



**FORGE: SHORT FILM DEVELOPMENT LAB & FUND – HOW TO APPLY**

This document contains all the information about how to apply for Bradford 2025 and Screen Yorkshire's Forge: Short Film Development Lab & Fund. Please read it carefully and make sure you send us all the information we need by the deadline of 5pm on Tuesday 30 April 2024.

**What are we looking for?**

Bradford 2025, in partnership with Screen Yorkshire and The Unit (an open-access production space in Keighley co-funded by Bradford Council and Channel 4), are seeking applications from Writers and Directors (or Writer/Directors) to take part in a short film development lab. This lab supports filmmakers working in narrative storytelling, across fiction and documentary short film. You must be from Bradford or have significant connections to the city and District (living here, history of making and sharing work here, etc) to apply.

Eight projects will be selected to take part in the development lab from an open call out. Selected projects and teams have the opportunity to attend an 8-week development lab to incubate their projects through a series of story labs, masterclasses, mentoring and workshops led by TV & film industry professionals. The lab concludes with a pitch to a funding panel, resulting in three selected projects moving into financed production and premiering in 2025 as part of Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture.

We will consider applications from both individuals and teams. If you are applying as a team, please outline the make up of the project team in your application form. Please inform us if a Producer is already attached to your project.

**Eligibility and things we will consider when making our decisions**

Please make sure you have read and understood this guidance on our website before you start writing your application.

**Access support to make an application**

If you need this information in another format or if you have access needs related to making an application, please get in touch with us straight away to discuss how we can support you. Please email [grants@bradford2025.co.uk](mailto:grants@bradford2025.co.uk)

### Process

To apply please provide the following:

- Completed application form
- A script and/or treatment for your project
- Completed 'About You' form

Please specify whether you are applying as an individual Writer or Director (or Writer/Director) or team, and if there is a Producer attached to the project. If you are applying as a team, please ensure your answers reflect all members of the team.

**Please note, all projects that move into financed production will be centrally produced by a Bradford-based Producer who is part of the pitch selection panel. We will endeavour to explore Assistant Producer or Co-Producer roles across any projects where a Producer is already attached.**

Please answer all of the questions on the application form for your application to be eligible. There is a word count guide (and a timing guide for audio or video) for each question.

There are prompts for what to include for each question – please read these carefully to make sure you are including the right information. Please feel free to use lists or bullet points as well as sentences – we're interested in your project, not the quality of your writing. We understand that there may be things that aren't confirmed, or that you don't know yet – this is fine, just make sure you tell us what these things are and how they will get pinned-down during your project.

You can send your written answers in whatever format works best for you (Word, PDF, Excel etc). If you are applying by audio or video please send us a link to where we can watch or listen to your application e.g. your website, Google Drive, YouTube, Vimeo, Sound Cloud etc – if we'll need a password to access it, don't forget to send us this too.

Please email your application to: [grants@bradford2025.co.uk](mailto:grants@bradford2025.co.uk)

Please make sure you also complete our 'About you' form as part of your application. This is to help us understand the range of people our programmes are reaching and will not affect the selection process.