



Guidelines and Application Form

The **Fresh Filmmakers Production Grant** will facilitate the production of one short narrative film (ten minutes or less) directed by a filmmaker who has been making films for no more than five years.

The winner will receive **mentorship, a \$1000 stipend, and logistical support** (camera, lights, edit facilities, etc.) necessary to direct and produce a short narrative film. Production mentors will work in tandem with the grant recipient to manage the project.

The grant is sponsored by IFP Minnesota, in partnership with ETS Pictures and the Twin Cities-based production community. The grant is intended to honor the memory of **Dennis O'Rourke**, who was a friend to the regional production community and owner of Cine Sound 2 for over thirty years.

***** APPLICATION DEADLINE ***
FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2009**

How It Works

- Mentors Matt Ehling and J. Michael Tabor will act as the producers of the film. IFP will act as Executive Producer.
- The winner will direct the film from the screenplay s/he submitted. The screenplay must be no more than seven pages long.
- The winner will receive \$1000 in cash.
- All professional, vendor-based services will be provided through project partnerships.
- The recipient of the grant will have one year from the date of receiving the award to complete the project.
- Production will be limited to five days.
- Post-production will also be limited, depending on vendor resources.
- The winner will have to pay for some expendable items (gels, gaff tape, location costs, etc.); project mentors will work with the filmmaker to contain these costs.
- The completed work will be screened for the community of partners, cast, crew, and others involved in the project.

Eligibility

- Applicants must have no more than five years of experience in directing their own films.
- The proposed film cannot be a student project or a work for hire.
- Applicants cannot be full-time students at the time of the application deadline and cannot attend school full time during the 12-month project cycle.
- Part-time students are eligible.
- This grant is intended for people who are not working professionally in the film/video industry at the time of application.
- You must be a member of IFP Minnesota to apply. Membership information is at www.ifpmn.org/membership.html.
- Applicants must be current residents of Minnesota or western Wisconsin (St. Croix, Pepin, Pierce, Eau Claire, Dunn, Chippewa, Buffalo, or Trempeleau counties).
- Production must take place in Minnesota or western Wisconsin.

HOW TO APPLY

PART I: WRITTEN MATERIALS

YOU MUST SUBMIT THE WRITTEN MATERIALS AS EMAIL ATTACHMENTS to grants@ifpmn.org. No paper! Don't send these things on paper!

Please put the words "Fresh Filmmakers" and the title of your screenplay in the subject line of the email. So the subject line will look like this:

Fresh Filmmakers – "Fast Times at Ridgemont High"
(or whatever the name of your screenplay is)

1. **Application Cover Sheet** Download the form at www.ifpmn.org/grants.html, type in the information, and submit it as an EMAIL ATTACHMENT (not paper) to grants@ifpmn.org.
2. **Screenplay** (7 pages maximum); standard screenplay format and spacing. Submit your screenplay as a PDF file.
 - a. The title page should NOT contain your name or contact information. It should contain the title and nothing else.
 - b. Send the screenplay PDF as an email attachment to grants@ifpmn.org.
 - c. Please note that if you wrote the screenplay as a student assignment, or submitted it for college credit, it is NOT eligible.

3. **One-Page Resume.** (send as email attachment)
4. **Director's Statement** (one page). (send as email attachment)
 - a. Describe how you came to filmmaking and how you've trained as a filmmaker. It doesn't matter whether you went to film school or are self-taught.
 - b. Describe what you want audiences to take from your film.
5. **Estimated budget** for producing the screenplay. (send as email attachment)
 - Although most items will be provided in-kind by the donors listed above, the budget should include the actual costs of all items (camera, lights, etc.).
6. **Production plan.** (send as email attachment)
 - Remember that the film must be completed within one year from the date the grant is awarded. Please provide a month-by-month schedule of how your production will take place.

PART II: DOCUMENTATION

YOU CAN SCAN AND EMAIL THESE, OR MAIL THEM.

7. **Photocopy of MN or WI driver's license** or state-issued picture ID (for proof of residence).
8. If you are not the writer of the screenplay, provide a copy of the **option agreement** or other proof of agreement with the screenwriter.

PART III: DVD OR URL OF YOUR WORK

9. **Work Sample DVD(s)** (10 minutes maximum). It can be complete works or a clip reel. Label the DVD(s) with your **name** and the **titles** and **lengths** of the works.
10. If you are submitting your video **online**, include the link in the body of your email. You do not need to submit a DVD if your work is available online.
11. If you are submitting a DVD, mail or bring it to

IFP Minnesota – FRESH FILMMAKERS
2446 University Avenue West, Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55114

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Judging Criteria

A panel of local motion picture professionals will select the recipients of the grants. The panel will consider the following in their application review process:

- The artistic merit of the submitted screenplay treatment.
- The viability for production of the submitted screenplay.
- The level of artistic and technical accomplishment exhibited by the work sample(s).
- The perceived potential of the applicant to successfully execute the proposed project with innovative vision and voice.

**For questions about the grant or the application process,
contact**

Lu Lippold

Director of Funding Programs at IFP MN.

Phone: 651-644-1912 x 106. Email: llippold@ifpmn.org.

The Fresh Filmmakers Production Grant
is brought to you by



and the Minnesota film and video community.