SCREEN POD

Program Overview

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SCREEN POD offers a practical and market-driven introduction to screen development, by focusing on 4 distinct objectives for each participant:

- To build an effective creative development process
- To develop a TV pilot or feature film project from idea to script
- To communicate the project's essentials in a captivating industry pitch
- To write a compelling first-draft screenplay following industry conventions

To achieve these objectives, POD combines training and practice through lectures, development workshops, an online writing course and industry pitching opportunities.

The program's results are leveraged thanks to the team of 6 - 8 screen developers ('devs') and trainee developers. Each of the devs provides personalised support to a team of 5 - 7 participants throughout their development journey.

PROGRAM SECTIONS

Process lectures

Participants learn the principles of screen development and pitching during 12 one-hour online evening lectures. Developers are free to attend these lectures. Topics covered are a.o.: idea generation, character design, story structure, and thematic voice.

Development workshops

All POD participants join once every 3 weeks via Zoom for a 3-hour forum session to practice brainstorming, pitching and workshopping. Using participants' projects and pitches as cases, the facilitator and developers demonstrate concrete development opportunities. Individual teams break out for mini-workshops and discussions to apply the material to the team's projects, and report back to the group before the end of the session.

Industry pitches

Unique to SCREEN POD is the opportunity to get early feedback from the market, before venturing into further development.

Developers coordinate and moderate a day of table sessions, during which the participants have the opportunity to pitch their project to various industry representatives. The following day, participants receive workshop the feedback received from the market, their developer and their peers.

The program culminates in a day of one-on-one pitches of the finalised projects.

https://screenpod.com.au

Writing training

Participants who are unfamiliar with the screenplay format or who wish to upskill their craft, have the opportunity to complete three weeks of intenstive online scriptwriting training.

DEVELOPER POD

Alongside the main program, POD offers an opportunity to experienced and budding screen developers to hone assessment skills, and gain experience supporting screen creatives.

- New developers are introduced to the POD program and processes during a 2-day virtual bootcamp. This also offers an opportunity to refresh their knowledge about industry practices.

- Developers are invited to the lectures as a further opportunity to hone or refresh their theoretical knowledge of the craft.

- During the forum workshops, developers will moderate peer feedback, and give their own perspective in response to written project summaries and peer pitches.

- During three-weekly team sessions, devs will assist in the creation of the pitch documents, co-ordinate feedback and answer questions from participants.

- Leading in to the final pitching weekend, developers will coordinate the completion and submission of the final pitch documents, and role-play the final pitch with participants.

Developers meet with the program facilitator in the week before each forum session to report team progress, exchange their experiences, and address challenges. These meetings are critical for the devs' own training and development.

After each of the forum workshops, developers meet with the facilitator to debrief, assess the effectiveness of the session, and provide feedback.