

NORTHERN EXPOSURE: SHORT FILM SCRIPT LAB



Key information

Who is it for: Writers and Writer/Directors from any creative discipline with an idea for a short film under 15 minutes in length. We encourage applications from artists and writers working in other mediums who want to move into screenwriting. Applicants must be based in the North of England.

Duration: The programme will run between June - November 2020. Participants will need to commit to attending 5 online group sessions and a Talent Connect event at the Aesthetica Short Film Festival. In addition to attending the Lab sessions, there will be some assigned writing work.

Location: The sessions will happen online, so to take part you only need a reliable internet connection and access to a device that supports video conferencing.

Application deadline: Friday 24th April, 17:00.

About the Lab

The Northern Exposure Short Film Script Lab helps Writers and Writer/Directors develop an early stage idea for a short film into script form over the course of six months.

Up to ten writers will be selected to take part in the lab and will then be split into two groups. The groups will meet through online discussions where they will collaboratively develop their narratives from 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. Guest industry mentors will also be invited to the sessions to share their insights. 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.

At the end of the programme, Script Lab participants will attend a Talent Connect event at Aesthetica Short Film Festival. This will be a chance for writers to meet producers in a series of 1-2-1 networking sessions, showcase completed scripts and discuss developing their project further.

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.

Applicants should be based in one of the following areas: Cheshire, County Durham, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northumberland, North and North East Lincolnshire, Tees Valley, Tyne and Wear, Yorkshire.

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.

This programme is for early stage ideas that are ripe for development and are not already in script form. If you have a more developed idea with an existing script, please consider applying for our [Short Film Funding](#).

How to apply

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

Required materials:

- Name, address, email & phone contact details
- A synopsis of your short film idea (maximum 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 (maximum half a page of A4)
- A sample of your writing and/or a link to your audio-visual work (maximum 10 pages)

The Northern Exposure: Short Film Script Lab is free to attend. If you require any additional support to apply or take part in the programme please email bfinetwork@filmhubnorth.org.uk or call 0191 250 5058 before applying.

Application deadline

Friday 24th April, 17:00

Applicants will be notified week commencing 11th May.

Key dates

- **Kick-off session:** 3 June, 10am-1pm
- **1st workshop:** 8 July, 10am-1pm
- **2nd workshop:** 12 August, 10am-1pm
- **3rd workshop:** 16 September, 10am-1pm
- **4th workshop:** 14 October 10am-1pm
- **Aesthetica Short Film Festival:** 4-8 November

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