Emerging Filmmakers Grant Program

Overview

The Film Lauderdale Emerging Filmmakers Grant seeks to provide a funding resource to Broward County-based filmmakers to produce individual projects. Eligibility is based on Broward County-centric criteria and professionalism of the presentation. After an application has been approved, a grant of $10,000 will be distributed in three payments (subject to appropriation each fiscal year) after meeting all required criteria in phases of production (see Grant Payment Schedule).

Eligibility / Requirements

- Potential applicants must submit their resume and description of the project to the Film Commission prior to applying for an initial review of project eligibility.
- A project must be either a Production or a Digital Media Project, as defined below.
- Applicants must provide proof of at least six (6) months of residency in Broward County. Two forms of proof are required.
- All funds from the $10,000 grant must be utilized in Broward County on Qualifying Payroll and Qualifying Expenditures.
- Matching funds (totaling $10,000) are required, and proof of the available funds must be provided with the initial application submission along with the full budget. Proof may come in the form of a bank statement, proof of present grant award (non-Broward County grants only), or guarantee from financial institution/film fund/loan company. Proof of funding from outside sources must come with a notarized authorization letter from investor / funding entity. ***NOTE: Given that the grant is for $10,000 and applicants are required to provide proof of matching funds of $10,000, the total project budget must meet or exceed $20,000 total.*
- Applicants can apply every other year with a maximum of two grant agreements approved per individual for the lifetime of the program.
- The Emerging Filmmaker's grant cannot be combined with any other Film Lauderdale incentive program.
- The applicant must be a practicing professional filmmaker (director, producer, or writer) who in the past three (3) years has created a body of original film(s) and has received distribution or acceptance into a major film festival, as defined below. A resume/CV, proof of distribution, and examples of past and current work are required

to support this claim. Additionally, if the applicant is a director or writer, they must show proof that a producer is attached to the project.

- A completed script, story synopsis, and filming schedule must be submitted with the application.
- 80% of the Production Days must be filmed in Broward County.
- 70% of Cast and Crew must be Broward County residents. *NOTE: required cast and crew percentage may not include background talent, but if they are Broward County residents, their salaries count towards eligible expenditures.*
- 50% of vendors must be Broward County businesses and (15%) of those Broward County businesses must be County Business Enterprise / Small Business Enterprise (CBE/SBE) (or best efforts must be made with assistance from the Film Commission to hire CBE/SBE's registered with the Office of Economic and Small Business Development).
- Grantees must submit their intended crew/cast hires with associated residential addresses, as well as list of locations, at least ten (10) business days prior to commencing principal photography so that the Film Commission can ensure the necessary steps are being taken to meet the program's percentage requirements.
- Broward County logo must be included in the credits.
- Promotional stills and marketing materials must be provided prior to the release of the production project to the Film Commission for use on their website and other marketing efforts.
- Grantees must provide plans for project distribution (film festivals, screenings, agreements with networks/streaming platforms, etc) for project tracking and promotional purposes.

Definitions

Cast and Crew means personnel hired on a Production Project who work as talent in front of the camera or in the technical and practical business of shooting a Production.

County Business Enterprise / Small Business Enterprise (CBE/SBE) means the definition of CBE and SBE in Ord. No. 2012-33, Section 1-81.2, Broward County Code of Ordinances.

Digital Media Project means visual effects or digital animation sequences.

Emerging Filmmaker means a new or up-and-coming filmmaker who is early in their career, often bringing fresh perspectives and innovative storytelling to the industry.

Major Film Festivals include globally recognized, reputable festivals. For a full list of acceptable major film festivals, click here.

Production means a theatrical or direct-to-video motion picture; a made-for-television motion picture; visual effects or digital animation sequences produced in conjunction with a motion picture; a short film; a documentary film; a television pilot program; a presentation for a television pilot program; a television series or streaming, including, but not limited to, a drama, a comedy, a soap opera, a telenovela, or a miniseries production. One season of a television series is considered one production.

Production Days means the combined number of days used to create a Production, including pre-production, days spent on-site making the Production, and post-filming days, which includes the preparation concluding a Production as well as editing a Production to achieve a final product.

Production Project means an eligible Production or Digital Media Project.

Qualifying Expenditures means payment for such goods and services and labor per requirements from the date of submission of the application through the Duration of Project (as defined below). A list of eligible expenditures is available upon request from the Film Commission. Proof of Broward County residency requires a copy of a Florida driver's license and one (1) other supporting document (which is dated within one month before pre-production through one month after wrap). A list of supporting documents is available at https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/what-to-bring/u-s-citizen/ (see section 3).

Qualifying Payroll means payment of salary to Broward County residents for work performed from the first day of pre-production to the last day of post-production ("Duration of Project"), excluding salary in excess of $2,000 for any Broward County resident.

Application Process

A qualifying application and required accompanying paperwork must be completed in full and submitted via email to the Broward County Film Commission prior to principal photography. Emailed documents must be submitted in PDF form. The only email address where applications may be submitted is Film@FilmLauderdale.org. If by USPS please send to:

Broward County Film Commission
Attn: Emerging Filmmakers Grant Program
115 South Andrews Avenue Suite A680 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Upon submission of the application, the applicant will receive by email a confirmation message acknowledging receipt of the application. The application and required paperwork will be reviewed for accuracy and will be vetted.

Each Production Project must start principal photography within 120 days after application submission. The finished project must be presented within 180 days of production start date. At Film Commission's discretion, one reasonable extension to deliver finished project can be granted if there are extenuating circumstances.

Incomplete applications and paperwork will NOT be accepted. Application package is only considered complete when all required documents have been received.
Note to applicant: All documents related to the Incentive Agreement, including but not limited to all exhibits, the application, audit results, financial documents, and certificates of insurance are public records and subject to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. ***No paperwork that has personal information, including and not limited to Social Security numbers, medical records, etc. will be accepted. All personal information must be redacted.***

If any project is not completed after any phase of the grant being awarded, the applicant will no longer be eligible for future Broward County Emerging Filmmakers Grants (or other Broward County grant opportunities) in perpetuity and could be subject to legal recourse.

Applicants cannot apply to any other Broward County Screen Incentive Program options per each individual project.

Grant Approval Process

After an application has been submitted and all paperwork has been reviewed for eligibility, professionalism of the presentation, and additional vetting, the application will be presented to the Film Commissioner. If application is approved by the Film Commissioner, then an official written notice will be sent to the applicant and an agreement will be prepared for grantee signature.

Grant Payment Schedule

- Payment One (1) $3333.33: Upon submission of proof of production (i.e., production calendar, issued permits, call sheets, behind-the-scenes set stills, etc.) showing 80% of production days were filmed in Broward, AND proof of 70% Broward cast/crew hires (must provide residency forms with driver's license and 2nd proof of residency).

- Payment Two (2) $3333.33: Upon submission of proof of payments to all cast, crew and vendor associated with the production and confirming that 70% of the cast and crew paid were Broward residents and 50% paid vendors were Broward County-based businesses.
- Payment Three (3) $3333.33: Upon submission of completed project showing the Broward County designated logo in the credits and providing marketing materials (i.e., movie poster, social media promotion, marketing images, etc.)

Public Records

All documents related to the Incentive Agreement, including but not limited to all exhibits, the application, audit results, financial documents, and certificates of insurance are public records and subject to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

_____
Name of Business Entity / Production Company / Grant Applicant

_____
Project Title

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

_____	_____	_____	_____
Date Received	Date Revised	Date Completed	Project Number

Applicant Information

First / Last Name: _____ Title / Role: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Residential Address: _____

City: _____ State_____ Zip: _____

(If Applicable):

Company Name: _____

Company Website: _____

Company Address: _____

City: _____ State_____ Zip: _____

Project Information

Project Type:

- ☐ Feature-Length Film (30 min or more)
- ☐ Short Film (30 min or less)
- ☐ TV Pilot / Episode
- ☐ Digital Media Project
- ☐ Miniseries
- ☐ Educational/Industrial Film
- ☐ Documentary Film

Project Title: _____

Pre-Production Start Date: _____ Anticipated Final Wrap Date: _____

Principal Photography Start Date: _____ Anticipated Camera Wrap Date: _____

# of Production Days in Broward County: _____ # of Production Days Outside Broward: _____

Total # of Cast & Crew _____ Total # of Cast & Crew who are Broward County Residents: _____

Total Project Budget: _____ Anticipated Broward County Production Expenditures: _____

Would this production be willing to provide required paperwork to Broward County that would become public information under Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes concerning public records, including but not limited to: production reports, crew lists, vendor lists, etc.? Yes ☐ No ☐

Project Description
(Please provide a brief description, noting that additional attachments will be required with your application that will provide further details for the project.)

Are you collaborating with anyone or any organizations for this project? If so, describe who they are and their role.

Please describe the plans for the project after completion (i.e. film festival submission, distribution channels, events/screenings, etc.)

Have you applied for any other Broward County grants (currently for this project or in the past for any projects) and if so, which one(s)? Please provide specific grant title(s) and project title(s).

Provide any additional information you want to be considered as part of this grant application, or items that may provide supplementary background information on your project or company.

Required Additional Attachments

(Please provide each of the following items in pdf format with your submission. If any of these items are missing with your application package, it will be considered incomplete and will not be accepted for review.)

- Proof of six (6) months of residency in Broward County in two forms (i.e. Driver's License and Utility Bill)
- Completed script (or content document / summary of project as applicable for documentaries, educational series, or digital media projects)
- Story Synopsis
- Production schedule reflecting pre-production, production, and post-production schedule for entire project (including identifiers for Broward County and any other locations; please submit in calendar format)
- Proof of matching financing totaling at least $10,000. Proof may come in the form of a bank statement, proof of present grant award (non-Broward County grants only), or guarantee from financial institution/film fund/loan company. Proof of funding from outside source must come with a notarized authorization letter from investor / funding entity.
- Full detailed budget. ***NOTE: Given that the grant is for $10,000 and applicants are required to provide proof of matching funds of $10,000, the total project budget must meet or exceed $20,000 total.*
- Resume/CV, and examples of past and current work (supporting the requirement that applicant must be a practicing professional filmmaker with at least 3 years of original work which has received distribution or acceptance into a major film festival)

Agreement / Submission

By signing below, I certify the information provided in this application along with any pertinent information included in accompanying material is true, correct, and complete.

Applicant Printed Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOREIGN COUNTRY OF CONCERN ATTESTATION (PUR 1355)

This form must be completed by an officer or representative of an entity submitting a bid, proposal, or reply to, or entering into, renewing, or extending, a contract with a Governmental Entity for economic incentives or which would grant the entity access to an individual's personal identifying. Capitalized terms used herein have the definitions ascribed in Rule 60A-1.020, F.A.C.

_____ [Name of Entity] is not owned by the government of a Foreign Country of Concern, is not organized under the laws of nor has its Principal Place of Business in a Foreign Country of Concern, and the government of a Foreign Country of Concern does not have a Controlling Interest in the entity.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing statement and that the facts stated in it are true.

Printed Name:

Title:

Signature: _____ Date:

SECTION 287.139, FLORIDA STATUTES CERTIFICATION

This certification must be completed by an authorized officer or representative of a potential recipient of a contract or grant from Broward County and submitted to Broward County before a contract or grant is awarded, as required by Section 287.139, Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Section 287.139, Florida Statutes, _____ ("Applicant"), through its undersigned authorized representative, hereby certifies that Applicant does not and will not use county or municipal funds in requiring its employees, contractors, volunteers, vendors, or agents to ascribe to, study, or be instructed using materials relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion, as defined in Sections 125.595(1) and 166.04971(1), Florida Statutes.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing statement and that the facts stated in it are true. I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the Applicant identified above.

Printed Name:

Title:

Signature: _____ Date:

AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA
BROWARD COUNTY

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared_____,
who, after being duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. That the Affiant is currently employed by_____Company, as _____(Title).

2. The Affiant is familiar with the_____(Project) and has personal knowledge of the information contained in the Application to Broward County for a Production/Post Production Rebate.

3. That Affiant is authorized to complete the Application on behalf of _____Company and attests to the accuracy of the information provided therein.

Further Affiant Saith Not.

By :_____(Signature)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of ☐ physical presence or ☐ online notarization, this _____ day of _____, 20___, by _____, who is personally known to me or who has produced _____ as identification.

WITNESS my hand and official seal, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

_____
(Signature of person taking acknowledgment)

_____
(Name of officer taking acknowledgment)

(NOTARY SEAL)

_____
(Title or rank)

_____
(Serial number, if any)

My commission expires: