



## **ACTION! Narrative Apprenticeship Program**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Who is the ACTION! Narrative Apprenticeship Program designed for?**

The ACTION! Narrative Apprenticeship program is designed to serve intermediate-level BIPOC, LGBTQ2IA+, gender-expansive, disabled, immigrants, refugees, and other groups that have been historically underserved, underrepresented, and underresourced in mainstream film production. We consider how factors of race, gender identity, status as a LGBTQ2IA+, disabled, immigrant or refugee, or undocumented artist – as well as the intersection of numerous of them – may historically or currently affect an applicant's access to institutional support, opportunities, education, and benefits.

Those who do not identify with one or more of the above groups are not eligible for this specific program.

#### **Why focus on these specific communities for this program?**

While the need for diversity, equity, and inclusion is often spoken about on film sets and there have been some attempts to rectify this issue, in practice, the local film "industry" is still lacking talent from these communities, especially when it comes to narrative film (as opposed to music videos, commercial, documentary, etc., though the need is also present in those). With this program, Northwest Film Forum helps to create opportunities for people from those communities -- massively underserved and/or underresourced, generally-speaking -- to help close those gaps in representation.

#### **What is an intermediate level student, and why focus on them?**

Northwest Film Forum offers many introductory courses for students who are just starting out, but have felt the need to offer programs for those at a more intermediate level who wish to make the jump into narrative filmmaking but have not had the resources or opportunities to do so, for whatever reason. Furthermore, we find that with the communities this program aims to serve, specifically, beginner filmmakers are quite plentiful but those at an intermediate or advanced level are lacking.

Though it may be somewhat subjective, we consider intermediate-level students to be those who have a fair amount of foundational experience working on small narrative film sets, music videos, documentaries, experimental films, commercial work, etc. The ideal applicant will have an understanding of film sets, but are seeking a deepening where they can play a leadership role in a certain department or creative role.

### **Why am I picking multiple roles to potentially participate in?**

We recognize that the apprenticeship program has limited space for a limited number of participants. Picking multiple roles allows Northwest Film Forum to use a tiered structure so that qualified mentors or apprentices who may not get their first choice pick may still have the opportunity to participate on-set in a different role.

### **How are mentors and apprentices selected for the program?**

Mentors and apprentices will be selected by the Northwest Film Forum team, based on the criteria listed on the application page. They will be selected based on individual assessments and the synergy of the cohort as a whole.

### **What can I expect from being on-set? How can I prepare myself?**

Northwest Film Forum strives to create a safe, welcoming, and supportive filmmaking environment for diverse creators to show up at their true selves. The values we anticipate bringing to the film set are in line with NWFF's values as an organization, which you can [VIEW HERE](#). Prior to coming to set, NWFF will require the entire cohort to sign off on shared agreements, so as to create a harmonious set and shoot.

Nonetheless, film production days can be long. Each of the two film shoot days for the ACTION! Narrative Apprentice Program are anticipated to be about ten hours, though these hours can run longer on actual film productions. More extended breaks generally happen in-between takes or during meal times.

Certain roles may require the lifting of heavy objects or otherwise strenuous physical activity, though we hope to create an experience where those of all abilities can participate.

If you know that you may have accessibility needs around long shoot days or just would otherwise like to make them known to Northwest Film Forum, there is a section on the application for these purposes. Should you have any questions, please reach out.

**Can I apply if I reside outside of King County?**

Yes, as long as you can commit to coming to Northwest Film Forum for in-person meetings when they are requested. You must also be on-set during the film's production prep and production days, from July 7 to July 10, 2022.

If you have any questions and/or would like to share feedback on how to make our ACTION! Narrative Apprentice Program more accessible, please email Derek Edamura at [derek@nwfilmforum.org](mailto:derek@nwfilmforum.org).

**[Please view the Application Guide for tips and best practices.](#)**