

Queensland Originals: Podcasts with Brian Reed

Screen Queensland (SQ) and the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS), will support talented, uncredited screenwriters to develop original drama/factual podcast series exclusively for audiences listening on global platforms such as iTunes Podcasts.

In the first phase of this initiative, up to five podcast series ideas (max. 14 writers) will be selected for development in an exclusive all-day workshop with acclaimed audio storyteller **Brian Reed**, Friday 28th July 2017.

Brian Reed is the host and co-creator of the ground-breaking podcast series *S-Town*, a production by *Serial* and *This American Life*. The chart-topping *S-Town* was downloaded a record-breaking 16 million times in its first week of release. Reed spent more than three years reporting and writing for *S-Town*, which began when listener John B. McLemore sent Reed an email asking him to investigate an alleged murder in his small Alabama town. The series has won widespread popular and critical acclaim and is praised for elevating audio storytelling into the realm of great literature.

Who can apply?

Podcasts bring stories direct to audiences and present screenwriters an opportunity to be experimental, risky, ambitious and, importantly, rapidly build their storytelling experience and credits.

This initiative is targeted at Queensland screenwriters and writing teams who are keen to explore new avenues to build their writing credits and who have a great idea for a narrative or factual podcast series. It is best suited to screenwriters who do not yet have broadcast or feature film credits.

This opportunity is **not** available to full-time students and may not contribute in any way to the coursework or research of any studies the applicant is undertaking.

What are the eligibility requirements of this opportunity?

To be eligible applicants must:

- Have an idea for an original podcast series, for which they are the creator and rights-owner
- Be bonafide Queenslanders with demonstrable interest in a screenwriting career
- Be an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Not be involved with any projects in default with Screen Queensland
- Not be a full-time student. This application may not contribute to the coursework or research of any study the applicant is undertaking
- Not be employed by a Government Screen Agency
- Not be employed by a broadcaster
- Be available to attend an all-day workshop at Screen Queensland on Friday 28 July 2017

- Submit a complete application by the closing date. Applications can be submitted at <https://screenqueensland.smartygrants.com.au/>

How will my application be assessed?

You will need to provide:

- CV/Bio
- a short sample of your writing (no more than 10 pages)
- one-minute pitch of your original podcast series idea (applicants are encouraged to submit their pitch as an audio file)
- short responses to the following questions:
 - Describe your screenwriting ambitions and how you hope to achieve them
 - What is your favourite podcast and why?

Eligible applications will be assessed by Screen Queensland on the following criteria:

- Quality of the applicant's writing talent
- Strength of the podcast series concept, including originality, creativity, suitability to platform and potential to find audience
- Potential impact of this opportunity on the screenwriting career of the applicant

How do I apply?

1. Read through the guidelines
2. Contact Diya Eid, VP Content (Operations & Initiatives) at Screen Queensland if you have any questions or would like to discuss your application (07) 3248 0500 / deid@screenqld.com.au
3. Apply online at <https://screenqueensland.smartygrants.com.au/> by **5pm Friday 7 July 2017**. An automated application email will be sent to you within 30 minutes as confirmation that Screen Queensland has received your application. **It is the applicant's responsibility to contact Screen Queensland** if you do not receive an application receipt email. Incomplete and ineligible applications will not be assessed.
4. Allow two weeks from the closing date to learn the outcome of your application. In this time, you may be asked to provide further information or participate in an interview with Screen Queensland.

Due to the volume of applications, individual feedback will not be available for unsuccessful applicants.

About Screen Queensland

Screen Queensland is a government-owned company based in Brisbane, Australia, that exists to grow the screen industry on all platforms to be a significant contributor to the economic and cultural well-being of Queensland.

About AFTRS

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) is Australia's national screen arts and broadcast school. AFTRS focus is to advance the success of Australia's screen

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arts and broadcast industries by developing the skills and knowledge of talented individuals and undertaking research