

Submission Deadline September 25, 2009

Overview

In this pitch workshop/competition (the "Pitch Workshop"), a panel of television executives and producers will discuss the process of developing a documentary and will hear and evaluate pitches from documentary filmmakers who are hoping to sell either a nonfiction concept or a documentary work-in-progress.

The Paley Center for Media will preselect five emerging documentary filmmakers (two directing credits or less) as finalists to deliver pitches to a panel before a public audience. Each pitch will include both a verbal presentation (a pitch of no more than five minutes) and a visual presentation (a clip of no more than five minutes). Each finalist's entire presentation must be limited to no more than ten minutes.

The panel will critique both the presentation and the concept of each finalist's pitch. The panel will also take questions from the audience about the creative process of developing a documentary.

Selection: Based on the criteria of persuasiveness of the pitch, originality of the vision, and viability of the project, the panel will select one finalist as the winner of a \$5,000 grant to be used toward the finalist's completion of the documentary pitched at the workshop. The decision of the panel will be final and binding.

The prize is sponsored by SnagFilms. Representatives from SnagFilms will be present at the Pitch Workshop.

In the event that the documentary concept is the product of a filmmaking team (two or more filmmakers), one member will need to be designated as both the applicant and, if selected as a finalist for the workshop, as the "pitcher" for the team.

The pitch workshop will take place at The Paley Center for Media on October 17, 2009.

Submission

Entrants should submit the following materials no later than **September 25, 2009**:

- A completed and signed copy of the attached entry form and submission agreement (the "Entry Form & Submission Agreement");
- A synopsis of the entrant's documentary/nonfiction concept;
- A brief history of the project, including the project's current status, an indication of whether any funding is in place, and a bio of the filmmaker (or filmmaking team, as applicable);
- Contact information, including email address, mailing address, and telephone number; and
- A DVD containing no more than ten minutes of footage from the project.

By submitting an entry to the Pitch Workshop, each entrant acknowledges that he/she has provided true, accurate, and complete information and is bound by the terms and conditions of the Entry Form & Submission Agreement, including the Pitch Workshop's Official Rules attached thereto. Incomplete submissions will not be eligible for the Pitch Workshop.

If selected as a finalist and invited to advance to the next round of the Pitch Workshop, entrants may also be asked to submit, at their own expense, additional materials that may include a "screener" DVD of all or part of their documentary.

Materials submitted to or in connection with the Pitch Workshop, including but not limited to any additional materials requested by The Paley Center for Media, will not be returned. Multiple entries from the same entrant are permissible, however each entry requires a separate Entry Form & Submission Agreement, only one entry per entrant may advance to the final round, and the same project may not be entered into the Pitch Workshop multiple times.

There are no entry fees for submissions.