



VISION: MEDIA

**NORTHERN
FILM + MEDIA**
investing in people and ideas



UK FILM COUNCIL
LOTTERY FUNDED

skillset

TRIANGLE

Guidelines

AIMS

Triangle is a groundbreaking six month project-development programme that aims to support and network the best filmmaking talent in the North of England. The scheme is an innovative new collaboration between Screen Yorkshire, Northern Film & Media and Vision + Media, who will be delivering *Triangle* with financial support from the Skillset film skills fund. Participants will be assisted in developing projects to a point where they can be presented to key decision-makers in the UK film industry, in the hope of securing development funding. As a result, the programme will focus on supporting the writer-producer-director triangle, although we recognise there may be instances of writer/directors working or wishing to work with producers.

One of *Triangle*'s key objectives is to encourage the development of new pan-Northern creative partnerships. As a result, the programme will not require individuals to have pre-existing projects as part of their submission/application. We are therefore also only accepting applications from individuals, rather than pre-existing teams.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Over the course of the initiative, participants will develop a feature film project proposal in preparation for pitching to key industry, such as BBC Films/Film 4, leading UK distributors and sales agents at the Edinburgh Film Festival.

The proposal will include:

- clear concept and story outline
- an understanding of genre and market
- key talent and budget information
- supporting materials such as poster mock-up, key graphics and a brief showreel that may include a filmed scene.

On application, between 60-80 participants will be invited to a launch event/workshop in February 2011 held at MediaCityUK in Salford. In a one-day workshop, participants will hear from leading practitioners who have built successful careers in the UK Film industry and also developed effective long-term triangular working relationships.

Uniquely, this will include a facilitated networking and match-making session to help teams to start forming.

Over the following 5-6 weeks, participants will be supported to form teams via on-line mentoring and coaching and a Ning network. During this phase, all will be invited to a one-day production training event in Leeds where they can participate in a range of workshops from HD, VFX, health & safety with sessions on generating and selling ideas, as well as network further. By the end of February, participants will propose a team and film via a one page summary. It is at the end of this phase that the 60/80 initial applicants will drop to around 36, chosen partly by natural selection, (ie: people who don't find or make teams) and partly by a panel drawn from each of the three agencies.

The 12 teams will be invited to a weekend "bootcamp" towards the end of March designed to encourage team working and stimulate feature film development ideas. The boot camp will provide participants with experienced mentors on key subjects including pitching and presentation skills, financing and core story development.

After the bootcamp, teams will work up their initial pitch proposal and the case for why they should be developing a feature film. This should include an assessment of their strengths and weaknesses as a team, and how they propose to address the weaknesses. At the end of this phase, teams will present their proposals to an industry expert panel, resulting in the selection of the 4 strongest teams/projects who will receive further industry development.

The chosen 4 teams will work intensively over a 3 month development period to holistically develop their proposals, not just in terms of idea but thinking about the whole package by addressing 3 key questions:

What does each partner bring to the table?

How feasible is it for the film to be made?,

What is the market and audience for it?

Triangle will provide individual coaching sessions for each project, helping teams to put together a compelling pitch document, including a filmed scene.

The teams will then present their projects and filmed scene to a panel. Based on feedback from the panel, teams will receive further support to improve identified areas of weakness.

The final outcome will be a presentation at the Edinburgh Film festival, to an experienced panel of industry experts.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Triangle is open to anyone resident in Yorkshire and Humber, the Northwest of England and the Northeast of England, over the age of 18 and not in full-time or part-time education. Evidence of residency in the form of council tax or utility bill will be required.

WHO IS SUITABLE

Triangle is open to established and first-time feature film makers.

Established film makers should clearly demonstrate why this programme will benefit them in terms of new collaborations and the opportunity to develop a project in this environment.

First-time feature film makers should be able to demonstrate:

Capability and readiness to develop a feature film project

Value to the programme - transferable skills (potentially gained in related areas such as theatre, television, web or advertising)

An understanding of what a feature film is, including how it is different from TV drama, short film or theatre,

Knowledge of the film development process.

CRITERIA

Triangle is intended to support the best feature film talent in the North of England to develop projects capable of being taken on for further development by organisations such as Film4, BBC Films, and the BFI. We are looking for demonstrable evidence that applicants have the skills, creativity and commitment to making feature films needed in such a highly competitive market.

We will assess applications against the following criteria:

Track record

Please articulate and evidence what you have achieved to date. In the first instance, focus on what you have achieved in filmmaking.

CV's, letters of recommendation from industry, examples of previous work can be submitted in support of the application.

Commitment to filmmaking

Please articulate your understanding of what a feature film is, and why this is an industry you wish to work in. What skills do you possess that equip you for writing, directing or producing a feature film? Supporting evidence to justify this will be essential and can be in the form of produced work (such as a feature film or short film).

Additionality

Please state how the programme will benefit you. What is specific to this programme that meets your needs?

PROCESS

There are a limited number of places available on the scheme, and its success will depend on ensuring an appropriate balance of writers, directors and producers, as well as appropriate geographic spread. We will select in the first instance based on the above criteria, and second to meet these requirements. Consequently, all decisions will be final and no feedback on individual applications will be made available. There will be no right of appeal other than with respect to the process.

Commitment to the programme

Successful applicants will be required to contribute £50 towards the costs of the programme, and a further £100 should they be selected to progress to the project presentation phase. Please confirm your ability and agreement to meet these costs, and outline what you will do to ensure you are able to participate fully in the programme.

COURSE OUTLINE AND TIMETABLE

TRIANGLE

COURSE	DURATION + DATE	CONTENT	Nos. Involved
Application deadline	Jan 7, 2011	All applications must be received by 5pm.	
Notification	Jan 18, 2011	Successful applicants will be notified by this date	
The essential film Triangle – writer,producer, director	Feb 3, 2011 - 1 day	High level speakers from the world of film guide delegates through personal experiences and best practice studies of how to form these dynamic film-making team. Also to include team-building active workshops on team-building	60-80
Production	Feb 17, 2011- 1 day	A major network event organised by Screen Yorkshire for industry practitioners, focusing on building careers and businesses in film and TV, with workshops on HD, VFX, Health & Safety as well as sessions on generating and selling ideas and content, 3D, networking, social media and building your social profile.	60-80
Film “Bootcamp”	26/27 March 2011- 2 days	Day 1 - Morning Joint sessions for all groups open to public Topics - concept development, audiences and marketing, genre and distribution, film financing Day 1 – Afternoon 4 mentors will work with 3 teams each, developing	36

		<p>their story ideas in a round-table session followed by individual discussion</p> <p>Day 2 – Morning</p> <p>Joint sessions for all groups open to public</p> <p>Masterclass – The art of pitching & presentation skills (hopefully with Judy Counihan)</p> <p>Followed by attending a pitch to a panel of projects developed in SY separate programme</p> <p>Day 2 – Afternoon</p> <p>The teams work more with mentors, developing their concepts into pitches, before presenting their projects to a panel informally for feedback</p>	
Industry Panel	April 4 2011	Presentation to a panel hosted by NFM	36
Script Development	Apr 19-20 2011- 2 Days	<p>Day 1 – Morning</p> <p>Focus on key elements of one page summary of project Genre/audience appeal/marketability/concept/premise</p> <p>Day 1 – Afternoon</p> <p>Focus on essentials of narrative storytelling Plot archetypes/the protagonist/character development</p> <p>Day 2 – All day</p> <p>Team/project development facilitated by tutors</p>	12
Producers Presentation	May 9-10 – 2 Days	<p>Day 1 – Morning</p> <p>Focus on distribution and marketing The UK perspective/the international market/festivals</p> <p>Day 1 – Afternoon</p> <p>Creating the package Talent/what's hot and what's not/film vs TV/genre</p> <p>Day 2 – Morning</p> <p>The numbers (producers only) Factors that affect the budget/finance plans/co-production/studios vs independent financing Putting the pitch together (writers and directors only) Project description/director's statement/posters and storyboards/the synopsis</p>	12

		<p>Day 2 – Afternoon Teams work with tutors on putting the presentation together/Pitch practice</p>	
Making Features	May 31 – June 1 2011 – 2 days	<p>Day 1 – Morning Working with actors (directors only) Getting the team right (producers only) Writing for the reader, the actor, the audience (writers only)</p> <p>Day 1 – Afternoon Creating the teaser (all) What are you selling?/How do you sell it? Genre, genre, genre</p> <p>Day 2 – All day Teams work on preparing the teaser/trailer</p>	12
	June 6-10 2011	Make Teaser	12
	WEEK OF June 13	Project Presentation to local panel	12
	WEEK OF June 20	Edinburgh Project Presentation	12