

4STORIES

DIRECTORS' GUIDELINES

4Stories, the new-talent scheme, designed to bring on and help establish the next generation of writers and directors, is back!

The scheme is aimed at finding genuinely diverse voices, exploring contemporary stories of and by communities that are rarely seen on mainstream television.

We encourage applications from talent currently under-represented in TV Drama – including women, disabled talent, BAME talent, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We are looking for three exciting directors to each direct an original 30min film as part of a three-part thematically linked anthology. The scripts will be written and developed with BlackLight Television.. Directors will then be invited to pitch for the films and encouraged to bring the scripts to life with their directorial vision.

The series will be broadcast on Channel 4.

Directors will learn how to hone their skills and deliver their vision under the guidance of experienced drama professionals, kick-starting their careers directing drama for television.

Commissioned by Channel 4 from BlackLight Television, the aim is to create an eye-catching, original and bold anthology. We aim to start pre-production in Wales in the spring of 2020.

What we are looking for

Bold, unique and surprising voices, unafraid of ambition, with wit, urgency and fearless entertainment in their DNA. We are looking for voices who bring a fresh perspective rarely seen on UK television.

Who can apply

Directors without a TV drama credit on a single or series. Directors who have contributed episodes on soaps, but have had no more than 2 hours of broadcast credits, are eligible to apply.

Directors have to apply with a short or long form film.

Applicants must be a resident of the United Kingdom.

Applications are welcomed from any director who meets the criteria set out above. Although all applications will be considered on their individual merits, in order to promote diversity and to increase the participation of those who are currently under-represented in TV drama, use may be made of the positive action provisions in the Equality Act 2010 when deciding between two equally qualified and talented applicants.

How to apply

You must complete the online application form and provide the following:

1. Your completed Equal Opportunities Form (available to download on the website)
2. A PDF of your CV/Biography (the name of the file should include your full name)
3. A LINK to your original work. Please note we will not accept clip show reels. You can submit more than one short film (no more than two) on the same application.

Please DO NOT submit any other materials (such as storyboards).

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: Midnight on Sunday 10th November 2019 (we reserve the right to extend this deadline)

The process

1. We will watch all submissions
2. If you haven't heard from us by the 31st of January 2020 I'm afraid your application wasn't successful this time. Unfortunately we don't have the resources to individually inform each unsuccessful applicant.
3. We will meet shortlisted candidates for interview (more details of that interview process will be provided to the shortlisted candidates)
4. In conjunction with Channel 4 we will choose 3 applicants to participate in the scheme
5. We aim to go into pre-production in Spring 2020 in Wales (we reserve the right for this date to change)
6. Pre-production is for 6 weeks (tbc)
7. Each film shoots for 6 days (tbc)
8. The edit for each film is 8 days (tbc)
9. Post production – grade, sound mix and online – is over approximately 4 days (on an ad-hoc basis)
10. Directors will be involved in the choice of the DOP and Composer for their films
11. All other HOD's will be assigned by BlackLight and will cross all three films
12. All editorial decisions are signed off by BlackLight and Channel 4
13. Throughout the process directors will be tutored by and work with experienced drama professionals and the producers at BlackLight TV.

We would like to share your CVs/show reel/email addresses with C4's Creative Diversity Team, who are keen to connect with diverse talent. We would also like to keep 4Story applicants informed of other opportunities for emerging talent in the future. Would you please let Neevon KhayatiDaryan know by email neevon.khayatidaryan@banijayuk.com by December 1st if you would rather we didn't do this.

Good luck with your submission.

BlackLight Television
Sept 2019