

2020 NYC Women's Fund for Media, Music and Theatre Guidelines and Eligibility for FILM Projects

Overview:

Administered by the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA), the NYC Women's Fund for Media, Music and Theatre ("NYC Women's Fund") is the latest in a groundbreaking series of initiatives by the City of New York Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME) to address the underrepresentation of women in film, music, television and theatre. The NYC Women's Fund provides grants to encourage and support the creation of content that reflect the voices and perspectives of all who identify as women.

The program will provide finishing funds for film, television, and digital projects. Recipients will be selected from the following categories:

- Fiction Feature (running time of 60 minutes or more) - grant amounts up to \$50,000
- Fiction Short (running time of 59 minutes or less) - grant amounts up to \$25,000
- Fiction Webisode/Webseries (all forms) - grant amounts up to \$20,000
- Documentary Feature (running time of 60 minutes or more) - grant amounts up to \$50,000
- Documentary Short (running time of 59 minutes or less) - grant amounts up to \$25,000
- Documentary Webisodes/Webseries (all lengths and forms) - grant amounts up to \$20,000

Eligibility Criteria:

- Projects must be made by, for, or about women and female-identified individuals and/or feature a strong female or female-identified perspective; and/or include a meaningful female or female-identified producer credit; and/or include a meaningful female or female-identified writing credit; and/or include a female or female-identified protagonist(s).
- **These are finishing funds and all projects must be completed by March 31, 2021.** "Completed" means ready to be shown theatrically, on television, through a streaming service or online. Projects can be either commercial or not-for-profit in nature.
- Must have started principal photography and should be able to project final cut and be ready to implement distribution strategy described in the application by March 31, 2021.
- Must follow at least one of two criteria: (i) 75% of its total shooting days take place in New York City, or (ii) 75% of its production costs are "qualified production costs".¹ Funds can be used for any purpose critical to the completion of the project.
- Projects can be live action or animated.

¹ "Qualified production costs" means the below-the-line production costs only to the extent such costs are incurred directly in New York City and are attributable to the use of tangible property or the performance of services within New York City directly and predominantly in the production (including pre-production and post-production) of a qualified film.

- Applicant can be either the filmmaker or a producer.
- Applicant (or, if different, recipient of funds) must reside in any of the five boroughs of New York City.

Application requirements:

- A detailed synopsis of the full project.
- How the project represents a strong female or female-identified perspective.
- Bios for applicant and key artists.
- Current state of the project and plans for project completion by March 31, 2021.
- Amount of funding requested, description of anticipated use of funds, and how they will move the project to completion.
- Completed budget template.
- Support for meeting New York City criteria regarding production or post-production.
- Distribution/exhibition plan. We understand that there may not be any commitments at this point, but please describe your plans: festivals to which you will submit; exhibitors and streaming services you will contact.
- Work samples as detailed below.

Work Samples:

For feature length films:

Applicants should include two work samples from the project for which they are seeking support: one short clip between 5 - 10 minutes in length, plus one longer sample between 45 - 60 minutes, which gives a sense of the overall scope and trajectory of the film. There will be a comments section to provide context for the clips. **For the short clip, do not submit a trailer.**

For short films and television or webseries:

Applicants should include two work samples from the project for which they are seeking support: one short clip of up to 5 minutes in length, plus one longer sample between 5 - 40 minutes, which gives the overall scope and trajectory of the film. There will be a comments section to provide context for the clips. **For the short clip, do not submit a trailer.**

Public Access:

The NYC Women's Fund for Media, Music and Theatre is a government-funded program. Accordingly, applicants will be required to propose a meaningful way to provide free public access to New York City residents to the project for a limited period of time. Possibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Presenting a public presentation with free admission for New York City residents at an approved location within the five boroughs.

- B. Granting a three year term, non-exclusive, royalty free license to the City to air programming either in its original state or edited version, starting up to four years after original release date.
- C. Other means mutually agreed to by MOME and NYFA.

Anyone can apply and be awarded a grant regardless of actual or perceived sex, gender, gender identity or gender expression, sexual orientation, age, religion, creed, partnership status, marital status, disability (including use of a service animal), race, color, national origin, alienage, citizenship status, military status, or any other class protected by City, State, or Federal law.