



AFS Documentary Workshop at USC School of Cinematic Arts

Overview

In June 2020, the American Film Showcase will welcome twelve emerging documentary filmmakers for an intensive, all expenses paid, 10-day documentary development and pitch workshop at the renowned University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts (SCA) in Los Angeles. Nominated by AFS participating U.S. Embassies and Consulates, with the recommendations of local film organizations and AFS envoys, the workshop will be designed by senior SCA faculty specifically for individuals working on their first or second feature length documentary, and will benefit from the filmmaking expertise and state-of-the-art facilities available at SCA. Those selected will be required to share what they have learned with their home country filmmaking communities.

The AFS Documentary Workshop will immerse filmmakers in the craft of documentary storytelling with a multi-day development workshop led by renowned SCA faculty. Arriving with documentary works-in-progress, filmmakers will spend intensive sessions developing the story structure and character development with documentary experts, culminating in a pitch session for key industry professionals in the American documentary community. Filmmakers will also learn how to fundraise for their film and make the most of international film festivals and markets.

Program Dates

Arrive Los Angeles: June 7

Program Days: June 8 – June 19

Depart Los Angeles: June 20

Selection will be based on the quality of the proposed documentary project, personal statement, filmmaking/media examples and the virtual interview.

Timeline

In-Person Interview at Embassy: March 28-31, 2020

AFS Office Skype Interviews: Week of April 6

Final Participant Decision: April 15

Filmmaker Application Requirements

- Proficient English language skills
- Completed Nomination Form
- 500-Word Personal Statement
- 1-paragraph to 1-page description of current documentary in research, development or production phase
- CV
- Online links to previously produced documentary, narrative work or work-in-progress footage

Please submit your application by **Friday, April 1, 2020**. Submissions should be directed to Cultural Affairs Assistant Nadia Ouhenia, at ouhenianx@state.gov