

ORIGINS is an initiative from Screen Queensland and NITV that will break new ground by developing engaging Australian Indigenous content through the development and production of format based factual series.

The ORIGINS Initiative will consist of three parts:

1) A Masterclass

Queensland-based Indigenous Producers, Directors and Writers will be invited to submit an expression of interest to attend a one-day Masterclass with a high-profile industry formats expert to achieve better understanding of how to make television formats with a focus on concepts that will connect with the target audience within budget parameters.

Places at the Masterclass will be offered on a “first come, first served” basis.

The following stages of development and production will be offered to (up to) three successful applicants, based on an assessment of their applications (further details of the eligibility and assessment criteria are set out below). Any Indigenous writer, director or producer may submit an application, whether or not they attend the Masterclass.

2) Development Stage and Development Workshop

Up to three Queensland Indigenous Producers, Directors and Writers will be selected to develop a format based, factual entertainment series. Each of the chosen factual series will take part in a development workshop where they will receive input from an industry executive producer as well as the NITV factual team and development funding from NITV and Screen Queensland to deliver production ready submissions for pilot episodes (to include a pitch for production of at least 2 (two) episodes of the series).

3) Pilot Production

Up to three of the developed projects will then be greenlit to enter production of a 15 minute or 25 minute pilot, intended to be aired on an NITV platform, with each pilot receiving up to \$150,000 in production funding. The chosen teams will be offered discretionary consultation on their projects through the production process by a NITV Commissioning Editor. SQ will support the successful applicants during workshops the development and will support the chosen concepts during production of the pilot.

### What type of series should I apply with?

EOIs for the Masterclass will need to comply with eligibility criteria (see below – ‘Who Can Apply’). Detailed applications are not required to be submitted to attend the Masterclass.

Individuals wishing to submit applications for the development and production stage will be required to submit full applications, details of which are further set out below.

The series should be:

- Factual in genre with a unique Indigenous perspective and clear, innovative and distinctive format beats with the potential to work at the national level
- Episodic, with a minimum episode length of 15 mins and 25 mins respectively
- Target an 18 to 35-year-old audience with potential broader appeal

## Factual Formats Initiative

- Diversity in creative teams (including mixed experience levels) and content proposals will be well regarded.

### Who can apply?

Eligible applicants are:

- Queensland production companies; or
- Queensland residents

*A Queensland resident is a person who has their principal place of abode and business in Queensland and has been registered on the state electoral roll for at least 6 months prior to application.*

*A Queensland production company is a registered company which has been in operation for at least six (6) months prior to application with its registered office and/or place of business in Queensland which is at least 50% owned by Queensland residents.*

The following eligibility criteria also applies with respect to applications for the development / production stage of the Initiative:

Eligible projects are those which:

- The above the line talent is made up of at least 50% Queensland residents
- Have a complete creative team (as required by the concept)

While there is no minimum or maximum experience levels for the creative team, teams with a mixed level of experience are encouraged.

All applicants whether an individual or production company must have an ABN.

Applicants/teams must not:

- be full time undergraduate or masters students. This project may not contribute to the coursework or research of any study the applicant is undertaking
- propose a project designed for the education, training, advertising, marketing, tourism or media sector
- be employed by a Government Screen Agency
- be employed by a broadcaster
- be involved with any projects in default with SQ
- seek retrospective funding
- submit more than one application.

In addition to meeting the requirements of these guidelines, all applicants must adhere to the Screen Queensland Terms of Trade available at [www.screenqld.com.au](http://www.screenqld.com.au) and the applicable development/production guidelines, available at:

[https://screenqueensland.com.au/app/uploads/2018/05/Development\\_2018.pdf](https://screenqueensland.com.au/app/uploads/2018/05/Development_2018.pdf)

[https://screenqueensland.com.au/app/uploads/2018/05/SPI\\_2018.pdf](https://screenqueensland.com.au/app/uploads/2018/05/SPI_2018.pdf)

## When do I need to apply?

Key dates include:

- MASTERCLASS with High End Screen Factual Producer
  - Expressions of Interest for the Masterclass open: 28 March 2019
  - Expressions of Interest for the Masterclass **close**: 5.00pm, 7 May 2019
  - One-day Masterclass: Week of 13 – 17 May 2019 (exact date TBC)
  
- ORIGINS Pilots Due
  - Although it is not compulsory to attend the Masterclass, by attending the class it would be beneficial and help when putting together your ORIGINS application
  - Applications for the ORIGINS Initiative Pilot close: 5.00pm, 10 June 2019 **Late applications will not be accepted and incomplete applications will not be considered.**
  
- THE CHOSEN THREE APPLICANTS
  - Successful applicants for the development stage will receive confirmation: 8 July 2019
  - Development workshop dates (one day): between 22 – 26 July 2019 (exact date TBC).  
Submission of final pitches for pilot: 12 August 2019
  - Successful teams for production of a broadcast pilot will receive confirmation: 23 August 2019
  - Pilot to be delivered: TBC 2019/2020

## How do I apply?

Apply online at <https://screenqueensland.smartygrants.com.au>.

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.**

## What documents do I need to provide?

Applicants will need to supply:

- A production company / producer profile
- CVs of all key creative talents to be involved in the concept
- Chain of title for the concept (if applicable)
- An outline of the proposed concept (no more than 1 page in length)

If applicants have prior work that has been created by their creative team (either a NITV OUR STORIES OUR WAY or other broadcast production credit), links to this work should be provided with the application. This is not required if applicants do not have prior work to present.

### How will my application be assessed?

Screen Queensland along with NITV will assess the projects together, first identify up to three teams to participate in the development stage and development workshop and then decide on up to three project(s) that will enter production following the development stage.

In all cases, assessment will be based on (where applicable):

- the track record of the applicant (and key creative team)
- the strength and originality of the concept and the unique Indigenous perspective
- the potential of the project to reach its specified audience
- the potential of the project to have national appeal
- the potential of the project to be realised on its specified budget
- the potential benefit to the Queensland screen industry

### What happens when my application has been assessed?

Applicants will be informed in writing whether their application has or has not been successful at each stage of development and production. Unfortunately, given the expected high number of applications, feedback will not be given on the expressions of interest submitted for the Masterclass.

### What happens when my application is successful?

Successful applicants will enter into a contractual agreement with Screen Queensland and NITV for development funding (with all development investments being repayable at 110% on the first day of principal photography ) and if put into production will enter into a Production Grant Agreement with Screen Queensland and presale license agreement with NITV.

### What do I do if I've read this and want to talk it through?

Contact Douglas Watkin, VP – Indigenous Stories and Talent on [dwatkin@screenqld.com.au](mailto:dwatkin@screenqld.com.au) or 07 3248 0500.