

Film and Video Funding Sources for Independents

(as of Nov. 20, 2016)

The following is an overview of funding sources for independent film and video makers and is not intended as a comprehensive guide. For additional funding sources, particularly for Canadian television programs and feature films, please refer to the Canadian Media Production Association (CMPA) website:

<http://www.cmpa.ca/business-affairs-production-tools/funding-opportunities>.

PUBLIC FUNDERS - NATIONAL

CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

In April 2017 the Canada Council will launch its new [Funding Model](#). At that time, all current funding programs will be retired and 6 new funding programs will be introduced. In anticipation of this transition, the deadlines for many existing programs have been moved. Some deadlines have been cancelled.

As of 2017, all grant applications will be made online. You will have to register on the grant portal 30 days before applying. The portal launches in December 2016.

New Model

Explore and Create:

> Professional Development for Artists

Eligible Applicants: Artists and groups

Eligible activities include Specialized training, internships, workshops, etc. for professional development and career advancement.

Grant Amounts: Up to \$10,000

Application Limits:

You can apply to this component once per year

Deadline: any time before the start date of your project

Notifications of results – applications received by:

30 April 2017 will receive results by July 2017

30 September 2017 will receive results by December 2017

31 March 2018 will receive results by July 2018

> Research and Creation

Eligible Applicants: Artists, groups and organizations

Eligible activities include: Creative research, creation and project development, including residencies.

Grant Amounts: Up to \$25,000 per year (to a maximum of \$50,000 over 2 years)

Application Limits: You can apply to this component once per year

Deadline: any time before the start date of your project

Notifications of results – applications received by:

15 April 2017 will receive results by July 2017

15 November 2017 will receive results by March 2018

31 March 2018 will receive results by July 2018

> Concept to Realization

Eligible Applicants: Artists, groups and organizations

Eligible activities include: Artistic productions that result in public presentation, publication, exhibition or digital production ready for dissemination.

Grant Amounts:

Project requests: up to \$100,000

Composite requests: up to \$100,000 per year (to a maximum of 3 years)

1 deadline per year

Application Limits:

Project requests: You can apply to this component twice per year

Composite requests: You can apply to this component once per year

Grants cannot overlap in time

Deadlines: any time before the start date of your project

Notifications of results – applications received by:

15 April 2017 will receive results by July 2017

15 November 2017 will receive results by March 2018

31 March 2018 will receive results by July 2018

Creating, Knowing and Sharing: The Arts and Cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples

> Travel

Deadline: any time before your departure date

Notifications of results: usually within 2 months of the application date

> Small-Scale Activities

Deadline: any time before the start date of your project

Notifications of results: usually within 2 months of the application date

> Short-Term Projects

Deadlines:

15 April 2017

21 September 2017

21 December 2017

21 March 2018

Notifications of results: usually within 3 months of the deadline date

> Long-Term Projects

Deadlines:

15 April 2017

21 December 2017

Notifications of results: usually within 3 months of the deadline date

> Arts Across Canada

Travel

Deadline: any time before your departure date

Notifications of results: usually within 2 months of the application date

> Arts Abroad

Travel

Deadline: any time before your departure date

Notifications of results: usually within 2 months of the application date

> Composite grants: A new approach to project funding

Composite grants provide support for a multiplicity of projects taking place over 1 to 3 years. Instead of submitting a number of separate project applications, individuals, groups and organizations can combine their activities into a composite proposal. Organizations may also find this to be a more flexible and less onerous alternative to core grants. Applicants will need to have a history of receiving project grants from the Canada Council before they are eligible to apply for a composite grant.

Composite grants are available in the following components:

Explore and Create: Concept to Realization

Supporting Artistic Practice: Sector Innovation and Development

Arts Across Canada: Public Outreach

Further details to come

> How many times you can apply annually

Each program component has limits on the number of applications you can submit and/or the grants you can receive each year – details are included with the program information.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD

Grants to emerging filmmakers, co-productions, support for aboriginal and culturally diverse producers. Support for documentary, animation, and digital projects

> Productions And Co-Productions

NFB enters into productions and co-productions with directors at both the development and production stage.

They work with a wide range of creators — filmmakers and other media artists — in the production of POV documentaries, auteur animation and original interactive digital content for all platforms including mobile and the Web.

Ottawa filmmakers apply to Quebec Centre

<http://www.onf-nfb.gc.ca/eng/directing-co-producing-film/>

Contact: Quebec Documentary Centre
National Film Board of Canada
3155 Côte de Liesse Road
Montreal, Québec H4N 2N4
Executive Producer: Annette Clarke
Producer: Kat Baulu
Phone: 514-827-5048
E-mail: quebeccentre@nfb.ca

> **Digital Projects**

As a unique creative and cultural laboratory, The NFB is eager to explore what it means to "create" and "connect" with Canadians in the age of the Internet. They seek to work with a wide range of Canadian artists and media-makers interested in experimenting with the creative application of digital technologies and interactivity as it relates to story, expression and community.

More info: <http://onf-nfb.gc.ca/en/produce-with-the-nfb/digital-projects/>

> **Filmmaker Assistance Program (FAP)**

The Filmmaker Assistance Program (FAP) is designed to help developing independent filmmakers complete their films/videos by providing technical services and support.

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants who are working on projects that fall within the NFB's mandate regarding cultural and social objectives, originality and innovation in style and content, and promoting under-represented viewpoints.

FAP is not a funding (cash) program. Assistance is offered in the form of technical services, up to a maximum cash value of \$3,000 or \$5,000 depending on the region in which you reside. Film students are not eligible FAP support.

FAP supports documentaries, animations, and short dramas (film or video).

Applications accepted throughout the year.

Note: Ottawa applicants apply under the Quebec program

<http://www.onf-nfb.gc.ca/eng/directing-co-producing-film/emerging-filmmaker-programs.php>

Contact: Leslie Poyntz
Tel: 514-283-9494
E-mail: l.a.poyntz@nfb.ca

> **Animation Hothouse**

The National Film Board of Canada accepts submissions from emerging (young and not-so-young) Canadian filmmakers and artists intrigued by animation art, for Hothouse, a 12-week paid apprenticeship in professional animation filmmaking.

Last deadline: Dec. 14, 2015

Contact: Animation Centre
National Film Board of Canada
3155 Côte de Liesse Road
Montreal, Québec H4N 2N4
Contact: Dominique Forget
Phone: 514-261-1650
Email : d.forget@nfb.ca

TELEFILM CANADA

➤ Several funding programs ranging from development funding, low budget independent feature fund, to funding for theatrical films.

www.telefilm.gc.ca

> Micro-Budget Production Program

Telefilm Canada's Micro-budget Production Program targets emerging Canadian talent, supporting them in the production and promotion of their first feature-length film, with an emphasis on the use of digital platforms for marketing, distribution and audience engagement.

Telefilm will support between eight to ten projects through the main component, and up to three projects in the Aboriginal component. Support will be through a non-repayable financial contribution of up to \$120,000 per project.

This contribution must be used to produce, distribute and promote a feature-length film that will be available to the general public through digital platforms.

Projects to be submitted to Telefilm for evaluation will be recommended by a diverse group of industry partners. In Ottawa, both SAW Video and IFCO are recommenders.

To be eligible, an applicant must be a student or a recent graduate of a production program offered by one of the Program's partners, or a recent member of a film cooperative that is listed as a partner in the Program.

<http://www.telefilm.ca/en/funds-and-programs/micro-budget-production-program>

Deadline for Telefilm release of guidelines: January 2017

Application varies per partner. SAW Video's 2016 deadline was February 28th, 2016.

> Theatrical Documentary Program

Telefilm Canada partners with the Rogers Group of Funds on the Theatrical Documentary Program. This unique public-private partnership provides financing for feature-length documentary projects during their production and post-production stages.

<http://www.telefilm.ca/en/funds-and-programs/theatrical-documentary-program>

PUBLIC FUNDERS – PROVINCIAL

ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL

- Production grants for individual artists
<http://www.arts.on.ca>

> Media Artists: Emerging

Provides production grants up to \$10,000 to artists working with film, video, audio, digital, new media, and video and electronic games as independent artist-controlled art forms. The artist must be the driving creative force (i.e., director) of the proposed project and must maintain complete creative and editorial control over the work. These grants do not support work intended for the commercial film, television and gaming industries.

Projects with budgets under \$75,000 are eligible.

Deadlines: April 4th and October 3rd, 2017

> Media Artists – Mid-Career and Established

To provide production grants up to \$40,000 to artists working with film, video and digital media as independent artist-controlled art forms. Projects with budgets of \$300,000 or less, in the following categories, are eligible: documentary, drama, experimental, animation, dance film/video, media art installation, new media.

Two deadlines per year: April 4 / Oct. 3, 2017

Mark Haslam. Media Arts Officer

Media Arts Section

Ontario Arts Council

151 Bloor St. W.

Suite 500

Toronto, Ontario

M5S 1T6

1-800-387-0058

(416) 961-7796 fax

Website: <http://www.arts.on.ca>

> Avance Médias

Le programme Avance médias vise à aider les artistes francophones indépendants qui utilisent les arts médiatiques comme moyen d'expression créatrice. Il accorde aux particuliers et aux collectifs des subventions de projet pour le développement ou la production de nouvelles oeuvres cinématographiques, vidéographiques ou de nouveaux médias ayant un contenu de langue française.

Maximum award: \$40,000

One deadline per year. 2016 deadline: October 3, 2017

➤ Aboriginal Arts Projects

To develop opportunities for Aboriginal artists to engage with Aboriginal communities and to strengthen the relationship of Aboriginal organizations and communities with the arts and Aboriginal artists.

This program is open to professional, Ontario-based Aboriginal artists, including artists' collectives and not-for-profit Aboriginal organizations, centres and councils.

2016 deadline Dates: February 22 and September 19, 2017

Contact:

Darlene Naponse, Interim Aboriginal Arts Officer
1-800-387-0058 extension 0263 / dnaponse@arts.on.ca.

> **Exhibitions Assistance**

Supports media artists with costs of exhibiting works in galleries, etc.

Grant amounts: \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500

Applications accepted from July to February.

Media artists can apply to SAW Video for OAC Exhibitions Assistance.

SAW Video has 2 deadlines in 2016: Aug. 13, December 9th.

> **Chalmers Arts Fellowship**

Chalmers Arts Fellowships support artists in Ontario to examine, investigate, explore and/or experiment with style, technique, process, method, content, or an issue or concern in their arts practice. The program allows artists to dedicate themselves to their arts practice, impacting their career beyond a single project.

Grant range:

- Artists practicing professionally for 10 years OR less: No less than \$10,000, but no more than \$25,000.
- Artists practicing professionally for 11 years OR more: No less than \$10,000, but no more than \$50,000.

2017 deadline: June 15th, 2017

> **Chalmers Professional development program**

Chalmers Professional Development Grants are intended to provide professional artists in Ontario opportunities to acquire new skills that advance their arts practice in all customary/traditional and/or contemporary art practices.

Funds: Master classes, workshops or training courses, Mentorships, Apprenticeships.
The value of each Chalmers Professional Development Grant is \$7,500.

2017 deadline: November 1, 2017

Contact: Myles Warren, Chalmers Program and Awards Officer
mwarren@arts.on.ca

> **Access and Career Development**

Access and Career Development supports Ontario-based Aboriginal arts professionals and arts professionals of colour. The program will fund professional development and skill-building opportunities that advance the applicants' artistic work and careers. Applicants can request funding for training, mentoring or apprenticing in all contemporary and traditional art practices.

- Examples of eligible activities include:
- attending a workshop, seminar, conference or class

- engaging in a mentorship with a senior artist or elder
- undertaking an internship with an arts organization
- developing a portfolio

2017 deadline: March 21, Oct. 17, 2017

> **National and International Residency program**

The program provides Ontario artists with financial support to pursue professional development opportunities outside the province.

The program aims to:

- provide support at a time in an artist's career when artistic growth and renewal will have an impact
- provide freedom to experiment, be exposed to new influences, take risks and grow personally and professionally without the pressure of producing
- provide access to new cultural surroundings and, in turn, a broader perspective
- encourage networking and relationship-building to promote an exchange of artistic views across national and international boundaries.

Grant amount: Up to \$10,000

Deadlines: May 2, October 1st, 2017

Lizzy Braoudakis, Program Administrator, 416-969-7412, toll free 1-800-387-0058 extension 7412, lbraoudakis@arts.on.ca.

LOCAL SOURCES:

ARTICIPATE ENDOWMENT FUND

- ARTicipate grants to individuals, collectives and organizations
<http://www.articipate.ca/en/grants/guidelines-forms.aspx>

The ARTicipate Project Grant supports local Ottawa artists and arts groups who are presenting or exhibiting at the Shenkman Arts Centre. Funding is awarded for the independent production of new artistic work that will be presented or exhibited in the Shenkman Arts Centre. Applicants must be based in the Ottawa Region and have a mandate to present artistic / cultural programming or have an artistic practice.

Grant range - \$1000 - \$2500

Deadline: May 31st

AWESOME OTTAWA

- Grants to individuals and organizations
<http://awesomeottawa.ca/>

Awesome Ottawa is the Ottawa chapter of the Awesome Foundation, an ever-growing worldwide network of people devoted to forwarding the interest of awesomeness in the universe.

Awesome Foundation chapters distribute \$1,000 awards every month to projects and their creators, with the money pooled from the pockets of individual "trustees." The chapters are autonomous, made of 10 or so trustees (10 x \$100 = \$1000), and assemble around geographic areas or topics of interest.

CITY OF OTTAWA

➤ Local Arts Funding Program provides grants to individual artists for production and script development
<http://ottawa.ca/en/liveculture/arts-funding-program>

> Creation and Production Fund for Professional Artists
This fund supports the creation and production of new, original work or completion of works in progress in all artistic disciplines (literary, visual and media, and performing arts)

A Grants are for established professional artists: maximum award \$5,500

B Grants are for emerging professional artists: maximum award \$4,000

Next deadline: December 12, 2016

CENTRE PRODUCTION DAIMON

➤ Research/creation grants and first works grants for artists working in video, new media and photography.
<http://www.daimon.qc.ca>

Daïmon is an artist-run centre with the mandate of supporting research-creation, production and dissemination of media arts. Through its Artist-in-residence, Research and Creation and Support for First Works programs, Daïmôn encourages artists to push the limits of their practice and to develop new approaches to image, video, sound and electronic art, including installation, interactive and performative practices.

> **Residency Programs**

Artist-in-residence

Support for First Works

Research and Creation

Deadline: July 31, 2016

Centre de production *Daïmôn*
78, rue Hanson
Gatineau (Québec)
Canada J8Y 3M5

INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS COOPERATIVE OF OTTAWA

➤ Grants to individual artists for production of films
<http://www.ifco.ca>

Mini Grant

Maximum Value: \$1250.00 / \$625.00 in-house services \$625.00 in film stock and other hard costs

Deadlines: Jan. 30th

Eligibility: Must be a Basic IFCO member to be eligible to apply

Frank Cole Documentary Film Fund

Maximum Value: \$2500.00

Deadline: January 30

IFCO

Arts Court

2 Daly Ave. (613) 569-1789

Ottawa, Ont. K1N 6E2

OTTAWA ARTS COUNCIL

➤ Artists' awards

<http://www.ottawaartscouncil.ca/en/our-programs/awards>

> Corel Endowment Fund for the Arts Award

Presented by the Ottawa Arts Council, the Corel award encourages evolution, innovation, creativity and excellence of individual artists working on new initiatives in all the arts disciplines in Ottawa and the National Capital Region, and supports projects with potential to significantly advance the individual's art practice or have an impact on the community or the discipline(s) represented.

Deadline: Early 2017

Grant range \$500 - \$2000. Artist can be awarded only once.

> Project X Photography Award

The Ottawa Arts Council and the former Festival X have partnered to establish Project X, Photography Fund to promote and foster photographic excellence in Ottawa. This award provides \$1000 to help produce an Ottawa area mid-career artist's photo-based project and its presentation.

The award can help defray the costs associated in any part of the production including but not limited to: studio time, travel costs, hired assistance, equipment rental or any other production costs.

Inaugurated in 2015, Project X, Photography Fund is a limited fund that will continue until 2019.

Grant amount: \$1000

Deadline: Early 2017

> RBC Emerging Artist Award

The Council for the Arts in Ottawa and RBC established the RBC Emerging Artist Award to recognize and encourage the achievements of Ottawa artists who are founding careers in the arts and are working towards becoming recognized professional artists while engaging with the community.

This award is a component of the OAC's annual award program. Award recipients will be chosen by selected panels of adjudicators. The Awards Committee will propose the selection panels to the CAO Board of Directors for ratification.

The recipient will receive a \$5,000 award and two other finalists in this award category will receive \$1,000 awards.

Nominations open : Fall 2016

> **Ottawa Arts Council Mid-Career Artist Award**

This award recognizes and encourages the achievements of Ottawa artists who have evolved beyond an emerging stage in their career to become recognized professional working artists contributing to the Ottawa arts community.

The recipient will receive a \$5,000 award. The two other finalists in this award category will receive \$1,000 awards.

Nominations open Fall 2016

> **Victor Tolgesy Arts Award**

The Victor Tolgesy Arts Award recognises the accomplishments of residents who have contributed substantially to enriching cultural life in the city and is presented as a joint venture of the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Arts Council. A cash prize is associated with this award. The award recipient also receives a bronze casting special edition version of the late Victor Tolgesy's 1963 sculpture entitled "Seed and Flower" provided by the City of Ottawa.

Nominations open early 2017.

SAW VIDEO MEDIA ART CENTRE

➤ Grants to media artists for production of videos
www.sawvideo.com

JumpstArt Mentorship program:

Jumpstart grants of \$1200 in services and mentorship for production of first professional video. Up to six awards granted each year.

Deadlines: May 1st

SAW Production Fund:

Grants for mid-career and established artist. 3 grants awarded per year.

Deadline: May 1st

Indigenous Voices Mentorship Fund:

Grants for emerging aboriginal artists. Similar to the JumpstArt award. 2 awards granted.

Deadline: October 1st

SAW Video

67 Nicholas St., Ottawa, Ont.

(613) 238-7648

<http://www.sawvideo.com>

PRIVATE SOURCES

BRAVO!FACT

➤ Grants to producers and directors

<http://www.bravofact.com/about-bravofact/>

bravo!FACT (Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent) funds the production of Canadian scripted narrative shorts and short documentary with a running time up to 7:30 minutes. Grants up to \$50,000 awarded.

Since 1995, BravoFACT (Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent) has distributed millions of dollars in awards to Canadians for the production of short form scripted projects. Many of the resulting works have been honoured with awards around the world.

Today, BravoFACT continues to provide awards to Canadian producers and directors who seek to create entertaining and engaging short-form content, both scripted and documentary, for Bell Media.

BravoFACT's objectives are to:

- Support and foster Canadian talent and production companies.
- Provide funding for the production of short-form projects, both scripted and documentary, suitable for Bell Media.
- Provide a broad platform for showcasing the resulting work, via the international reach of bravofact.com and BravoFACT's YouTube channel.

BravoFACT welcomes applications from all regions of Canada.

A director or producer attached to an undelivered BravoFACT or BravoFACTUAL project may not apply.

50% of funds for both BravoFACT and BravoFACTUAL are awarded to female-led projects. To qualify as a female-led project either the Producer or Director must be female.

As an English language broadcaster, all projects must either be in English or contain English subtitles.

Next BravoFact deadline: December 2, 2016. Next BravoFactual deadline not yet announced.

Bravo!Fact
299 Queen St. W.
Toronto, Ont.
M5V 2Z5
Telephone: 416-384-2726
email: bravofact@bravo.ca

Grants Administrator: Rachel Feldbloom-Wood : Rachel.Feldbloomwood@bellmedia.ca

CANADIAN FILM CENTRE

- Supports development and production of feature-length dramas as well as professional development of emerging writers, directors, producers and editors
<http://www.cfccreates.com/programs/7-cfc-features>

> CFC Features

Designed to help filmmakers at various career levels, CFC Features supports writers, directors and producers to advance their scripts and produce their films to achieve maximum critical and commercial success. The experience includes a rigorous development process based on participants' needs, and on the specific creative, technical and business needs of individual projects.

The program is designed for films with production budgets under one million dollars. CFC Features can provide up to 100 per cent of the production financing to a maximum of \$600,000. For projects with budgets exceeding \$600,000, filmmakers are responsible for securing any additional funds required (subject to approval of CFC Features).

Last deadline March 31st, 2016.

> NFB/CFC Creative Doc Lab

The NFB/CFC Creative Doc Lab is designed to push the creative storytelling process, refine and elevate filmmakers' creative vision, and meet the demands of a shifting industry. This initiative invites four (4) innovative and artful storytellers to engage in an inspiring and rigorous creative development process.

Last deadline: July 6, 2015

HAROLD GREENBURG FUND

- Supports development of feature-length dramatic scripts and production of short "calling card" films
www.bellmedia.ca/harold-greenberg-fund/us-2/

The Harold Greenberg Fund/Le Fonds Harold Greenberg is a national funding organization that supports the development of Canadian dramatic feature films. The English-Language Program is supported by Bell Media and The Movie Network. The Fund helps support:

- Story Optioning
- Script Development
- Equity Investment
- Industry Initiatives including:
- Shorts-to-Features Program

> Script Development Program

Funds Story Optioning – First Option, Option renewal, Treatment to First Draft, First to Second Draft, Second to Final Draft and Polish and Packaging.

Next deadline: Feb. 8, 2017

> **Shorts to Feature program**

An initiative of The Harold Greenberg Fund in association with The Movie Network, the Shorts-to-Features program is designed to greenlight and finance the production of short films 10 minutes and under from emerging Canadian filmmakers to use as a calling card for a feature film currently in development.

Writer, producer, director teams, each of whom have not had a feature film produced (with the exception of the producer who can have a maximum of one feature credit as producer) Writer, producer, director must be Canadian. Projects must be in English. All teams must submit a feature treatment or feature script which creatively relates to the short film.

Grant amount: \$32,000 + guaranteed script development support (\$5,000) for the feature film version

2016 deadline has passed. 2017 deadline to be announced.

NATIONAL SCREEN INSTITUTE

➤ Professional development for emerging writers, directors, producers
<http://www.nsi-canada.ca/>

> **NSI Drama Prize**

NSI Drama Prize is an ambitious course that provides emerging filmmakers with training in the various stages of filmmaking, \$10,000 in cash support; over \$20,000 in services; and mentoring from established industry leaders while teams develop and produce a short film (up to 10 minutes).

2016 deadline delayed. Check website.

> **Features First**

NSI Features First is a development training launch pad for producer/writer teams looking to produce their first or second feature film with strong commercial appeal. It is NOT necessary to have a director attached to the project. Each team will be paired with executive producer mentors and story editors to help with the final development and packaging of their feature film project.

Each team will receive a cash award to put towards additional story editing and development costs.

2016 deadline is now closed.

> **Script To Screen**

Script to Screen is a writer-oriented development program funded by [Movie Central](#) and delivered by the National Screen Institute.

The course is designed to provide emerging and established screenwriters with the financial and creative tools to develop commercially-driven feature film concepts for film and television audiences.

2016 deadline is now closed.

> **Totally Television**

Provides hands-on series development training for producer/writer teams serious about getting their series concept made. Each team is paired with execs from major Canadian networks, story editors and executive producers to help hone each concept and make it pitch perfect.

2016 deadline is now closed.

> **NSI Aboriginal Documentary**

NSI Aboriginal Documentary is a development launch pad for producer/director teams looking to produce a short documentary. Teams are paired with an industry mentor to help with the final development and production of a 10 minute documentary.

Teams receive a cash award of up to \$16,000 to put towards production of their documentary and attend the Hot Docs Film Festival in Toronto.

2016 deadline is now closed.

Corus Diverse TV Director

Shaw Media Diverse TV Director is an advanced two-phase diversity training course for up to four diverse directors who are female and/or Aboriginal (male or female) and/or a visible minority (male or female) and/or a person with a disability (male or female).

The course is intended for directors ready to make the leap to TV series direction with development training and job shadowing.

2016 deadline is now closed.

CROWD FUNDING SITES

> online funding for artists' projects, etc.

Kickstarter.com

<http://www.kickstarter.com/>

Indiegogo

<http://www.indiegogo.com/>