

2016 International January Screenwriters Lab Instructions

Following are application instructions for the 2016 International Screenwriters Lab.

All international applications are also eligible for the Sundance Institute Global Filmmaking Award presented by AJ+

For more information about this program, please visit our website:

<http://www.sundance.org/programs/feature-film>

PLEASE NOTE: We accept application materials electronically ONLY. You will have a chance to save a work-in-progress version of your application before officially submitting, and we will ask you to upload your complete script rather than mailing us a hard copy.

What you need to know (please read it all!):

The application is a two step process.

FIRST you have to complete the electronic application. This is where you provide us with all of your contact info, a brief bio on yourself and your team members, a cover letter, an artistic statement, and a synopsis of your project.

You will be asked to enter all of the written materials into text boxes on the web application (with the exception of the screenplay.) You will be able to save your application as a work-in-progress before submitting; however, you may wish to draft elements in a Word doc and cut and paste the final text once it has been completed to your satisfaction. Please note that if the directorial sample is not available online, your confirmation email (sent once you submit) provides a mailing address where you can send a DVD.

SECOND you must upload the first 5 pages of your screenplay. A .pdf is the required format.

What you will need to complete online:

1. Application Form, including the following:

CONTACT INFORMATION We will use the email address you provide to correspond with you moving forward. While we do allow for up to 3 members of a creative team per project, you must choose one person to be your designated point of contact. Please make sure ffpinternational@sundance.org is cleared in your spam filter!

BIO(s) for yourself and up to 2 additional members of your creative team (500 word limit each.)

COVER LETTER (750 word limit.) Please introduce yourself and the project. There are no strict requirements for this letter, but we'd like to get a brief idea of who you are, what

your script is about, and how you think the Lab process could be helpful to you.

ARTISTIC STATEMENT (1000 word limit.) Please describe your creative vision for the material, and give us a sense of where you are in the creative process. Here's an example of the type of information we're looking for: What is your personal connection to the material? What do you want an audience to take away from your film? How do you envision the realization of this script in terms of story, character, tone, and/or visual style? Is there a budget level you have in mind, and who is the audience you most want to reach? Why are you passionate about this story? If this is a resubmission of material we've considered previously, how has the material changed or transformed since we last read it?

SYNOPSIS (1000 word limit.)

LINK TO A DIRECTING SAMPLE

2. Upload the first 5 pages of your screenplay, which must be in the form of a .pdf document. The .pdf file will open automatically when uploaded; click the Back to Submission button at the top of the screen to return to your application.

3. Demographic Information. This is information requested about you and your project, standardized across all Institute programs, which remains confidential. Any answers you choose to provide do not in any way influence your candidacy.

Then what?

You will receive an email notification when your application has been submitted, and there is no need to follow up with emailed materials. The email will come from ffpinternational@sundance.org. If you have a "spamblocker," please allow emails to be sent into your inbox from this address.

You'll hear from us about your status no later than August 17, 2015. If you have any issues with submitting your application materials, please email ffpinternational@sundance.org.

Please Note

Co-writers: Please designate one of you as the primary contact, and list that person first. Unfortunately, due to the amount of submissions, we cannot provide individual feedback. If you have any other questions or problems, email ffpinternational@sundance.org. The Sundance Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and does not have an ownership stake in any projects that are submitted to, or selected for the Lab, nor are we attached in any produciorial capacity.

All Feature Film Programs are subsidiaries of the nonprofit organization Sundance Institute.

Still have questions? Please visit our FAQ page: [January Screenwriters Lab FAQs](#)

1. The application includes the following components:
 - o A cover letter (750 word limit):

Please introduce yourself and the project. There are no strict requirements for this letter, but we'd like to get a brief idea of who you are, what your script is about, and how you think the Lab process could be helpful to you.

- An artistic statement (1000 word limit):

Please describe your creative vision for the material, and give us a sense of where you are in the creative process. Here's an example of the type of information we're looking for: What is your personal connection to the material? What do you want an audience to take away from your film? How do you envision the realization of this script in terms of story, character, tone, and/or visual style? Is there a budget level you have in mind, and who is the audience you most want to reach? Why are you passionate about this story? If this is a resubmission of material we've considered previously, how has the material changed or transformed since we last read it?

- A synopsis (1000 word limit)
- A bio (up to three for each project, 500 word limit)
- The first five pages of your screenplay. Please do not submit more than the first five pages.

2. Would my ideas be protected?

Yes, Sundance Institute does not share or distribute any materials.

3. Do you accept scripts that have been submitted elsewhere?

Yes, we have no restrictions on material that has been through other writers workshops or programs.

4. How should I address my letter? Michelle Satter? Sundance Staff? To Whom It May Concern?

Please address your letter "To Whom It May Concern."

5. What does the program cost?

Aside from an application fee, participation in all of our Labs (including travel, food and accommodations) is completely free.

6. Does Sundance own my screenplay?

No. All Lab Fellows must own or have approval from the project owner to participate in FFP Programs. In return for participation in a Screenwriters Lab, fellows are obligated to sign an agreement stipulating that (a) they will make a contribution to Sundance of 1/4% of their film's final budget in excess of

\$1,000,000. This number may increase to ½ or ¾% through participation in a Directors Lab and/or Sundance-affiliated grant support exceeding \$10,000 (b) Sundance will receive 1% of 100% of the film's net receipts, and (c) Sundance will receive a credit line and logo placement in the film's end titles.

Still don't see your question answered here? Email featurefilmprogram@sundance.org with further questions.