no DVDs accepted, unless by prior agreement with the Talent NET.WORK Manager.

d) A personal statement (A4 page max) from the director. This should include the following:

- The creative vision for your project and how you intend to render your vision on screen.
- What style/genre you are working in. You might wish to mention filmmakers who inspire you, themes and tone, what makes the story original and compelling?
- Your career ambitions and how making this short film would support those goals. What other projects you might have in development and how this short film would further your career.

Where teams are applying with a producer, a draft budget for the film should be attached indicating whether you would be seeking additional finance and from where.

# ASSESSMENT & SELECTION

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Eligible applications will be read and assessed by the Talent team. We may also use external assessors depending on the overall number of applications received. Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- The creative merit and originality of the proposed project
- The abilities and potential of the filmmakers as demonstrated by the quality of their track record and work to date;
- The viability of the proposed project in terms of budget, timescale and other considerations;
- The benefit of the proposed project to the filmmakers' careers

Following assessment, a short list will be prepared. Those not selected will be notified by e mail. We regret that we will not be able to give feedback on project that are not selected at this stage.

Short listed applicants will be invited for interview. At this stage, the team may be asked to provide additional materials in advance of the interview.

Following the interview, selection of projects will be made by BFI NET.WORK Wales and Ffilm Cymru Wales in consultation with the BFI. We may require some further development on selected projects before final confirmation of a production award. Short listed applicants not selected to go through to production will be given feedback and constructive advice.

Deadline for applications: **5pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

For applications forms, please go to our website:

<http://www.ffilmcymruwales.com/index.php/en/film-makers/british-film-institute-network>

# CONTACT DETAILS

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