

Filmbase/RTE Short Film Awards

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Filmbase/RTE Short Film Awards scheme, now approaching its twentieth year, is one of the longest running award schemes for filmmakers in Ireland. The awards provide funding for six short films a year with application deadlines falling on the last Friday in January and June.

These awards are aimed at uncovering new talent and encouraging a fresh approach to filmmaking. They also act as a training ground for directors in the early stages of their careers. Over the last two decades numerous films have been made under the scheme, many of which have screened and won awards at film festivals both nationally and internationally.

Applications are initially assessed on the basis of anonymous scripts; this means that these awards provide an equal chance to all. In each round a shortlist of approximately ten projects is drawn up. Applicants are then asked to put together a production package and bring together a team for interview. Following the interviews up to **three** successful applicants are offered an award. With two rounds per year this leads to up to six new films being produced through the scheme annually.

UPCOMING DEADLINE: 5pm FRIDAY 27th JUNE 2008.

Applicants intending to apply for this award scheme should read the following guidelines carefully. Any queries not covered in these guidelines can be forwarded by email to admin@filmbase.ie (please put 'Awards Query' in the subject line)

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Please read the following guidelines carefully

- Two copies of the script along with one copy of the completed application form should be submitted to the Filmbase Office during the application period. (Please see below for details regarding the application period and to download the application form).
- The application form should be attached to just **one** copy of the script, this will have the applicant's contact details on it. The other copy should only have the title of the script on the cover page and a brief synopsis (max. 100 words as per application form). This copy of the script should have **NO** identifying contact details on it.
- Scripts should be 8 – 15 minutes in duration.
- Scripts should be formatted correctly (eg courier font, size 12 etc).
- Applicants for the award must be fully paid up members of Filmbase as of the deadline date.
- If the applicant is not the author of the script they must verify copyright ownership of the script (proof of this will be required if called for interview).
- A maximum of 3 different scripts will be accepted per applicant.
- Scripts must *not* be bound and should be stapled in the top left hand corner.
- Additional materials such as budgets and production notes should *not* be submitted at this time.
- Scripts will not be returned.
- Full-time students are ineligible.
- Award winners must not apply to RTE for any additional funding for their project.
- All scripts will be read and a shortlist drawn up of approximately ten projects. The shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview at Filmbase with their production team.
- Principal photography must begin within three months of issue of contract.

- The completed film must be delivered to Filmbase no later than six months after the start of principal photography.
- RTÉ reserves the right to two standard broadcasts in the Republic of Ireland of the finished film as per the contract. Filmbase will hold onto non-exclusive webcasting rights.
- Previous award winners are ineligible for further Filmbase/RTÉ awards for one year after the final delivery of the film.

AWARD DETAILS:

- A maximum of **three** awards will be made per round with two rounds per year. The application deadline falls on the last Friday in January and June each year.
- Applications will only be accepted 2 weeks prior to the deadline, please see below for application dates.
- Awards are open to drama, animation and experimental works to be completed on film or broadcast quality video.
- The award will comprise of a cash award of approximately €10,000. Successful candidates will also receive a production package with up to 5 days of production equipment hire and 3 weeks of post-production hire. (For more information on the facilities available at Filmbase please visit the website's *Equipment Section*).
- Some awards may be higher or lower at the discretion of the panel.
- Projects submitted should be pitched at the award scheme with a duration and production values so that the film can be completed with the finance and production package available.
- Awards are made to the Production Company.

NB The above information is provided as a guideline, full and final requirements will be outlined in full in the contract supplied to the successful applicants on receipt of an award.

APPLICATION FORM AND DEADLINES

The next round of the Filmbase/RTÉ Short Film Awards is the **June 2008** round.

The deadline for applications is 5pm Fri 27th June 2008.

Applications will only be accepted *2 weeks prior to the deadline*, this means applications submitted before the 13th of June will not be accepted. All applications must be in by 5pm on the 27th of June.

All applicants must complete the official application form and include it with two copies of their script. This form is available to download from the Filmbase website at www.filmbase.ie.

If you require further information about the Filmbase/RTÉ Short Film Awards please contact Clare at Filmbase by email on admin@filmbase.ie (include *Awards Query* in the subject line).