GETTING STARTED IN FILM, TV AND INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA

This guide provides an overview of the types of training opportunities, work experience and networking initiatives available to newcomers, as well as to those currently working in the industry looking to develop their skills. While it is not possible to provide a complete list of all initiatives, this guide gives examples of the types of initiatives on offer and where to find information on them. Contact details for the organisations and publications referred to are listed in alphabetical order at the back of this handout.

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Cover image: The Ballad of Betty & Joe. Alice Ansara as Betty; Director Martha Ansara; and DOP Tom Cowan. Photo Robert Macfarlane. Courtesy Ballad Films.
**INTRODUCTION**

The Film, TV and Interactive Digital Media industries are highly competitive, but not impossible to break into. There is no ‘right’ way to go about negotiating a pathway into these industries. This guide provides an overview of the types of training opportunities, work experience and networking initiatives available to newcomers, as well as to those currently working in the industry looking to develop their skills. While it is not possible to provide a complete list of all initiatives, this guide gives examples of the types of initiatives on offer and where to find information on them.

It is important to research and gather as much information about the industry as possible and this guide is designed to assist you in finding this information. To further help you in your research, contact details for the organisations and publications referred to in this guide are listed in alphabetical order at the back of this handout. In the provided list of contacts there are many networks, clubs and industry societies, which provide subscription e-newsletters and regular updates on industry news. There are many different ways to get a foot in the door; this guide provides a number of options for you to pursue.

**WORK EXPERIENCE, EMPLOYMENT AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Production companies**

Some production companies and producers are willing to offer work experience to students or people interested in getting into the film and TV industry. Generally work experience is unpaid. To approach production companies and producers directly, you will need to access lists of production companies and producers from industry directories. The main industry directories the Encore Directory and The Production Book can be found online at the Screen Australia industry links page at: www.afc.gov.au/industrylinks/prodres/au_dir.aspx and www.afc.gov.au/industrylinks/prodres/int_dir.aspx

Please note that most production companies are small and may not be able to offer work experience.

**Production reports**

- Screen Australia’s *Upcoming Production Report* (UPR) is published every month online. The UPR is a select list of features, short features, TV drama and documentaries currently in pre- to post-production in Australia. Please note that producers and production companies can be inundated with calls regarding work and may not welcome unsolicited enquiries. Their preference may be to employ via crewing agencies. Some producers and production companies request that their contact details are not published and where contact details are omitted in the UPR, they are unavailable for publication. Foreign productions generally employ a line producer to set up the production office in Australia a few months before the principal photography date, and Screen Australia will not be able to provide production office contact details until the production office is set up. www.afc.gov.au/filminginaustralia/upcoming/fiapage_26.aspx

- *Encore Magazine* provides a comprehensive snapshot of what’s happening in the film, television and digital media industry. As well as the latest news, their site provides recruitment opportunities, a calendar of upcoming events, classified advertising and a comprehensive industry directory (subscribers only). www.encoremagazine.com.au

- *If Magazine* is a subscription-based networking and information resource for filmmakers, offering industry news, films in production and classified advertising (subscribers only). www.if.com.au

- Film Victoria’s *What’s Shooting* is a regular update of productions shooting in Victoria. www.film.vic.gov.au
• The New South Wales Film and Television Office’s (FTO) What’s Shooting in NSW?
  www.fto.nsw.gov.au
  http://filming.fto.nsw.gov.au/content.asp?content=7&Id=76

• Pacific Film & Television Commission production update.

• South Australia Film Corporation, What’s Shooting in SA?

• ScreenWest WA Focus: What’s In Production can be found in the news articles section.

**Employment websites**

• Ozmedia-match is a free searchable online directory of TV and film freelancers, offering a jobs bulletin board and discussion forum. Freelancers can post and access their CVs, while employers can search CVs, check availability and post vacancies.
  www.ozmedia-match.com

• The Black Book Professional Development: Jobs section. The Black Book Directory lists more than 2,700 Indigenous people and organisations working in the arts, media and cultural industries.

• Screen Hub is a subscription-based newsletter publishing a weekly jobs and production list, as well as news and events from Australia’s film and screen industry.
  www.screenhub.com.au

The public broadcasters and government film agencies have positions vacant listings on their websites. These can be found at:

• Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)
  www.abc.net.au/jobs

• Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Indigenous Employment
  www.abc.net.au/message/employ

• Special Broadcasting Service (SBS)

• Film Victoria, Melbourne

• The New South Wales Film and Television Office (FTO), Sydney
  www.fto.nsw.gov.au

• The Northern Territory Film Office (NFTO), Alice Springs
  www.ntfilm.com.au

• Pacific Film and Television Commission (PFTC), Brisbane
  www.pftc.com.au

• Screen Australia

• ScreenWest, Perth
  www.screenwest.com.au
Mentorships

Mentorship programs are designed for emerging filmmakers and established film practitioners to form a relationship with a more experienced counterpart where creative and professional development can be fostered and cultivated. Typically, these programs entail the mentor applicant have a particular person in mind as their mentor and the organisation they apply with then encourages and assists in realising this relationship.

- **Film Victoria**, Melbourne
  Film Victoria is a State Government agency that provides strategic leadership and assistance to the film, television, and digital media sectors of Victoria. In providing internships, Film Victoria aims to provide Interns with the opportunity to increase professional experience, skills, contacts and knowledge through on-the-job training with a Victorian screen industry company.

- **Screen Australia Mentor Billboard**
  Mentoring is a mutually beneficial relationship that involves a more experienced person helping a less experienced person to achieve their goals. Find out about all available mentoring programs and initiatives for screen industry practitioners in Australia. Download research that covers mentoring issues and links to a wide variety of mentoring programs available through all state and national agencies. A website that will host a mentoring matchmaking service will be coming soon.
  A Film Australia, Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) and Screen Producers Association of Australia (SPAA) initiative.

- **Women in Film and Television (WIFT) NSW**
  Women in Film and Television (WIFT) NSW runs the Media Mentorship for Women program, which establishes one-on-one mentor relationships between industry professionals and women who are seeking to further their careers.
  [http://wiftnsw-mmw.org/cmS/](http://wiftnsw-mmw.org/cmS/)

Attachment schemes

The Attachment Scheme assists individuals with relevant experience in film or television production, to move to a higher level in their professions by obtaining on-the-job experience in the industry.

- **Film Victoria**, Melbourne

- **South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC)**, Adelaide

- **Screen Tasmania**

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are an Australian Government supported initiative and a good industry breaker requiring little experience. For more information about apprenticeships please see the below:

- **www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au**

- **The Australian Apprenticeships Job Pathways** website provides easy to access Australian
Apprenticeships job and career information across over 70 industries including Screen and Media. It also includes a ‘Self Help’ section with tips and links on how and where to find an Australian Apprenticeship.


Government funding initiatives

State and Federal Government film agencies offer a range of production and development initiatives, some in conjunction with public broadcasters, educational institutions, screen development and resource organisations, and industry associations. For a complete list of government agencies and details of government assistance to the film, television and digital media industry, see the Screen Australia’s Industry Links at www.afc.gov.au/industrylinks/govassist.aspx

Screen Australia funding

Screen Australia’s aim is to develop, produce, promote, distribute and provide access to diverse Australian programs, and support the development of the Australian screen production industry, so that Australian screen content is accessible nationally and internationally. We recommend you subscribe to Screen Australia News at www.screenaustralia.gov.au/news_and_events/Newsletters.asp so you can be kept up to date about new initiatives offered by Screen Australia. Subscription is free.

For a comprehensive and current list of all Screen Australia funding programs please see www.screenaustralia.gov.au/industry_support/GW_Project-Support-Invest.asp

State Government funding

State Government film agencies offer a range of funding programs, some aimed at encouraging new filmmakers. Programs include practitioner support, project development and production, mentor schemes and travel grants. Subscribe to the newsletters of your state’s film agency to keep up to date about new initiatives on offer.

- Film Victoria, Melbourne
  The Victorian State Government agency that promotes and supports excellence in screen-based content creation in Victoria.
  www.film.vic.gov.au

- The New South Wales Film and Television Office (FTO), Sydney
  A statutory authority whose main function is to provide financial and other assistance to the film and television industry in carrying out activities in New South Wales, including the provision of financial and other assistance for script and project development in film and television.
  www.fto.nsw.gov.au

- The Northern Territory Film Office (NFTO), Alice Springs
  Provides support for the development of film, television and digital media industries in the Territory. The Office has a limited funding capability targeted at the professional development of the Territory’s independent producers.
  www.ntfilm.com.au

- Pacific Film and Television Commission (PFTC), Brisbane
  Facilitates and celebrates quality film and television production in Queensland. Its key role is to develop and support the local film industry, attract production to Queensland and celebrate an active screen culture across the state.
  www.pftc.com.au

- ScreenACT
  ScreenACT is the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Office of Film, Television and Digital Media. ScreenACT aims to advance the capability and professionalism of these industry sectors in Canberra and the surrounding region, and promote the ACT as a filming location. The agency liaises with organisations and persons of interest to the industry sectors.
  www.screenact.act.gov.au
• **ScreenWest**, Perth
  Western Australia’s film funding and development agency dedicated to the growth and promotion of film and television activity in Western Australia. It aims to provide leadership, support and services to advance Western Australia as an internationally recognised centre for screen production.

• **Screen Tasmania**, Hobart
  The Tasmanian State Government agency responsible for fostering, developing and supporting screen-based industries within Tasmania, as well as attracting interstate and international initiatives. The Mini Mentor Program, part of Screen Tasmania’s New Talent Pack, will offer a free service that will provide filmmakers with access to advice from a selection of experienced professionals about particular practical issues they face as they undertake their projects.

• **South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC)**, Adelaide
  South Australia’s film development agency, providing investment, development programs and training support for film, television and digital media production in South Australia. Its vision is to create a sophisticated and comprehensive film and television industry and community. Its mission is to lead the creation and delivery of critically acclaimed and commercially successful ideas, moving images and sound for any viewing medium.

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### Industry guilds and associations

Industry guilds and associations are member-based organisations of industry professionals that encourage emerging filmmakers through a range of initiatives, including mentorships, short courses, conferences and seminars. For a current and comprehensive list see [www.afc.gov.au/industrylinks/unions.aspx](http://www.afc.gov.au/industrylinks/unions.aspx)

• **The Australian Cinematographers Society (ACS)**
  Furthers the advancement of cinematography in all fields, keeps its members abreast of technology, new equipment and ideas through meetings, seminars and demonstrations, and provides a forum for cinematographers to meet with other members of the industry to discuss and exchange ideas, promote friendship and better understand other practitioners’ industry roles.
  [www.cinematographer.org.au](http://www.cinematographer.org.au)

• **Australian Directors Guild (ADG)**
  Works to promote excellence in screen direction, encourage communication and collaboration between directors and others in the industry, and provide professional support for its members. The ADG is proud to represent the key creative elements of the Australian independent film sector, and it maintains a high profile and leading cultural and policy role through its efforts to address issues affecting the industry from a broad perspective.
  [www.adg.org.au](http://www.adg.org.au)

• **The Australian Film Institute (AFI)**
  Founded in 1958, the AFI is a membership-based organisation that has promoted Australian film and television for over 46 years, and is responsible for producing the annual AFI Awards for Australian film and television. The AFI provides its members with a range of services including cinema discounts, access to preview screenings and discount tickets to the AFI Awards.
  [www.afi.org.au](http://www.afi.org.au)

• **Australian Screen Editors Guild (ASE)**
  The Australian Screen Editors Guild comprises the best screen editors in Australia. It is a cultural, professional and educational organisation dedicated to the pursuit and recognition of excellence in the arts, sciences and technology of motion picture film and televus&ampt;.;
  [www.screeneditors.com](http://www.screeneditors.com)
• **The Australian Writers’ Guild (AWG)**
The professional association for all performance writers: that is, writers for film, television, radio, theatre, video and digital media. The AWG was established in 1962 and is recognised throughout the Australian industry as being the voice of performance writers.
www.awg.com.au

• **The Screen Producers Association of Australia (SPAA)**
The industry body representing Australian independent film and television producers on all issues affecting the business and creative aspects of screen production. The annual SPAA Fringe Conference is open to non-members, and is highly recommended for people wishing to start out in the industry.
www.spaa.org.au

• **Verve – knowledge and skills**
The industry training advisory board (ITAB) for the Victorian arts and cultural, and sport and recreation industries. Verve participates in industry reference groups and advises the Victorian Government on issues and trends. As a Verve member you can express your views and offer suggestions and ideas about training in your industry. Member benefits include subscription to Verve’s monthly newsletter, invitations to participate in industry seminars, networking opportunities and access to sector information.
www.verve.org.au

• **Women in Film and Television NSW (WIFT)**
Committed to improving the status of women, both on and off screen, by supporting and advancing women working in the film, television and related screen industries.
www.wift.org

**Scholarships**
To be kept up to date about new scholarships, subscribe to the free newsletters published by your local state film agency (see page 5) and your local Screen Development Association (SDA) (see page 8).

**Online directories and information**

• **The British Council**
The UK’s international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. Its purpose is to build mutually beneficial relationships between people in the UK and other countries and to increase appreciation of the UK’s creative ideas and achievements.
www.britishcouncil.org

• **The Commonwealth Learning Scholarships Program**
Introduced to assist students from poorer socioeconomic backgrounds, particularly Indigenous students and those from rural and regional areas, with the costs associated with higher education. The program is administered on behalf of the Australian Government by individual higher education providers who conduct their own application and selection procedures in line with guidelines issued by the Department of Education, Science and Training.
www.dest.gov.au

• **The Joint Academic Scholarship On-line Network (JASON)**
A program developed by a number of universities. Its aim is to assist students wishing to pursue postgraduate studies gain access to current information regarding funding opportunities through various scholarship programs run through universities, charitable foundations, government and private institutions.
www.jason.edu.au

• **Philanthropy Australia**
The national membership body for the philanthropic sector. The Australian Directory of Philanthropy is a comprehensive guide to Australian trusts and foundations, and the Australian Directory of Corporate Community Involvement is a directory of Australian corporate philanthropy.
www.philanthropy.org.au
Foundations, trusts and scholarships

- **The Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS)** offers a range of scholarships, including an allowance for full-time students. The Indigenous Program Initiative offers scholarships to Indigenous Australians, including the Myer One Year Indigenous Scholarship and the Macquarie Bank Indigenous Scholarship. The Industry Training Fund for Women is designed to assist women already working in the film, television and radio industries to upgrade their skills and progress into key creative and technical positions. The Kenneth Myer Scholarship is awarded to an AFTRS producing student at graduation. 
  
  [www.aftrs.edu.au](http://www.aftrs.edu.au)

- **The Brian May Scholarship** provides financial assistance to promising Australian film composers to study film scoring for nine months at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. 
  
  [www.brianmayscholarship.org](http://www.brianmayscholarship.org)

- **The Churchill Trust** is an Australian trust to perpetuate and honour the memory of Sir Winston Churchill through the award of travelling fellowships known as Churchill Fellowships. A Churchill Fellowship is the award of an opportunity, through provision of financial support, to enable Australian citizens to travel overseas to undertake an analysis, study or investigation of a project or issue that cannot be readily undertaken in Australia. 
  

- **The Foundation for Young Australians** is a not-for-profit organisation that supports young Australians and also offers Indigenous grants. Each year the Foundation manages grants for young people aged 12 to 25 years. 
  
  [www.youngaustralians.org](http://www.youngaustralians.org)

- **The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA)** offers many scholarships, including the John Clark Endowment, to ensure that no exceptional student is denied the opportunity to train at NIDA due to lack of funds. 
  
  [www.nida.unsw.edu.au](http://www.nida.unsw.edu.au)

- **The South Australian Youth Arts Board (SAYAB)** aims to encourage innovation across the full range of the arts, by providing grants and schemes to support and develop the artistic activity of South Australians aged 26 years and under. 
  
  [www.sayab.org.au](http://www.sayab.org.au)

- **The Documentary Australia Foundation** is a private philanthropic initiative to provide information and resources to philanthropic grantmakers, charitable organisations and documentary filmmakers in order to explore, share and enhance their mutual objectives of creating a better society. 
  

- **The inaugural AFI Fellowship** aims to enrich the cultural environment of the Australian film community. The principal benefit of the AFI Fellowship is to provide film practitioners with fixed financial support to pursue creative and career objectives that will serve the Australian filmmaking community. 
  
  [www.afi.org.au](http://www.afi.org.au)

Screen development and resource organisations

Screen Development Australia (SDA) member organisations offer early- to mid-career film and multimedia makers across Australia affordable access to production equipment and advice, subsidy programs, professional development and accredited training, as well as a range of special projects. SDA is committed to a ‘many doors’ approach in relation to the development of industry practitioners. Many run accredited certificate courses, as well as shorter training programs.

**SDA member organisations**

- **The Film & Television Institute (FTI)**, Perth, WA offers a wide range of specialist courses including professional development short courses, introductory
workshops, industry seminars, guest lectures and youth holiday workshops. The FTI also offers tailor-made fee-for-service filmmaking courses for organisations within the Perth metro area. The FTI is the Western Australian representative of the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS), and runs a number of courses on their behalf.

www.fti.asn.au

- **The Media Resource Centre (MRC), Adelaide, SA**
  Provides entry-level to early-career film and digital media makers with access to production equipment, subsidy programs and advice on all aspects of professional and project development, production and marketing. The MRC also manages the Mercury Cinema, delivering a unique screening program to Adelaide audiences and providing local practitioners with the opportunity to screen their works.

www.mrc.org.au

- **Metro Screen, Sydney, NSW**
  A video, television and multimedia resource centre offering production support and training to emerging filmmakers, digital media makers and community-based screen practitioners and artists. Its combination of production support and networks gives Metro members and students access to a vibrant community that includes professional organisations, practising filmmakers and artists. These services provide different entry points and multiple pathways into the screen production industries.

www.metroscreen.com.au

- **OPENChannel, Melbourne, VIC**
  Offers a wide variety of support to aspiring and emerging filmmakers. OPENChannel creates opportunities for people to realise their films and develop screen production skills, and is organised into three departments: Facilities Hire, Training, and Production. OPENChannel is a membership-based, not-for-profit business.

www.openchannel.org.au

- **QPIX, Brisbane, QLD**
  Committed to developing independent production and screen professionals in Queensland, and to linking the state’s sector to the industry at a national and international level. QPIX provides a range of integrated services to enable the development, production and exhibition of Queensland film, television and digital media. QPIX provides screen practitioners with access to equipment and facilities, low-cost production offices, professional production advice, information services, production opportunities, screening opportunities, key industry-focused training and a wide range of professional development.

www.qpix.org.au

**Other screen resource associations**

- **The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), Melbourne, VIC**
  Offers student programs that include screenings, lectures, seminars, festivals, gallery tours and dynamic production workshops. ACMI production workshops offer a diversity of screen production programs for all age groups.

www.acmi.net.au

- **The ACT Filmmakers’ Network, Canberra, ACT**
  A non-profit film industry development association formed in 2000 to support independent filmmaking in the Australian Capital Territory region. The association aims to be a conduit for the development of independent filmmakers by supporting access to people, information, professional development, and production resources and opportunities.

www.actfilmnet.org.au

- **CINEWEST, Auburn, NSW**
  Aims to achieve a greater understanding of arts and cultural practices and promote diversity in cultural and artistic expression in western Sydney. It organises arts and cultural activities through community cultural development practices and screen culture initiatives with a local and regional focus.

www.cinewest.org.au
• **Northern Territory Filmmakers Association (NTFA), Darwin, NT**

A member-based organisation that aims to promote filmcraft and a feature film industry in the Northern Territory. NTFA offers production support and training, including courses in Adobe Premiere, Photoshop, camera handling, lighting techniques, writing, directing, and acting. NTFA also offers private one-on-one tutorials for local and remote members.

www.digitalcinemapictures.com/ntfa.htm

• **Queensland Animators Group Inc, Brisbane, QLD**

Offers a forum for interested people to promote appreciation of the practice of animation in film, video and other developing technologies. It provides members with opportunities to network with people from a range of industry backgrounds and with a variety of interests.

www.qa.org.au

### FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME COURSES AND SEMINARS

**Finding a course that’s right for you**

There are many courses offered at universities, film schools and screen organisations, as well as TAFE and WEA colleges. Take advantage of the free professional guidance offered by all universities and TAFEs, and make an appointment with the career and course counselling service.

**Online searches**

For current and comprehensive lists of courses, schools and campuses, go to: [www.edna.edu.au](http://www.edna.edu.au)

Other sources of course information:


- **RealTime + OnScreen** publishes the *OnScreen Course Guide* at: [www.realtimearts.net](http://www.realtimearts.net)

- Encore Directory online (subscribers only) is found at: [www.encoremagazine.com.au](http://www.encoremagazine.com.au)

- The *Production Book* online offers free access to its Message Board (which includes a Courses category), and charges a small subscription fee to browse Film & Video Courses, at: [www.filmtvbiz.com.au](http://www.filmtvbiz.com.au)

- Hobsons publish the *Good Universities Guides*, which provide assistance in selecting courses and careers, offering independent information on higher education institutions, drawn from independent ratings and rankings developed directly from graduate experience. [www.thegoodguides.com.au](http://www.thegoodguides.com.au)

- Australian Education International (AEI) is part of the Australian Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST). While its brief is directed towards institutions, a search of its website delivers comprehensive lists of publicly registered training organisations (RTOs) in each Australian state and territory in Appendix III. Enquiries about institutions not on their lists should be directed to the relevant state or territory training authority listed in Appendix II at: [www.aei.dest.gov.au](http://www.aei.dest.gov.au)

**Print sources**

If you don’t have access to the internet or prefer print sources check in your local *Yellow Pages* under the headings Universities, Training Courses, Technical and Trade Colleges, and Colleges. Browse industry directories such as Encore Directory under the heading Education & Training, and The *Production Book* under Film & Video Courses. The arts paper RealTime + OnScreen published an *OnScreen Course Guide* in 2005, available from the RealTime office by phoning (02) 9283 2723.
Production-based schools

These production-based film, television and interactive digital media training schools in Australia are members of the International Association of Film and Television Schools (CILECT).

- **The Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS)**
  Runs full-time production-based courses, including Indigenous Program Initiatives and a Technical Trainee Scheme, in addition to an Australia-wide program of short courses from AFTRS offices in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, as well as online short courses in screenwriting and radio.
  www.aftrs.edu.au

- **Victorian College of the Arts (VCA)**
  Offers non-award, undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate and higher degree courses, including a one-year full-time Postgraduate Diploma in Film and Television Producing.
  www.vca.unimelb.edu.au

- **Griffith Film School**
  The Griffith Film School offers graduate and postgraduate courses in film, animation, new and established forms of screen production, including video for the web and desktop, screenwriting and various aspects of film and television production.
  www.griffith.edu.au//faculty/qca/griffith_film_school

Universities

Many Australian universities have media departments. Below is a list of universities that offer courses in film, television and interactive digital media production:

- Australian National University, Faculty of Arts, School of Humanities, Acton, ACT
  www.anu.edu.au

- Bond University, Centre for Film, Television and Screen Based Media, Gold Coast, Qld
  www.bond.edu.au/hss

- Charles Darwin University, School of Creative Arts and Humanities, Darwin, NT
  www.cdu.edu.au

- Charles Sturt University, Faculty of Arts, Wagga Wagga, NSW
  www.csu.edu.au/faculty/arts

- College of Fine Arts (COFA), University of New South Wales, School of Media Arts, Paddington, NSW
  www.cofa.unsw.edu.au

- Curtin University of Technology, Department of Media and Information, Perth, WA
  www.curtin.edu.au

- Deakin University, School of Communication and Creative Media, Burwood, Vic
  www.deakin.edu.au/arts

- Edith Cowan University, School of Communications and Contemporary Arts, Mount Lawley, WA
  www.ecu.edu.au

- Flinders University, Screen Studies Department, Adelaide, SA
  www.ehlt.flinders.edu.au/screen

- La Trobe University, School of Communication, Arts and Critical Enquiry, various campuses, Vic
  www.latrobe.edu.au/cinema
• Macquarie University, Department of Media, North Ryde, NSW
   www.media.mq.edu.au
• Monash University, School of English, Communications and Performance Studies, various campuses, Vic
   www.arts.monash.edu.au/lvps
• Queensland University of Technology, Creative Industries Faculty, Film and Television, Kelvin Grove, Qld
   www.qut.edu.au
• Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, School of Creative Media, Melbourne, Vic
   www.rmit.edu.au/creativemedia
• Sydney College of the Arts (SCA), University of Sydney, Rozelle, NSW
   www.usyd.edu.au/scu
• University of Adelaide, School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design, SA
   www.adelaide.edu.au
• University of Canberra, School of Creative Communication, Canberra, ACT
   www.canberra.edu.au
• University of Sydney, School of Letters, Art and Media, Sydney, NSW
   www.usyd.edu.au
• University of New South Wales, School of English, Media and Performing Arts, Kensington, NSW
   www.unsw.edu.au
• University of Tasmania, Journalism and Media Studies, Hobart, Tas
   www.utas.edu.au
• University of Technology Sydney, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Haymarket, NSW
   www.hss.uts.edu.au

Technical and Further Education (TAFE)

Many TAFE colleges offer courses in film, television, music, sound and digital media production. For example, in
New South Wales the North Sydney TAFE campus offers a Certificate IV (Screen) in Editing and Camera, Sound,
and Television, as well as a Diploma (Screen) in Film, Television, and Music Industry. The Sydney Institute
Sutherland College, Gymea, offers a Certificate II (Screen) and the Randwick TAFE Campus offers a Certificate IV
(Screen) in Film, Television, Radio and Multimedia. There are TAFE campuses in all Australian cities, as well as
many regional and rural areas.

For advice on which TAFE course is best for you, we recommend that you call your local TAFE student counsellor
service, as the counsellors have a thorough understanding of the courses on offer and career paths into the
industry.

If you don’t have access to the internet you can use your local Yellow Pages to locate TAFE campuses, under
the heading Training Courses, TAFE Colleges.

Below is a list of TAFE colleges throughout Australia:

• Charles Darwin University Vocational Education Training (VET)
  www.cdu.edu.au
• TAFE New South Wales
  www.tafe.nsw.edu.au
• TAFE Queensland
  www.tafe.qld.gov.au
• TAFE South Australia
  www.tafe.sa.gov.au

• TAFE Tasmania
  www.tafe.tas.edu.au

• TAFE Victoria

• TAFE Western Australia
  www.central.wa.edu.au

### Other educational institutions

#### Private colleges

Below is a list of private colleges that offer filmmaking and media courses:

- **Academy of Interactive Entertainment**, Canberra, ACT, and Melbourne, Vic
  3D animation for film, television and computer game development
  www.aie.act.edu.au

- **APA International Film School**, Sydney, NSW
  Offers industry-based, practical training
  www.apa.edu.au

- **Hamilton Secondary College**, Adelaide, SA
  Offers Vocational Certificate Courses in Screen III (Animation) and Screen IV (Media Arts Production Skills)
  www.hamcoll.sa.edu.au

- **The International Film School Sydney**, Rosebery, NSW
  Offers two-year production intensive full-time diploma courses
  www.ifss.edu.au

- **JMC Academy**, Melbourne, Vic
  Offers courses in digital film and television production, digital media and 3D animation, audio engineering and sound production
  www.jmc.net.au

- **Footscray City College**, Footscray, Vic
  Offers Diploma and Certificate IV courses in film production and script writing
  www.footscray.vic.edu.au

- **Qantm College**, Brisbane, Qld
  Offers digital media courses
  www.qantmcollege.edu.au

- **Queensland School of Film and Television**, Fortitude Valley, Qld
  Offers accredited Diploma in Film and TV Production
  www.qsft.qld.edu.au

- **Raffles College of Design and Commerce**, Sydney, NSW
  Specialises in design and visual communication
  www.raffles.edu.au
• SAE Institute, multiple campuses Australia-wide
  Offers courses in audio and 3D animation
  www.sae.edu

• Sydney Film School, Waterloo, NSW
  Offers Diploma and Certificate IV courses in Production Management, Directing, Documentary and Screenwriting
  www.sydneyfilmschool.com

Adult Education

Workers’ Educational Association (WEA)
WEA offers a wide variety of short courses, including Film Making From Start To Finish, and Film – The Liveliest Art. Below are links to WEA’s four sites:

• WEA Hunter
  www.weahunter.com.au

• WEA Illawarra
  www.weaillawarra.com.au

• WEA South Australia
  www.wea-sa.com.au

• WEA Sydney
  www.weasydney.com.au

College of Advanced Education (CAE), Victoria
An Adult Education Institution, CAE exists to provide learning to the Victorian community through a wide range of programs and services. CAE Arts provides creative and innovative approaches to learning, allowing students to freely express, challenge and reinvent. A range of courses in visual arts, performing arts and writing & publishing as well as allied activities offer strong creative opportunities to the Melbourne community.
www.cae.edu.au

Drama and acting courses in tertiary institutions and private colleges
There are many drama courses offered in universities, private colleges and community schools. A selection is listed below. There are also free online directories or links pages for acting schools, such as:
www.rehearsalroom.com/workingactor/tchacting1.html

• The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Sydney, NSW
  Offers training in theatre, film and television. NIDA’s primary role is to select and train exceptionally gifted young people, preparing them for careers in theatre, film and television.
  www.nida.unsw.edu.au

• Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), School of Drama, Melbourne, Vic
  Offers courses in acting for film and television, voice, performance, movement for actors and drama school audition preparation, through a range of programs including short courses, intensive practical courses, part-time courses and full-time degree courses such as the Bachelor of Dramatic Art (Acting).

• The Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) at Edith Cowan University, Perth, WA
  Receives funding from both State and Federal Governments. Courses on offer include acting, directing, design, and broadcasting.
www.waapa.ecu.edu.au

- **Actors Centre Australia**, Sydney, NSW
  Offers career focused vocational education and training for the performance sector, with a variety of courses including drop-in classes.

- **Actors College of Theatre and Television (ACTT)**, Sydney, NSW
  An independent college for the performing arts, offering accredited qualifications in acting, music theatre, stage management and technical production.
  [www.actt.edu.au](http://www.actt.edu.au)

- **Actors Ink Studios**, Adelaide, SA
  Offers acting tuition, actor representation and casting services.

- **The Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP)**, Sydney, NSW
  Offers workshops exploring acting, physical theatre, music theatre, design, playwriting, camera performance, circus and clowning. Special school workshops reach schools in four states.

- **The Professional Actor Training Centre**, Melbourne, Vic
  Offers training that focuses solidly on the craft of acting, with major film and TV content.

- **Rossi Casting Group (RCG)**, Milton, Qld
  [www.rossicastinggroup.com](http://www.rossicastinggroup.com)

- **ScreenSkill Australia**, Sydney, NSW
  Offers professional development for screen actors, directors and writers.

- **Screenwise**, Sydney, NSW
  Provides specialist, career-focused training in acting for film and TV.

**Stunt training courses**

- **The Stunt Academy**, Gold Coast, Qld
  Offers courses that are recognised by the National Vocation, Education Training and Employment Commission, and include intensive training courses, tailored stunt seminars, advanced regular training and international stunt seminars.
  [www.stuntacademy.com/index.htm](http://www.stuntacademy.com/index.htm)

- **The Sydney Stage Combat School (SSCS)**
  Offers training in the safe, effective illusion of violence, whether it be unarmed or with weapons, for the stage and screen, from period to modern realistic fighting.
  [www.sydneystagecombat.com](http://www.sydneystagecombat.com)

An alternative to formal training in a stunt school is to independently follow the National Stunt Committee Grading Procedures, and once those requirements have been fulfilled, approach Stunt Agents and Stunt Coordinators to see if they offer apprenticeships. The Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA) offers a free download of its National Stunt Committee Grading Procedures at [www.alliance.org.au](http://www.alliance.org.au). You can access a full list of agents and coordinators from the Encore and Production Book directories. See Screen Australia Industry Links:

Make-up and special effects (SFX) Courses

- **The Art and Technology of Make-up College**, Sydney, NSW
  Registered with the NSW Vocational Education Training and Accreditation Board (VETAB) for the delivery of training and assessment services in Certificate IV in Make-up and Diploma of Make-up. The college offers a variety of full-time, part-time and short courses.
  www.makeupeffectscollege.com

- **The Frampton Institute of Cinemagraphic Make-Up**, Gold Coast, Qld
  Offers an intensive three-month diploma course, and its website offers tips, links, contacts, a newsletter and a forum.
  www.framptoninstitute.com.au

- **Swinburne University of Technology**, Melbourne, Vic
  Offers a Diploma of Make-up, where students gain application skills in prosthetics, special effects, period, television and film make-up, as well as hairstyling, facial hair manufacture and wig styling and maintenance.
  www.swinburne.edu.au

Summer schools

- **Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT)**, national
  Coordinates a range of national summer schools which offer intensive skills development and networking opportunities for Australian practitioners. Since 1989 ANAT has pioneered skills programs for artists, offering advanced tuition in digital media arts including web authoring, interactive environments, sound, video, performance and curating.
  www.anat.org.au

- **The Film and Television Institute (FTI) Summer School**, Perth, WA
  Offers a Certificate II in Multimedia for 15- to 17-year-olds. This is a nationally recognised training course that provides a comprehensive introduction to video production. The FTI has been running the Certificate course for high schools on a semester basis for several years. Due to growing interest, the FTI has created a full-time summer school to run the course over 14 days.
  www.fti.asn.au

- **OPENChannel**, Melbourne, Vic
  Runs a Young Filmmakers’ Summer School which offers hands-on production experience, a solid grounding in filmmaking techniques and the chance to learn from an experienced industry professional. Working in small groups the participants write, shoot, act in, direct and edit a short film, shooting on digital video and editing on Final Cut Pro.
  www.openchannel.org.au

- **Summer School in Filmmaking at Melbourne University**, Vic
  As part of the Cinema Studies program intensive teaching in all aspects of film production is offered in screenwriting, adaptation, television, comedy, writing for children, camera and lighting, directing actors, editing, production management, production and sound design, shooting action and stunts, visual and special effects, film music, producing, film business, and marketing and distribution. There are also intensives on documentary, steadicam and 35mm cinematography. Participants can make a film as they learn.
  www.summerfilmschool.com
INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA

For current and comprehensive lists of facilities, initiatives, courses and information on digital media we recommend an online search and the Screen Australia Industry Links at:

Screen Australia publishes an Info Guide on the Australian digital media industry entitled Interactive Digital Media: Where to Get Funding, Information, Advice, available at www.afc.gov.au/faqs. This free online publication provides an overview of government assistance programs plus information on relevant industry organisations.

We also recommend you refer to Digital Media World’s (DMW) Creative Services Directory, which lists digital media companies that provide services and products, as well as education and training, at www.dmw.com.au

Government funding

Most film agencies in Australia offer funding programs specific to digital media. Information on Screen Australia funding can be found at:

For a full list of government film agencies, see Government funding initiatives on page 5. Other government organisations also offer funding for digital and new media schemes:

Federal
- The Australia Council
  Supports a range of digital media, interdisciplinary and hybrid art projects. An Inter-Arts Office supports interdisciplinary and hybrid arts practice. New media art applications are supported primarily through the Visual Arts/Craft Board and Music Board. Staff of the Inter-Arts Office can provide advice on which board may be most appropriate if you are unsure where your application best fits.
  www.ozco.gov.au

State
- Arts Queensland
  Distributes funding through its programs of assistance, and applicants may include digital media projects in their submissions.
  www.arts.qld.gov.au

- Multimedia Victoria (MMV)
  Works to grow the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector, and drive economic growth through access to and use of sophisticated ICT.
  www.mmv.vic.gov.au

Digital media courses and programs

Most Australian universities now have digital media components in their communications and/or science degrees. Use the Universities listing on page 11 to obtain the most current advice from universities in your own state. Generally, entering digital, new media, media arts or interactive digital media into the university search engine will take you to course information. There are also a number of other institutions that offer education and training in digital and new media:

- Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE)
  A registered training organisation for the computer game development and 3D animation industries. Specialising in games development, games programming and 3D graphics, the Academy provides real pathways to employment through hands-on training in team production settings. All AIE full-time courses are nationally accredited and recognised.
  www.aie.act.edu.au
• **The Film and Television Institute (FTI) Centre for Interactive Game Design and Traditional and Digital Puppetry**, Perth, WA  
  The aim of this initiative is to build on the work previously done at the Centre for Advanced Digital Screen Animation at the FTI and the Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, and to meet advanced training needs in the converging fields of interactive games, simulations, and live and recorded traditional and digital puppetry. The Centre seeks the skills needed to meet these rapidly expanding areas of entertainment and simulation technology. Within an incubator environment, it grows commercially viable, leading edge interactive, immersive and performance entertainment.  
  [www.fti.asn.au](http://www.fti.asn.au)

• **The Media Resource Centre (MRC)**, Adelaide, SA  
  A digital media suite that offers facilities for the practice of digital media and cross-media projects. The MRC also provides opportunities via various subsidy initiatives to develop emerging talent.  
  [www.mrc.org.au](http://www.mrc.org.au)

• **Metro Screen**, Sydney, NSW  
  Offers full-time accredited courses in digital video production and digital arts and media. Short courses include web page design, and workshops in streaming for the web and DVD production. Metro’s Mobile Unit travels to Western Sydney and regional NSW, offering training programs and partnerships with community groups, training providers and production companies. The growing interest in digital media production, film festivals, regional cinemas and travelling film exhibitions has led to courses on the NSW North Coast, and in Tamworth, the Hunter Valley and Griffith.  

• **OPENChannel**, Melbourne, Vic  
  Offers digital media training and resources.  
  [www.openchannel.org.au](http://www.openchannel.org.au)

• **Qantm College**, Brisbane, Qld  
  QANTM College provides an innovative teaching environment combined with the state of the art resources that ensures its students are highly sought after within the creative digital media industries.  
  [www.qantm.com](http://www.qantm.com)

• **Story of the Future**  
  Story of the Future helps writers develop digital, interactive and cross-platform narratives for the 21st century. It develops participants’ skills in digital and cross-artform collaboration and supports the creation of content for new technology platforms driven by Australia’s rising generation of creative writers. Story of the Future is supported by the Australia Council for the Arts in partnership with the Australian Film Television and Radio School.  

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**Digital media networks**

• **The Australian Interactive Media Industry Association (AIMIA)**  
  Provides programs and services, and a national industry-wide framework, to assist and enhance the development of the Australian digital content and interactive media sectors. AIMIA also provides support for members to create opportunities with each other, the broader business community and government.  

• **Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT)**  
  Australia’s peak network and advocacy body for artists working with science and technology. ANAT offers a range of nationwide professional development initiatives for emerging and established artists and curators. ANAT organises special events and supports exhibition development, creating opportunities for artists to promote and display their work.  
  [www.anat.org.au](http://www.anat.org.au)
• **dlux media arts**
  An association that encourages the development and critical discussion of innovative film, video, digital media and sound arts by emerging and established artists in Australia, and actively promotes and exhibits this work to diverse audiences nationally and internationally.
  
  [www.dlux.org.au](http://www.dlux.org.au)

• **Experimenta**
  Presents innovative exhibitions and events in digital media arts, film, video, sound and performance. Featuring the work of emerging and established artists, Experimenta’s screenings, installations and performances are held in cinemas and galleries, online and in a variety of less conventional exhibition contexts. Experimenta publishes an online journal, MESH, that explores critical issues and theoretical frameworks for digital media arts. Forums and other discussion-based events are also regularly coordinated by Experimenta.
  
  [www.experimenta.org](http://www.experimenta.org)

• **The Game Developers’ Association of Australia (GDAA)**
  Created by leading developers to increase the profile of the Australian interactive game industry both domestically and internationally, in order to promote the growth of the game industry in Australia. The GDAA represents the interests of members and aims to attract capital and publishers from offshore, retain and attract talent to our local industry, and cultivate a sense of community within the industry.
  

• **RealTime + OnScreen**
  Offers adventurous writing on all contemporary art forms within Australia, and includes a section on digital media arts called OnScreen. The OnScreen Course Guide in New Media Arts can be downloaded from the RealTime website.
  
  [www.realt imearts.net](http://www.realt imearts.net)

• **Synapase Database**
  Developed by ANAT to provide an online resource for the ongoing development of art and science collaborations. It is a major component of the Australia Council’s Synapase Art and Science Initiative and provides information on artists, projects, scientists and organisations.
  
  [www.synapase.net.au](http://www.synapase.net.au)
INDIGENOUS

Opportunities for Indigenous filmmakers are offered throughout the year through a range of state and federal initiatives.

For a comprehensive and current guide to new initiatives for the Indigenous filmmaking community, as well as Indigenous contacts, visit The Black Book at www.theblackbook.com.au/default.asp

Subscribe to the free industry newsletter Screen Australia News at www.screenaustralia.gov.au/news_and_events/Newsletters.asp

Also subscribe to the free industry newsletters published by your local state government agency (see page 5), and your local screen development and resource organisation (see page 8).

For general information on scholarships and grants see Scholarships on page 7.

Screen Australia Indigenous Branch

The Indigenous Branch develops initiatives and strategies that support the professional development of Indigenous film practitioners and their work. This is done through funding programs that invest in the development and production of outstanding and distinctive Indigenous projects across all genres and mediums.

The Branch offers professional development to filmmakers by providing both development and production investment funding for drama, documentary, animation and interactive digital media projects. The Branch also offers internships for filmmakers to work with more experienced practitioners and Travel Grants for filmmakers who have been selected for key international film festivals.

The Branch also contributes to policy within Screen Australia and the wider Australian industry.

For more information on funding programs, guidelines and current initiatives please go to www.afc.gov.au/funding/indigenous/default.aspx

Or call the Indigenous Branch on 02 8113 5889 or toll free 1800 226 615.

- Digital Media: The Branch seeks to invest in the development of outstanding interactive digital media projects which are based on strong ideas, are well crafted, of varying styles and content, exhibit a high level of creative ambition and can demonstrate the possibility of being financed for production. Projects must be genuinely interactive and provide the user with an immersive interactive experience. Screen Australia encourages innovation in the extent and level of interactivity available to the user. www.afc.gov.au/funding/indigenous/digital_media/default.aspx

- Documentary: The Branch has allocated specific funds toward the National Indigenous Documentary Fund (NIDF) that provides production opportunities for Indigenous documentary filmmakers. The NIDF is financed by a combination of Screen Australia, SBS and the state agencies. The Indigenous Branch assumed management of the NIDF on Series 5 and has continued this role in association with Indigenous Screen Australia (ISA). In addition, Screen Australia takes on the role of the state agency for projects selected within the Northern Territory. The aim of the NIDF is to provide production opportunities for both emerging and practising Indigenous documentary filmmakers. The Indigenous Branch also has funds available for documentary development and documentary production and post-production. www.afc.gov.au/funding/indigenous/documentary/default.aspx

- Drama: Following on from the success of From Sand to Celluloid, Crossing Tracks, Crossing Tracks and On Wheels, the Indigenous Branch in association with SBS Independent (SBSi) launched three drama initiatives: Dramatically Black, Fifty Fifty and Dreaming in Motion. The NSW FTO and the SAFC have committed production investment for projects selected from their respective states. The Long Black feature initiative aims to encourage and support Indigenous filmmakers to work in the feature film format and bring feature stories authored and crafted by Indigenous people to the screen. The Bit of Black Business initiative invites Indigenous program makers from across Australia to submit five-minute drama story ideas that explore individual notions and experiences of contemporary black ‘business’. The
Indigenous Branch also has funds available for drama development and drama production and post-production.

- Practitioner Support: The Branch has a range of funding schemes to assist emerging and experienced filmmakers and digital media artists, including internships, travel grants and workshops such as the Writing for Series Television Workshop. The Branch is also helping to prepare a training strategy for Indigenous filmmakers.

Other support for Indigenous filmmakers

- **The Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) Indigenous Program Initiatives (IPI)**
A national program designed to upgrade the creative and technical skills of Indigenous Australians already working in the film, broadcast and related industries, and to assist them to progress into key creative positions. AFTRS’ specific objective is to increase the number of Indigenous Australian producers, directors and scriptwriters, and thus increase the number of Indigenous voices in our film, video and digital industries.
www.aftrs.edu.au

- **The Australian Indigenous Communication Association (AICA) Incorporated**
A body that represents members of the national Indigenous media and communications industry. The representative association advocates for, and formulates policy on behalf of, the communications sector. Sector representation includes broadcasting, print communication, online communication, film, video and TV.
www.aica.asn.au

- **The Black Book Directory**
The portal to Indigenous arts and media in Australia: 2,700 descriptive listings of Indigenous organisations and individuals working across 95 professions in the arts, media and cultural industries. Plus listings of 2,000 creative works by Indigenous people – publications, music, film and television productions – from the late 1890s until now, including details of the artist, publisher, release date, distributor contacts and synopsis. Plus jobs and training opportunities for Indigenous people in the arts and media, and an events diary.

- **The Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA)**
Owned by the Aboriginal people of Central Australia, CAAMA has a clear mandate to promote Aboriginal culture, language, dance, and music, while generating economic benefits in the form of training, employment and income generation. CAAMA produces media products that engender pride in Aboriginal culture, and informs and educates the wider community about the richness and diversity of the Aboriginal peoples of Australia. The CAAMA Group comprises: 8 KIN FM, a radio network; CAAMA Shops, a retail, wholesale and distribution business; CAAMA Music, a recording studio and record label that produces Indigenous music for the world; CAAMA Productions, a film and television production company that produces world-class programs about Aboriginal culture, lifestyles and issues; and Imparja Television, a commercial television station that broadcasts via satellite to one of the largest television service areas in the world.
www.caama.com.au

- **Film and Television Institute (FTI), Perth, WA**
Administers Deadly Yarns and the Stanley Wilbur Trust, which offers support for Indigenous screen artists. For advice on new developments in this ongoing program, please contact the FTI.
www.fti.asn.au

- **Pacific Film and Television Commission (PFTC), Brisbane, Qld**
The Indigenous Filmmakers Fund provides development and production finance for Indigenous
filmmakers to tell their own stories.
www.pftc.com.au

• ScreenWest’s Indigenous Filmex initiative (INDEX)
  Designed to extend the experience of Indigenous filmmakers, particularly directors, writers and producers, by supporting the production of short films.
  www.screenwest.com.au

• Metro Screen, Sydney, NSW
  Administers the Lester Bostock Scheme, a joint initiative between Metro Screen and the NSW Film and Television Office (FTO), offering Indigenous storytellers the opportunity to make a short film. Participants have access to free training, equipment and facilities, plus they team up with an experienced industry producer/director who acts as a mentor to guide them through the production process. The aim of the scheme is to encourage new Indigenous filmmakers living in NSW to present ideas, develop their skills and experience in television and video production, and increase their prospects for employment in the film and television industry. An Indigenous mentor/producer assists each filmmaker through the development, production and post-production of their project.

**NETWORKING AND MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Festivals**
There are many festivals held around Australian for entrants of all levels. Film festivals are a good opportunity for new filmmakers working on low budgets or inexperienced filmmakers experimenting to have their projects viewed and exhibited. Festivals help gain useful critical feedback as well as public notoriety. Festivals are also a good networking ground; often have events such as question and answer time with the established filmmakers and meet and greet nights where you can meet other industry members.

Below are some examples of festivals which take entries of all levels, although you can find out more through the trade magazines such as *Encore*, *Screen Hub* and *Inside Film* and by subscribing to Screen Australia’s news bulletins: [www.screenaustralia.gov.au/news_and_events/Newsletters.asp](http://www.screenaustralia.gov.au/news_and_events/Newsletters.asp)

• **BooHoo films** is a monthly competition for filmmakers in Inner West Sydney, culminating with two finals in the year, the first in June and the second in November. Audience popularity determines the finalists with prizes to be won along the way. An independent judging panel selects the winner in the two finals. Cash, prizes and the BooHoo trophy to be won.

• **Melbourne Underground Film Festival** was established in 2000 and held annually to encourage the independent film industry. This festival communicates mainly through press releases, which can be subscribed to at the following web address:

• **The Shoot Out** is held over a period of 24 hours and provides a competitive and stimulating environment for filmmakers to try out new ideas, generating an interest in filmmaking at a grassroots level and encouraging both participants and spectators. This festival is held in Newcastle (NSW), Toowoomba (Qld), Geelong (Vic), Hamilton (Qld) and Boulder (New Zealand) in order to broaden and encourage potential in regional areas.

Check upcoming events on Screen Australia’s events web page:
Subscribe to the free industry newsletters published by your local state government agency and local screen development and resource organisation, the subscription-based newsletters Encore, IF Magazine and Screen Hub, or pick up the free newspaper RealTime + OnScreen (available free from selected cinemas, cafes and galleries). All of the above publish information and updates of upcoming awards, competitions, exhibitions, festivals, screenings, seminars and workshops.


Member-based unions, guilds and associations run seminars, conferences and events, and publish newsletters (see Industry guilds and associations, page 6).

Below is a list of some of the conferences, events and networking opportunities on offer.

**Networking**

- **Australian International Cultural Council (OzArts Online)**
  An accessible online service promoting contemporary Australian culture internationally, with a focus on events and activities being presented overseas.

- **The Australian International Documentary Conference (AIDC)**
  An event for anyone working in documentary film and television, offering insights into the factual future with many opportunities for deals, debate and discussion. The program at the AIDC offers a mix of screenings, masterclasses, panels and an extensive marketplace.
  www.aidc.com.au

- **The Australian Screen Directors Association (ASDA) Conference**
  Aimed at working film and television directors, ASDA provides a focused and entertaining program.
  www.asdafilm.org.au

- **Connecting Australian Artists Online (artsConnect)**
  An online art portal promoting Australian artists of all media – filmmakers, painters, poets, musicians, actors, animators and comedians. Established in 2002 with assistance from the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS), artsConnect provides inexpensive web services to the arts industry and assists artists in marketing and promoting their work on the internet. Artists are invited to register for a one-page web profile that outlines their creative interests, shows examples of their work and provides a contact for others.
  www.artsconnect.com.au

- **Filminfo**
  Offers support and information to filmmakers and technical crew, with information on funding, budgets, pre-production, production, post-production and marketing. It provides industry templates including call sheets, location surveys and 2nd AD Reports, and publishes a magazine that puts the spotlight on Australian technical crew.
  www.filminfo.com.au

- **The Melbourne Documentary Group (MDG)**
  A documentary organisation under the umbrella of AFTRS’ Melbourne office. The MDG holds monthly meetings giving doco filmmakers the opportunity to get together for discussions and screenings. The MDG has also established a Resource Centre of documentary films and scripts, as well as books and journals related to documentary culture, financing and marketing.
  www.aftrs.edu.au

- **Networking Action for Filmmakers and Actors (NAFA)**
  A networking entity for actors, writers and filmmakers in Sydney. Choc Tops in the Attic is a regular evening of conversation, discussion and networking, where guest speakers share insights with an audience comprising interested professionals, enthusiastic beginners and eager students.
  www.nafa.net.au
• **Parnassus’ Den**  
A Sydney-based forum for the development of new Australian writing for theatre, film, TV and radio. Professional actors read new scripts written by emerging and established Australian writers, then the audience is invited to comment. Parnassus’ Den has its own ensemble of 75 actors across all age ranges, and all scripts are rehearsed in advance. There is also a directory of directors, enabling writers to have the experience and expertise of people working in the industry to help them produce the best possible readings.  
[www.parnassusden.org.au](http://www.parnassusden.org.au)

• **Popcorn Taxi**  
Holds regular events in Melbourne and Sydney, where filmmakers and enthusiasts can meet, watch films of all types, and discuss the filmmaking process. The focus is on the filmmakers’ craft and careers rather than tabloid-like gossip. The moderators/interviewers (often filmmakers themselves) aim in most sessions to explore why the filmmakers made the choices they did, and how they brought their visions to the screen. The guests are producers, directors, editors, cinematographers, visual effects supervisors, designers, composers and actors.  

• **SPAA Fringe Conference**  
Australia’s leading annual conference for emerging and low-budget film and television producers, and for emerging writers and directors who want to find a producer. Fringe is an intensive and interactive three-day course of informative and practical sessions that offers a unique opportunity for newcomers to meet and learn from producers, directors, distributors and network commissioning editors. Delegates attend Fringe to network, pitch ideas and gain development opportunities.  
[www.spaa.org.au](http://www.spaa.org.au)

**Marketing**

For a current and comprehensive guide to international festivals, markets, distribution and broadcasting, please visit the Marketing Support section of the Screen Australia website at  

**OVERSEAS**

**Australians studying overseas**

Current and comprehensive lists of film courses offered overseas are available online. Some embassies and consulates offer exchange programs; contact them directly for information. For information on scholarships see page 7. Below is a list of online directories and courses.

**Online course directories (international)**

- **The British Council**  
  Offers a current and comprehensive list of film and media courses in the UK.  
  [www.britfilms.com/training/Britfilms](http://www.britfilms.com/training/Britfilms)

- **Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinema et de Television (CILECT)**  
The association of the major film and television schools throughout the world. It is dedicated to the creation, development and maintenance of regional and international cooperation among its member schools, and the encouragement of film and television training in the developing world. The website offers links to its member schools.  
  [www.cilect.org](http://www.cilect.org)

- **Film Secrets Academy of Film Schools**  
  Offers a list of links to US and selected international film and media departments.  
  [www.rivalquest.com](http://www.rivalquest.com)
Guilds and associations list courses on their websites. To find them online, enter into a search engine various combinations of guild, association, film, television, video, screenwriting, producer and director, and the country that you are interested in studying in. If you prefer a print source use an industry directory from the country you wish to study in.

- **Independent Feature Project (IFP)** is based in New York and has chapters throughout the USA. Its 9,000 members participate year-round in activities ranging from screenings to workshops and seminars. IFP programs aim to provide a national and international platform that facilitates a nexus between the creative and business aspects of filmmaking. IFP is part of an international network of organisations supporting their own national filmmaking efforts.
  
  www.ifp.org

- **Raindance** combines Raindance film festivals, training courses, Raindance film productions and the Raindance Film Magazine, and every year hosts the prestigious British Independent Film Awards in London. Raindance spans the full spectrum of the art, craft and business of independent movies, from guerilla style low- or no-budget productions to big-budget indie blockbusters. It hosts a searchable online directory of training in the UK.
  
  www.raindance.co.uk

- **Skillset** aims to ensure that individuals and organisations can access high quality vocational training in the UK. Skillset accredits courses and providers on the basis of quality and relevance to industry, and offers a central information point for training courses in UK audiovisual industries.
  
  www.skillset.org

### Courses and workshops

- **The American Film Institute (AFI)**
  Located in close proximity to the Hollywood studios. AFI programs are based on a conservatory model, which offers a hands-on production environment, where each directing, producing and cinematography Fellow has the opportunity to make three narrative projects: editors work on up to six projects; production designers work on up to six projects; and screenwriters write one of the narrative projects produced as well as commence work on a feature screenplay.
  
  www.afi.com/education/conservatory

- **The Berlinale Talent Campus**
  Takes place parallel to the Berlinale in the House of World Cultures. It works as an intensive academy that challenges and supports young film talents. Talented young people from around the world involved in all areas of filmmaking are eligible to apply.
  
  www.berlinale.de

- **The European Film College**
  Provides education and training in all aspects of the audiovisual media to undergraduates, professionals and the general public. Registered as a folkehøjskole (folk high school) under the Danish Ministry of Education, the EFC is a non-profit and self-governing foundation.
  
  www.efc.dk

- **The London International Film School**
  Offers an MA in Filmmaking and in Screenwriting, as well as Craft Extensions.
  
  www.lifs.org.uk

- **The National Film and Television School, UK**
  Offers full-time MA and Diploma courses and a wide variety of short and part-time courses.
  
  www.nftsfilm-tv.ac.uk

- **The New York Film Academy**
  Offers hands-on programs in filmmaking, acting for film, producing, screenwriting, and 3D animation.
The courses range in length from one week to one year. Most of the programs have open admissions and do not require previous experience.

www.nyfa.com

- **The Sundance Institute**
  A multidisciplinary arts organisation dedicated to the development of artists and the exhibition of their new work. The Institute seeks to offer artistic and professional resources to filmmakers, writers, playwrights, actors and composers, and each of the Institute’s programs is guided by the primary aim of supporting artists whose work reflects an original, compelling vision.
  www2.sundance.org

- **Tisch School of the Arts at New York University**
  Offers BFA, MFA, MA, MPS and PhD degrees through three major institutes: the Maurice Kanbar Institute of Film and Television, the Skirball Center for New Media, and the Institute of Performing Arts.
  www.tisch.nyu.edu

- **The UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television**
  Located in Los Angeles, this is the only university in the US that offers undergraduate theatre and film/television and digital media programs, integrated within a single professional school.
  www.tft.ucla.edu

- **Video In**
  Based in Canada, Video In is a not-for-profit video production, exhibition and distribution centre, offering state-of-the-art facilities and educational workshops, for both new and experienced producers.
  www.videoinstudios.com

**Overseas students studying in Australia**

- **The Australian Government overseas aid program**
  Aims to increase access to training for people in partner countries. Australian Development Scholarships (ADS) provide opportunities for people from selected developing countries to undertake post-secondary level study in Australia.
  www.ausaid.gov.au

- **The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC)**
  Offers information on immigration, visas, health and useful contacts.
  www.immi.gov.au/students/index.htm

- **Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST)**
  Hosts the Australian Course and Education Institution Search facility, containing a comprehensive list of registered courses and links.
  www.dest.gov.au

- **Study in Australia**
  The official Australian Government website for advice on study in Australia. It provides impartial and reliable information about courses, institutions, study and living costs, the application process, visa requirements and more.
  www.studyinaustralia.gov.au
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<tr>
<td>Sydney NSW 2001</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
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<th>Level 1</th>
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<td>144 Moray St</td>
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