

Call for Entries for the 14th edition of NFDC Screenwriters' Lab

The National Film Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC) officially announces the Call for Entries for the 14th Edition of the NFDC Screenwriters' Lab.

The lab offers 6 screenwriters the opportunity to fine-tune their screenplays under the mentorship of acclaimed international script and industry experts.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the various sessions of the lab will take place online this year. Previously the lab has partnered with Toronto, Locarno, Venice and Sarajevo Film Festivals.

In the last 13 years, many critically acclaimed and commercially successful films have emerged from the NFDC Screenwriters' Lab. Nurtured by the lab process, these films have gone on to receive critical acclaim across the world in international festivals like Cannes, Venice, Toronto and Busan among many others. The projects have also travelled to International markets like Cinemart, Berlinale, FILMART and Locarno Open Doors.

Some of our noted past projects include –

- ***Fire in the Mountains*** by Ajitpal Singh (World Premiere at Sundance Film Festival under the World Cinema Dramatic Competition in February 2021)
- ***Last Time on Earth*** by Paromita Dhar (Selected for the Hubert Bals Fund – Fall Selection 2019 – under Script and Development Scheme: Bright Future selection at International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR).
- ***In the Belly of a Tiger*** by Jatla Siddhartha (Selected for Hong Kong Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF 2019), Less Is More (LIM) led by Le Groupe Ouest in France followed by Script Pool Tallinn that takes place during Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival in Estonia. The film is currently in pre-production.)
- ***Bombay Rose*** by Gitanjali Rao (World Premiere at Venice International Film Critics Week 2019, Now Streaming on Netflix)
- ***Titli*** by Kanu Behl (Nominated for Camera D'Or, Festival de Cannes 2014)
- ***The LunchBox*** by Ritesh Batra (Grand Rail d'Or, Cannes Critics Week, 2013)
- ***Dum Laga Ke Haisha*** by Sharat Katariya (India-wide release, critical and commercial success)

Submissions are invited for the NFDC Screenwriters' Lab

NFDC Screenwriters' Lab is inviting full length fiction screenplays of any genre. The Regular Deadline for submissions is **April 30, 2021** and the extended deadline is **May 17, 2021**. Eligible candidates can apply online by visiting **www.filmbazaarindia.com**. The lab shall culminate in NFDC Film Bazaar (South Asia's largest film market) where participants will be given the opportunity to pitch their projects to prospective producers and investors.

History of the Lab – The Screenwriters Lab was created in 2007 with a vision to provide creative support to the scripts that would be fine-tuned for international audiences and markets. It started as a one-part session and was held three days prior to Film Bazaar at Goa. The lab is now held in three sessions over a period of 5-6 months and culminates at Film Bazaar where participants get to pitch their projects.