



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 19 July 2017

Create NSW opens call for screen practitioners with disability to apply for Screenability Filmmakers Fund

Create NSW is calling on emerging filmmakers with disability to apply for a new *Screenability Filmmakers Fund* which will support three individual projects with \$30,000 as well as appoint an Executive Producer to each production.

Applications are sought for filmmaking projects that appeal to a broad audience (with or without disability content), from teams that have at least one key creative (writer, director or producer) identifying as having disability and with an intention to develop a career in screen content creation.

Eligibility in this case covers people with sensory or physical impairments (including deaf people), hidden impairments, intellectual impairments, learning difficulties or mental health conditions, who face barriers accessing opportunities in the screen industry.

First announced as part of the Screenability Program Opening Night at the 64th Sydney Film Festival, the *Screenability Filmmakers Fund* is part of a suite of initiatives under Screenability NSW, an open-ended policy commitment by Create NSW to work with industry to grow participation in the screen sector by Australians with disabilities.

The fund is open to drama, factual, animation or experimental projects of up to 15 minutes duration, and must be made entirely in NSW. Successful projects will also be considered to premiere as part of the 65th Sydney Film Festival in 2018.

Create NSW CEO Michael Brealey said that the Screenability NSW initiative has made great progress since launching in September 2016.

“Since launching last year, Screenability NSW has helped seven screen practitioners with disability undertake placements with companies including Animal Logic, the Nine Network’s ‘The Footy Show’ and Matchbox Pictures, and the Sydney Film Festival Screenability films have screened to sold-out audiences.

“We’re excited about extending the program to support the pool of talented, committed and professional practitioners with disability keen to expand their skills as filmmakers with this new fund, and look forward to receiving the entries in the coming month.”

Applications open Wednesday 19 July and close Friday 11 August 2017. Projects need to be capable of being delivered no later than March 2018.

For guidelines and applications: <http://www.screen.nsw.gov.au/funding/production-support/screenability-filmmakers-fund>

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