



Media Release:

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Screen Grants Funding Program 2009-10

The Territory screen industry will have further development opportunities following the announcement of more than \$270 000 in funding available through the Northern Territory Government 2009-10 Screen Grants Funding Program.

Northern Territory Film Office Director Penelope McDonald said this year's Screen Grants Program allocates the majority of funds to targeted projects and initiatives that build industry capacity.

"Initiatives including the *Yarning Up* documentary series and the IGNITE feature writing workshops have been successful in developing strong partnerships to deliver not only professional development outcomes but also further benefits to the local community," Ms McDonald said.

"REALISATOR is an exciting new factual professional and project development initiative that will result in more Territory originated factual projects being commissioned by broadcasters.

"The funding program will also focus on screen business skills development with two scholarships available for Territory based producers or executives to attend the Asia Australia Media Executive Leadership Program in Singapore.

"In order to maximise outcomes the NTFO has continued to build national and international partnerships to bring other skills and resources, including finances, to the initiatives."

Ms McDonald said funding will also be available for Territory filmmakers to apply through applications for travel, attachments, production and post production funding.

"The attachment program, being offered for the first time in 2009-10, aims to support experienced Territory screen practitioners to gain hands-on production experience and learning opportunities under the guidance of more experienced people," Ms McDonald said.

"Funding for production or post production aims to support the growth and sustainability of the Northern Territory screen industry by supporting the production of home grown stories and by attracting productions to the Northern Territory.

"Previously supported projects include the Camera d'or winning *Samson & Delilah*, and the soon to be released *Ngapartji Ngapartji: Lost for Words* which tells the story of acclaimed Pitjantjatjara actor Trevor Jamieson.

"There is also funding available for screen culture events to provide Territorians with access to film screenings, particularly of films that have been made in the Territory."

For more information about the NTFO and Screen Grants Funding program visit www.ntfilm.com.au.

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Media Note – for more information contact Penelope McDonald on 8952 5222

Media are invited to attend the 2009-10 Screen Grants Funding Program Launch being held at the NTFO in Alice Springs from 3pm Wednesday, 16 September 2009. Please register attendance with Kira Tapps on 8952 5222 or kira.tapps@nt.gov.au.

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