



Guidelines and Application Form

IFP Minnesota, in partnership with ETS Pictures and the Twin Cities-based production community, is proud to announce the "**Fresh Filmmakers Production Grant**" for beginning narrative filmmakers in Minnesota and Western Wisconsin. 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.

The Fresh Filmmakers 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.

Through an application process, IFP Minnesota will select one grant winner who will receive **mentorship, a \$1000 stipend, and logistical support** necessary to direct and produce a short narrative film. IFP Minnesota will act as the executive producing entity for the film, working with the local vendor community for production and post-production services. Production mentors will work in tandem with the grant recipient to manage the project. IFP Minnesota will facilitate the entry of the finished film into film festivals.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008, 4:00 PM**

How It Works

- IFP Minnesota and mentors Matt Ehling and J. Michael Tabor will act as the producers of the film.
- The winner will direct the film from the screenplay s/he submitted.
- 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 six days.
- Post-production will also be limited, depending on vendor resources.
- When the project is complete, IFP will advise the filmmaker on opportunities to reach audiences.
- The completed work will be screened for the community of partners, cast, crew, and others involved in the project.
- The winner will receive the following equipment rental and services:

- Consulting Mentors
 Jeff Stonehouse will act as cinematography consultant.
 Bix Skahill will consult on screenplay and directing.
 John Sims will consult on audio.
 Mary Ahmann will consult on the off-line edit.
- Camera rental
 Cinequipt will provide an HD camera package.
- Field audio rental
 Audioquip will provide an audio package.
- Lighting
 Cinequipt will provide a lighting package.
- Casting
 A & E Casting will provide casting services.
- Off-line editorial
 The offline edit will take place at IFP. Carl Jacobs and Joe Martin of Splice Here will provide consultation before post-production begins.
- Online edit
 Joe Martin of Splice Here will polish the offline and do the online edit.
- Post-production sound design and mix
 Kent Militzer, Dave Russ, and Kelly Pieklo of Splice Here will provide sound design and mix. They will also consult on original and library music.
- Color correction and on-line editorial
 Michael Sandness of Splice Here will color in all-FCP workflow.
- Graphics
 Motion504 will provide graphic services.
- DVD mastering and duplication
 Mark Abney of Splice Here will encode and author the DVD master.
- Legal services
 Alexander Rosenstein of Fredrikson & Byron will provide legal consultation.
- Professional distribution and festival consultation
 IFP Minnesota.
- Stipend
 ChartHouse Learning and ETS pictures have provided the filmmaker's stipend and additional financial support.

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.

Application Materials

Download the Guidelines and Application Cover Sheet from the IFP Minnesota website, www.ifpmn.org/grants.html. You may submit all these materials electronically as email attachments, or you may print them and mail them.

Here's what you need to send.

1. **Application Cover Sheet**
2. **Screenplay** (10 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 Lu Lippold, llippold@ifpmn.org.
3. If the screenplay is not written by the applicant, provide a copy of the option agreement or other proof of agreement with the screenwriter.
4. **One-Page Resume.**
5. **Director's Statement** (one page):
 - 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.
6. **Estimated budget** for producing the screenplay. 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.).
7. **Production plan.** Remember that the film must be completed within one year from the date the grant is awarded.
8. **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. **OR** – if your work is online, you may email the link with your application.

9. **Photocopy of MN or WI driver's license** or state-issued picture ID.

******* APPLICATION DEADLINE *******

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008, 4:00 PM

This is an in-office deadline, not a postmark deadline.

Completed applications must be received at the IFP Minnesota Center for Media Arts no later than **4:00 PM on Tuesday, August 19, 2008**. No exceptions. This is an in-office deadline. No applications will be accepted by mail, email, or walk-up after this time.

Email completed applications to Lu Lippold, llippold@ifpmn.org. You may drop off or mail your work sample DVD. *Please put "Fresh Filmmakers" and your name in the subject line of the email.*

-- **OR** --

Mail completed applications to:

Fresh Filmmakers
IFP Minnesota Center for Media Arts
2446 University Avenue West, Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55114

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





freshfilmmakers
p r o d u c t i o n g r a n t

Application Cover Sheet

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone#1 _____ Phone#2 _____

E-mail _____

Title of Script _____

Genre _____ Page Count _____

Brief Synopsis of Script (no longer than 50 words):

Brief Description of Work Sample submitted on DVD:

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

The above signature attests to the understanding by the applicant of eligibility criteria, the accuracy of the information submitted, and that the script submitted is the sole and original work of the applicant.

Applications must be received in the IFP MN office by
4:00 PM on Tuesday, August 19, 2008.
This is an in-office deadline, not a postmark deadline.