

Starting Block is a nationwide training programme run by **Diversity Films** from its Glasgow base. It is open to anybody from 16 to 60yrs+ who is interested in developing, writing and producing their **first** commissioned short films (drama, documentary, mixed genres) based on the theme of 'Diversity'.

The aim of **Starting Block** is to provide wider access to filmmaking skills training in an informal, community based learning environment and to nurture and develop new filmmaking talent across Scotland. Starting Block will encourage ideas for films that are somehow innovative, cross-cultural and inter-generational and hope to inspire collaborative work across the Scottish regions.

Starting Block will be running a series of Two-Day Film Schools in Glasgow, Fife and Dumfries & Galloway, to help local talent develop their ideas to submit to a nationwide call for projects.

What we are looking for:

- Your idea for a short film - drama, documentary or mixed genre - based around the theme of 'Diversity'.
- **A completed Submission Form (maximum 1 A4 page)** telling us about your idea, your vision, your story and / or **audio-visual material/s** which tell us about your idea, vision and story, **please follow instructions on the Submission Form to upload using a Vimeo Account.**
- Individuals who are keen to learn more about filmmaking and want to be involved in making a film, even if you don't have a film idea yourself.

Who can apply?

- Anyone aged 16yrs to 60yrs+ who is not in full-time media-related education, or already on media-related training, is not a recent media graduate or has already had a film funded or commissioned.

When and how to apply?

- Deadline is 12th July 2010. Any submissions after this date will not be considered.
- Please submit via email to sarah@diversityfilms.org.uk putting 'Idea for Starting Block 2010' and your name in the subject matter.
- You can also post your idea to Diversity Films, Studio 6, 333 Woodlands Road, Glasgow G3 6NG, mark the envelope Starting Block. Hard copy submissions **must** arrive by the deadline of 12th July 2010.



What happens next?

- We will shortlist 12 ideas by early August 2010.
- We will run a series of post-submission residential workshops to develop your projects and producer skills further.
- We will pick six ideas and start production by mid - Sept 2010, and we aim to complete all films by Dec 15th 2010.

What we don't want:

- Scripts or ideas which have already been submitted to and/or been developed with other filmmaking training schemes.
- Feature-length ideas or scripts.
- Projects which cannot be made within the timescales above.
- Submissions will not be considered if you are already in media-related education and/or have graduated with a film or TV degree within the past two years.

Additional Information:

- Please be aware that, although ideas are welcome from across Scotland, we reserve the right to not issue feedback to projects which have not come through our outreach training programme in the focus regions (Dumfries & Galloway, Fife and Glasgow).
- All ideas which are submitted for selection by Starting Block are your property and if your project is not selected for Starting Block, Diversity Films will not pursue it further without your permission.
- If your project is selected to be developed and/or produced by Starting Block, you will be required to sign a **Filmmaker Consent Form** through which you will allow us to develop and produce your film idea with you and other participants on the programme.
- If your project isn't selected, we hope you will still be keen to be involved in the programme as there will be cast, crew and additional training opportunities on the productions.

What do we mean by 'Diversity'?

Diversity means, in the context of society, having a mixed community of people from all walks of life. Diversity Films encourages ideas and project teams which reflect this and encourage tolerance for people of different backgrounds.

