



OPPORTUNITIES BULLETIN #248 January 2024

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1. Mosalsalat Screenwriters Lab: Call for Application Extended.

The Lab callout for applications has been extended. New submission deadline: Saturday, January 27th, 2024, at midnight (Jordan Time).

Mosalsalat Screenwriters Lab (MSL) is an annual five-day series script development lab aimed at independent Arab screenwriters working on their first or second narrative series projects.

Selecting projects and participants for the Lab is done by a selection committee (Creative Consultants) of film and TV professionals who work with the Mosalsalat Screenwriters Lab team throughout the selection process.

Screenwriters joining the Lab will experience one-on-one mentoring sessions with international accomplished screenwriters (Creative Advisors). The goal of the program is to guide and strengthen the writers' understanding of story concept, structure, and character development with the intention of producing a pilot script and supporting materials.

Eligibility:

- Only Arab screenwriters, regardless of their country of residence, are eligible to apply.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older at time of submission.
- Only independent screenwriters, co-writers or writers/directors can apply.
- The project must be the applicant's original creation or adapted from optioned source material.
- The project must be written in the English language.
- The project must be new: not previously submitted to Mosalsalat Lab, not already produced, not already sold to a third party, and not distributed online or otherwise.
- Mosalsalat Lab Alumni are not eligible to apply.

The main application requirements (all to be submitted through the form) are:

- Series logline (Max 75 words)
- Pilot synopsis (Max 500 words)
- Series overview (at least 6 episodes between 24 and 59 minutes each - Max 500 words)
- Filmmaker's statement (Max 500 words)
- Thematic statement (Max 250 words)
- Visual approach
- Work samples
- Updated CV
- Biography (250 words max)
- First five pages of the pilot script
- Signed Terms & Conditions

For submissions and more details about the Lab, please visit this [link](#).



2. UNESCO-Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture: Call for Nomination

UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Sector calls for candidatures for 20th edition of the UNESCO-Sharjah Prize for Arab Culture.

Awarded since 2001, the Prize was established in 1998 in collaboration with the Government of Sharjah (United Arab Emirates). The Prize promotes intercultural dialogue by rewarding significant contributions made by two personalities, groups or institutions to the developing, raising awareness and spreading of Arab culture through artistic, intellectual, or promotional work that enhances mutual understanding.

Proposed candidates should have earned an international reputation through meritorious and long-term action.

UNESCO and the Government of Sharjah encourage proposing qualified candidates who deserve recognition for their literary, scientific or artistic achievements, as well as for their global dissemination of Arab culture.

The Prize is endowed with 60,000 USD, divided equally between the two winners. They are selected on the recommendation of an international jury, which is created for this purpose. The prize encourages nominating women or young people in line with UNESCO's commitment to youth and gender issues.

How to submit your nomination:

Candidatures can be submitted online only.

Send an e-mail to the Secretariat of the Prize via prix.sharjah@unesco.org with the name and e-mail address of the person you would like to be nominated.

The Prize Secretariat will then send all necessary information to this person, including how to submit an application that can only be done online.

The Secretariat is available to respond to any queries.

Deadline for submissions of candidatures: January 31st, 2024 at midnight.

Nominations for the Prize should be submitted no later than January 31st, 2024.

prix.sharjah@unesco.org / [Website](#)



3. Between Women Filmmakers Caravan - Film Consultancy Program: Call for Submission

The Between Women Filmmakers Caravan is an independent initiative run by a group of women filmmakers and women film curators. The Between Women Filmmakers' Caravan is a project that seeks to strengthen an international network of women filmmakers from various regions of the world, especially in the Arab world, and which contributes to advancing towards gender equality and interculturality. Since 2008, the Caravan has been playing a pioneering role relating to women and cinema in Egypt and in the Arab World.

The Film Consultancy Program is an opportunity for Arab filmmakers with projects in any phase of production (development, production, or post-production). The Film Consultancy Program takes place three times a year (each round is three months), opening up multiple opportunities to participate. Three films are selected to participate in each round.

Arab filmmakers are welcome to apply for both Fiction and Documentary projects, priority for application is given to women, and men with a female lead. Please note that graduation projects are not eligible for this program.

The submission for our first round is open from January 1st to January 31st.

To apply, complete the submission form through this [link](#)



4. The Oxbelly Retreat Call for Submission

The Oxbelly Retreat is an annual gathering of international storytellers, dedicated to the exchange of ideas, deepening of craft and broadening of artistic horizons through intercultural dialogue.

The Oxbelly Retreat includes two programs:

The [Screenwriters program](#) supports eight screenwriters developing their second features who are seeking to strengthen their craft and push the boundaries of their unique cinematic voice.

The [Episodic Writers program](#) brings together eight promising writers developing their first original series who are interested in utilizing the collaborative format of a writers' room to advance their pilot scripts.

Both programs have no cost to apply and all expenses for fellows are covered.

Please find more information about the two programs below. The applications can be found through the [Oxbelly website](#), and **the deadline to apply to both programs is January 19th.**



5. Dot On the Map: Call for Submission

The 5th edition of Dot.on.the.Map Industry Days, will be held between April 18th – 20th 2024 in Limassol, Cyprus, in the framework of the 22nd Cyprus Film Days International Festival (April 12th – 20th, 2024). The Cyprus Film Days IF is an institutional event of the Cyprus Deputy Ministry of Culture organized in collaboration with the Rialto Theatre. The co-production forum is implemented in partnership with Agora – Thessaloniki International Film Festival.

The international co-production forum Dot.on.the.Map Meeting Point is a platform for filmmakers providing them with the opportunity to pitch their projects to the international film industry and to find the right connections to get their projects co-produced, financed, developed and/or distributed.

Dot.on.the.Map Meeting Point aims at a strong selection of six to eight (6-8) feature-length fiction film projects currently in the development and financing stage, that will be presented to a selection of international cinema professionals, giving producers and directors the opportunity to present their projects to potential financial, development and distribution partners during a 3-day event in Cyprus.

What they are looking for:

- Feature-length fiction film projects from the following eligible countries*: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, Palestine, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.
- The projects should be either produced or co-produced by a country within the Mediterranean region or contain elements in the story that link them to these regions.
- Projects should have a producer and a director attached and have to be looking for co-producers.
- The main focus in the selection process will be on projects that present a high possibility of being realised, combining this quality with artistic elements.

The call for project submissions will remain open from December 19th, 2023 to February 1st, 2024.

For the application form please [click here](#).

Selected projects: Once a project has been selected, **two representatives (eg. producer and director) are expected to participate in the 3-day event of Dot.on.the.Map Meeting Point in Limassol, Cyprus (April 18th – 20th, 2024)**. Virtual attendance is not possible. Dot.on.the.Map covers accreditation, **travel fees of up to €300 (total sum for both participants)**, 3 nights' accommodation, and airport transfers for both representatives of the selected project.

For enquiries about Dot.on.the.Map Industry Days please contact:

Danae Stylianou: Head of Dot.on.the.Map Industry Days; **Email:** dotonthemap@cyprusfilmdays.com



6. Trickstar Business Award: Call for Submission

The Stuttgart International Festival of Animated Film will present the Animation Industry Prize Trickstar Business Award for the eighth time in 2024.

Submissions are accepted from now until March 1st, 2024. Further competition categories of ITFS can be found here.

The Trickstar Business award for the best innovative and groundbreaking business model in the field of animation with a cash prize of 7,500 €, is sponsored by Verband Region Stuttgart.

The Trickstar Business Award recognises national or international innovative and groundbreaking business models for projects or companies in the animation industry. This makes Trickstar Business the world's first animation prize to be explicitly focused on business. The prize is being sponsored by the Verband Region Stuttgart.

Applicants who submit a project to the Animation Production Days 2024 can submit the project (if in accordance with the regulations) also for participation in the Trickstar Business competition. To apply, please complete the Trickstar Business application form.

For submission: click [here](#)



7. Dallas International Film Festival: Call for Submission

DIFF 2024, the 18th annual Dallas International Film Festival, will screen the best narrative and documentary features and short films from across the globe.

DIFF 2024 is a global adventure that features premiere screenings, nightly red carpets, eye-opening documentaries, intriguing short films, filmmaker panels, award presentations, daily filmmaker happy hours, and an enhanced filmmaker hospitality program that includes city tours and a Festival Lounge where filmmakers, screenwriters, film industry leaders, celebrities, sponsors, and our audience can all come together to discuss film.

DIFF supports the beginning and end of the creative filmmaking process from script to screen. DIFF partners with Event Horizon Films to host an annual screenwriting competition where writers can submit their shorts, features, or TV pilot scripts. Every submission receives a scorecard from a major representation company reader and an illustration of the script's first scene. Winning screenwriters are exposed to high-profile industry experts and receive a variety of prizes and networking opportunities.

At DIFF, filmmakers are invited to the festival to participate in a variety of programs, Q&A sessions, and a series of panel discussions, including sessions with Dallas area high schools and universities in which filmmakers have the opportunity to discuss their work and careers with a new generation of content creators.

Deadline: January 29th, 2024

For more information and submission please visit: [Dallas International Film Festival - FilmFreeway](#)
[Dallas International Film Festival - FilmFreeway](#)



8. Santa Fe International Film Festival: Call for Submission

The 16th Annual Santa Fe International Film Festival takes place October 16th-20th, 2024. SFiFF is a creative center for film in Santa Fe, allowing filmmakers to connect with industry and distributors. SFiFF showcases emerging and established filmmakers by screening features and shorts in one of the greatest art cities in the world. SFiFF provides over \$100k in cash and prizes, filmmaker travel, juried awards, and all-access passes to the festival.

SFiFF has been named one of MovieMaker Magazine's "50 Festivals Worth the Entry Fee" in 2023. "Located in the No. 1 town on our list of the Best Places to Live and Work as a Moviemaker, SFiFF gives back to its thriving film community in every sense — from programs for students to some of the most generous prize packages of any festival in the world," says Tim Molloy, Editor-in-Chief of MovieMaker. "It's a great way to link up with distributors and to learn from masters like Catherine Hardwicke, and we're certain that anyone who visits Santa Fe will find it as artistically inspiring and rejuvenating as we do."

Feature Film Categories: Narrative, Animated, Documentary, Experimental, Indigenous, Student, New Mexico and International.

Short Film Categories (under 40 minutes): Narrative, Animated, Documentary, Experimental, Indigenous, Student, New Mexico and International.

Deadline; March 4th, 2024

For rules and guidelines, please visit: [Santa Fe International Film Festival - FilmFreeway](#)

For more information: <https://santafe.film/submit-a-film>

