



NEW VOICES INFORMATION & GUIDELINES

New Voices is a six-month mentoring and professional development programme for women and non-binary filmmakers based in Scotland who aspire to become documentary directors and/or producers.

New Voices is run by Scottish Documentary Institute (SDI).

This programme is a mix of group workshops and career coaching sessions that focus on the business of documentary (e.g. film funding). It is designed to grow your knowledge and expand your industry network, while exploring career expectations, any issues affecting confidence and practical issues such as childcare and finances. For the foreseeable future these will be delivered online (via Zoom), although there may be an opportunity to meet in Edinburgh later on.

The course is designed for emerging talent, i.e. filmmakers who have some experience of making documentaries that they can show us - perhaps a short documentary (under 30 minutes), or microfilm/films that have been on platforms such as BBC Social, YouTube or Vimeo channels. For those working on a feature-length documentary, please review the list of sessions being delivered over the 6-month period to see if this is the type of support you need.

We are very keen to have diversity within our New Voices mentees, and strongly encourage applications from Black and Ethnic Minority female and non-binary filmmakers.

We would recommend that anyone thinking of applying reads this guidance. We are also holding a [New Voices coffee morning](#) at 10am on 19th January, where you can hear from current participants, Viana Maya, the programme's career coach, and ask any questions you may have. The Zoom link is also available on the New Voices page.

We can be contacted at newvoices@scotdoc.com with any questions.

Programme structure

New Voices is a 6-month programme taking place from March 22 - September 20 2021. Over this time period each participant will receive:

- 6 months of mentoring support (1 hour per month) from a highly experienced film or TV producer/director. The list of mentors who took part in the first season of New Voices is at the end of this document and mentors for this new season of the programme will be confirmed soon.

- A programme of one-to-one and fortnightly group career coaching sessions led by [pRESPECT](#) (a social enterprise which specialises in career coaching for Black and Ethnic Minority individuals), and other industry sessions led by SDI and guest speakers. The programme sessions will take a deep dive into these topics:
 1. The roles of Producer and Director
 2. Film funding
 3. Breaking barriers, self-confidence and career planning
 4. Pitching and presentation skills to access funding, festival submissions
 5. Money talk - knowing your worth, negotiation practice, setting career salary expectations.
 6. Know your strength - building resilience when things go wrong
 7. Celebrating success, reflections and stepping up career goals

Matching mentors and filmmakers on the programme

Filmmakers will be matched with mentors based on the needs outlined in the application and during interviews, and how those needs match mentors' areas of expertise. We would ask you to be flexible as some mentors can only support one filmmaker.

Timings

- Applications open: 7 December 2020
- SDI Coffee Morning panel discussion with New Voices season 1 participants and pRESPECT director Viana Maya: Tuesday 19 January 2021
- Applications close: noon 31 January 2021
- Interviews (by Zoom or Skype): w/c 17 February 2021
- Successful applicants informed: by 22 February 2021
- Programme runs from March 2021 to September 2021
- Evaluation activities: October 2021 (see Commitment below)

Please note: travel and childcare bursaries will be available for participants so they can attend events in Edinburgh (if these happen), but also arrange for childcare during the programme.

Commitment

It is important that applicants can commit to the programme in order to make the most of it. Successful applicants will have to attend the programme sessions and do the follow up work associated with the career coaching. They will also need to set up a profile on the ScreenSkills website (ScreenSkills is one of the programme funders), complete short surveys at the start and end of the 6 months, make a very short film (2-3 mins) with another participant or alone about their experience on the programme and attend at a Round Table event in October 2021 (which mentors will join us for). We will manage and guide you through these activities.

After the programme participants may also be asked to help with future outreach undertaken by SDI if that is something they'd like to do.

How to apply

You can apply using the application form <https://www.scottishdocinstitute.com/opportunities/new-voices/>. If you would prefer to answer questions using video, this is also possible.

NEW VOICES SEASON 1 **MENTORS**

	<p>Yasmin Fedda - Yasmin is an award-winning documentary director. Her work has been BAFTA-nominated and screened at numerous international festivals including Sundance and Edinburgh International Film Festival. She is also a Fellow of Salzburg Global Session 532 Conflict Transformation through Culture: Peacebuilding and the Arts. London based.</p>
	<p>Lynn Nwokorie: Formerly a Script Supervisor for film in both the US and UK, Lynn moved into film exhibition and funding. For three years, she worked as a Film Officer for Doc Society, overseeing the distribution of film grant funds. She is now freelance. London based.</p>
	<p>Elhum Shakerifar: Elhum is a BAFTA nominated Producer, winner of the 2017 Women in Film & TV's BBC Factual Award, and one of Screen International's 2018 #Brit50 Producers on the Rise. Elhum's multi-award-winning credits include A Syrian Love Story (Sean McAllister, 2015). London based.</p>
	<p>Emma Davie – Emma Davie is one of Scotland's most successful female documentary directors. Her feature I Am Breathing (2012), received a Scottish BAFTA for Best Director and was screened in over 50 countries. She teaches at Edinburgh College of Art and also works as an independent mentor and advisor on film projects. Edinburgh based.</p>
	<p>Aimara Reques - Aimara is a director / producer and the founder of Aconite Productions, an innovative company based in Glasgow, dedicated to the production of high-quality creative documentaries that bring stories of global significance to the world stage. Glasgow based.</p>
	<p>Dr Amy Hardie – A regular collaborator with SDI, Amy is another of Scotland's best known documentary filmmakers. Her debut feature The Edge of Dreaming had 280 international cinema screenings in 31 countries. Features on Amy Hardie as director appear in over 100 journals, papers, blogs, websites in over 20 countries. Edinburgh based.</p>
	<p>Uzma Mir-Young - Before forming her own company, 'Turmeric Media', Uzma was Executive Producer and Director working across a variety of genres at BBC Scotland - from Music and Arts to News and Current Affairs. Glasgow based.</p>

	<p>Sue Bourne: Sue has been in Broadcast's Hot 100 twice in the last few years as one of Britain's top directors. Her style of documentary-making is now almost a brand - instantly recognisable and enjoyed by many all over the world. London based.</p>
	<p>Mary Bell is a film Producer and co-founder of production company BofA Productions, whose accomplishments include Mark Cousins' documentary, The Eyes of Orson Welles. Stirling based.</p>

Contact newvoices@scotdoc.com with any questions.

New Voices is funded by City of Edinburgh Council, Hugh Fraser Foundation, Screen Scotland, Britford Bridge Trust and ScreenSkills using National Lottery funds awarded by the BFI as part of the Future Film Skills programme.



Scottish Documentary Institute is committed to offering clear and accessible application processes open to everyone. On request this information is available in alternative formats. We offer access support to disabled applicants, tailored to individual requests and our team can offer advice to new applicants and support them to make an application.