

# NORTHERN EXPOSURE: SHORT FILM SCRIPT LAB



## Headline facts

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

**Duration:** The programme will run between July – October 2019. Participants will need to commit to attending 9 group sessions, including a performance of their final work and a Meet Market event at Aesthetica Short Film Festival.

In addition to attending the Lab sessions, there will be some writing work required in-between the group sessions.

**Location:** Leeds or Liverpool depending on participant preference.

**Application deadline:** Monday, 17 June, 17:00

## About the Northern Exposure: Short Film Script Lab

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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 four months.

We will select up to ten writers based in the North of England<sup>1</sup> and split them into two groups. Depending on their location, participants will attend sessions either in Leeds or Liverpool. The groups will meet 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 Amy O'Hara and Roxy McKenna, 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 in Manchester. Script Lab participants will also attend a Meet

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

Market event at Aesthetica Short Film Festival where they will meet producers and festival delegates in a series of 1-2-1 networking sessions to showcase their final script and discuss developing their project further.

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

## Who can apply?

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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?

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Please submit the required materials in a single .pdf to [bfinetwork@filmhubnorth.org.uk](mailto: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 Leeds or Liverpool

### 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

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Monday 17 June, 17:00

Applicants will be notified week commencing 1 July.

## Course Schedule

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- **Kick-off session:**  
Showroom Cinema (Sheffield)  
11 July, 11am – 5pm
- **1st workshop:**  
No. 1 Aire Street (Leeds) or Everyman Theatre (Liverpool)  
25 July, 1:30 – 5pm
- **2nd workshop:**  
No. 1 Aire Street (Leeds) or Everyman Theatre (Liverpool)  
14 August, 1:30 – 5pm
- **3rd workshop:**  
No. 1 Aire Street (Leeds) or Everyman Theatre (Liverpool)  
26 September, 1:30 – 5pm
- **Rehearsed reading preparation:**  
Royal Exchange Theatre (Manchester)  
9 October, 11am – 5pm
- **Rehearsed reading rehearsal:**  
Royal Exchange Theatre (Manchester)  
17 October, 11am – 5pm
- **Rehearsed reading performance day:**  
Royal Exchange Theatre (Manchester)  
18 October, 11am – 10pm
- **Aesthetica Short Film Festival planning:**  
Royal Exchange Theatre (Manchester)  
23 October, 1:30 – 5pm
- **Aesthetica Short Film Festival Meet Market**  
Location TBC (York)  
7 November, 12 – 3pm