

NORTHERN EXPOSURE: SHORT FILM SCRIPT LAB



Headline facts

Target participants: writers and writer/directors from any creative discipline based in the North of England¹ who have an idea for a short film script under 15 minutes in length.

Duration: the programme will run between September – October 2018. Participants will need to commit to attending 4 group sessions of around 2.5 hours each. There will be some writing work required in-between the group sessions.

Application deadline: Wednesday, 5 September, 12:00.

About the Northern Exposure: Short Film Script Lab

The Northern Exposure Short Film Script Lab aims to help writers and writer/directors develop an early stage idea for a short film into script form over the course of two months.

We will select up to ten writers based in the North of England and split them into two groups based on geography – one will be based at the Showroom Cinema, Sheffield and one at the Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle upon Tyne. The groups will meet four times to collaboratively develop their short narratives from very nascent ideas to short treatments to step outlines and, finally, completed drafts.

The process will be facilitated by BFI NETWORK Talent Executives Alice Ramsey and Jess Loveland, but all participants are expected to engage creatively with their peers' work within the group, offering up feedback and receiving notes on their own work in exchange. We hope to foster a supportive, lively and creative environment. The Talent Executives will be on-hand to guide and supervise the development of the projects during and outside of the sessions, as well as offering broader professional development advice.

Before the end of the programme, selected work from the lab will be performed in front of a live audience made up of industry figures and members of the public at a rehearsed reading at *Off the Shelf* literary festival in Sheffield.

The Northern Exposure: Short Film Script Lab is supported by funds from BFI NETWORK and Film Hub North.

¹ We define the North of England as: Cheshire, County Durham, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northumberland, North Lincolnshire, Tyne & Wear and Yorkshire.

Who can apply?

We are looking for writers from any creative discipline based in the North of England who have an idea for a short film script under 15 minutes in length.

We welcome applications from individuals as well as co-writing teams. You do not need to be working with a producer or director in order to apply.

We are unable to consider projects based on novels, short stories or other literary works.

Please note this programme is for early short film script ideas that are ripe for development and are not already in script form. If you have a more developed idea with an existing script, we would suggest you consider our [Short Film Funding](#).

The Northern Exposure: Short Film Script Lab is free to attend. In certain circumstances, we may be able to contribute to travel costs to support participants to attend the group sessions.

How to apply?

Please submit the required materials in a single .pdf to bfinetwork@filmhubnorth.org.uk with the subject line 'SHORT FILM SCRIPT LAB APPLICATION.'

Please also specify in the subject line whether your preferred lab location is Sheffield or Newcastle.

Required materials:

- Name, address, email contact details
- A synopsis of your short film idea (no more than half a page of A4)
- A short note outlining why you are keen to develop this idea into a short film script
- A short biography setting out your experience to date (no more than half a page of A4)
- A sample of your writing and/or a link to your audio-visual work

Application deadline

Wednesday, 5 September, 12:00

Key dates

1st workshop: Sheffield, 18 September; Newcastle, 19 September

2nd workshop: Sheffield, 2 October; Newcastle, 3 October

3rd workshop: Sheffield, 17 October; Newcastle, 18 October

Rehearsed reading at *Off the Shelf*: Wednesday, 24 October

4th workshop: w/c 5 November