

NORMAN JEWISON FILM PROGRAM

WRITERS' LAB: ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY

This program is designed for emerging/mid-level writers who are self-driven and committed storytellers, who are open and ready to explore new approaches and creative partnerships, and are eager for artistic collaboration.

We are looking for writers who have:

- Professional writing experience and a growing body of onscreen work that showcases your voice, personal perspective, and storytelling
- A strong desire to collaborate with other artists/creators throughout the script-to-screen process, and to broaden your creative and business relationships
- An interest in furthering your understanding of the changing marketplace and professional opportunities
- A project and/or slate that you are eager to further develop

You can have experience in various forms of filmmaking, or can be transitioning from other forms of writing (plays, novels, journalism, video games, etc.), but your focus while in the Lab will be on your narrative storytelling.

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

TUITION

Tuition is \$8,000 CAD.

Thanks to the generosity of CFC donors, including longstanding donors to our endowment fund, all tuition fees for the Norman Jewison Film Program will be covered through a full scholarship awarded to all incoming residents. In addition, for the duration of the program, participants will receive a monthly \$750.00 CAD bursary, prorated for the half month. For individuals from outside of Ontario who are relocating to Toronto to attend the CFC, they will receive a fixed, one-time relocation bursary of \$1,500.00 CAD.

There is a \$100 CAD application fee via PayPal for all applications to The Norman Jewison Film Program. If the application fee is a barrier to applying, please contact: programs@cfccreates.com.

Please note that the CFC is not an OSAP-accredited institution.

HOW TO APPLY

As part of the application process, you will be asked to complete an online form, as well as upload a PDF comprised of your Resumé/CV and Filmography/Writing Credits.

1. LETTER OF INTENT [MAX 1000 WORDS]

This is our introduction to you! Please include a description of what your immediate and long term goals are as a writer/creator. How might the Lab specifically help you advance your goals, and what aspects of the script-to-screen process do you want to focus on?

2. RESUMÉ / CURRICULUM VITAE [MAX TWO (2) PAGES] AND FILMOGRAPHY / WRITING CREDITS [MAX ONE (1) PAGE]

Your Resumé/Curriculum Vitae should contain an up-to-date account of your experience, education, and/or training.

Your Filmography/Writing Credits are a rundown of your work to date, listing any applicable credits you have from film, television, theatre, novels, short stories, published writing, etc.

Your Filmography/Writing Credits should include:

- The title of the project.
- Your role(s) on the project.
- The year the piece was written.
- The format of the project (feature, short, series, play, novel, article etc.)
- Other key creatives you worked with (writer, director, producer, editor, if applicable).
- The development or production status (was it produced/performed/published?)

Please upload a single PDF file [MAX THREE (3) PAGES]. Be sure to include your full name at the top of each page, as well as the title of the document.

3. PRIMARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This is a description of the primary project (feature film) you are most keen to develop/workshop during the Lab.

You will be asked to provide:

- The title of the project.
- Your role(s) on the project.
- Other key creatives affiliated with the project (co-writer, director, producer, editor, if applicable).
- The genre.
- A synopsis [MAX 300 WORDS].
- An artist statement explaining your creative vision [MAX 500 WORDS].
- The development stage (outline, treatment, draft, etc.)
- The development history (if applicable).
- The funding history (if applicable).
- If the project is an adaptation.
- If you have the option/rights to the material.

4. PROJECT SLATE

Your slate is a rundown of film, television, documentary, and/or web projects you are interested in exploring, or have on the go, that have yet to be produced. You may submit up to five (5) projects. You do not need to include your primary project outlined above in your project slate.

You will be asked to provide:

- The title of the project.
- Your role(s) on the project.
- Other key creatives affiliated with the project (writer, director, producer, editor, if applicable).
- The format of the project (feature, short, series, web, etc.)
- The genre.
- A brief synopsis [MAX 75 WORDS].
- The development stage (outline, treatment, draft, etc.)
- The development history (if applicable).
- The funding history (if applicable).
- If the project is an adaptation.

- If you have the option/rights to the material.

5. FEATURE SCREENPLAY

Submit the screenplay that you believe best showcases your writing and original voice. Submissions should be an un-produced, feature length script in proper screenplay format, between 80-110 pages. This screenplay cannot be co-written. Your script should be proof-read and clearly marked with your name, the feature title, and draft date on the cover page.

You will be asked to provide the details below. If this is the same as your primary project (above), you may use the same description:

- The title of the project.
- Your role(s) on the project.
- Other key creatives affiliated with the project (co-writer, director, producer, editor, if applicable).
- The genre.
- A synopsis [MAX 300 WORDS].
- An artist statement explaining your creative vision [MAX 500 WORDS].
- The development stage (outline, treatment, draft, etc.)
- The development history (if applicable).
- The funding history (if applicable).
- If the project is an adaptation.
- If you have the option/rights to the material.

6. YOUR ADVOCATES

Please provide us with contact information (phone and email) for up to two (2) people who are familiar with you, your work, your process, and/or your creative aspirations. We may reach out to your advocate(s) to arrange a phone or video call.

SELECTION PROCESS

Please review the application requirements in advance of submitting.

All applicants will be notified via email of their application status throughout the process.

Due to the high volume of applicants, feedback will only be offered to shortlisted applicants.

INTERVIEW

A pre-selection committee comprised of industry professionals and key program staff will be assembled to create a shortlist of applicants selected for a final interview, after a thorough review of your application materials.

Prior to the final interview, shortlisted artists will be put in touch with a recent program alum to answer any questions you have about the program design, outcomes, expectations, and the interview itself. We will also share in advance who is on the final selection committee.

Our pre- and final selection committees will reflect a cross-section of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, and will include CFC alum/working professionals. The interview is structured as a conversation with each artist/applicant, as a way to get to know more about your work, your process, and your goals. It is a key step in helping the committee determine their final decisions.

The CFC will set up virtual/remote interviews with all shortlisted applicants.

The CFC will provide feedback to all shortlisted candidates who request it, regardless of the outcome.

Applicants selected for the program will be contacted within a few weeks after the interviews.

ACCESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The CFC is committed to providing accessible practices that are in compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). If you require accommodation at any stage of the application process, or have any questions regarding appropriate accommodations, please contact Deborah Fallows, Executive Lead, People & Culture, at: dfallows@cfccreates.com.

CONTACT

For questions, please email programs@cfccreates.com.