



Project Involve Application Sample and/or Essay Criteria

Applicants must submit a bio, cover letter and resume (no more than 2 pages).

All other sample and/or essay criteria listed below per track. Sample work must have been completed after January 1, 2019.

For ALL WORK SAMPLES - upload the FULL project (not a segment or the first 15 min (if a feature). Do not submit streamer links (i.e. Amazon, Peacock, Netflix, etc) – it must be accessible without downloading an app or paywall.

CINEMATOGRAPHER / EDITOR / PRODUCER

Provide two work samples (feature/short/web series/episodic) where you served in the role you are applying for – i.e. if applying as a producer, two pieces that you produced; if applying as an editor, two pieces that you edited, etc. All applicants in these tracks must submit at least one fictional narrative work sample; the second sample may be fiction or nonfiction, commercial or a music video. No reels, trailers, verticals and no singular/stand alone scenes will be accepted.

- Editors – you must be the sole editor; no AE or co-editors
- Producers – must be the producer on the project (no more than three producers in the credits if it is a short); no co-producer or associate producer titles in the projects you are submitting as sample work.

CREATIVE EXECUTIVE

Please write responses according to the following prompts:

Film Critique: Write a critique of a film of your choice that was released, either theatrically or via streaming platform, between January 1, 2025, and June 5, 2026. State whether or not you appreciated the film and offer reasons to support your position. We are not looking for a synopsis, but rather a critical exploration of the selected film's merits or lack of them based on your opinion. Do not incorporate professional critics' published reviews.

Executive Statement: Write your mission statement as an aspiring executive. What type of executive would you ideally like to be? What types of stories are important to you and how do you want to help them be told? Please list three specific executives you admire and why.

DIRECTOR

Provide **two fictional narrative** work samples (feature/short/web series/episodic) where you served as the sole director. No reels, music videos, verticals, or commercials.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMMER

Please write responses according to the following prompts:

Film Critique: Write a critique of a film of your choice that was released, either theatrically or via streaming platform, between January 1, 2025, and June 5, 2026. State whether or not you appreciated the film and offer reasons to support your position. We are not looking for a synopsis, but rather a critical exploration of the selected film's merits or lack of them based on your opinion. Do not incorporate professional critics' published reviews.

Festival Program: Write a proposal for a new section of a film festival that you would like to program. What is the section called? What is its organizing principle? Please include at least 8 films that you feel best exemplify what this section could be and why.

WRITER/DIRECTOR

Provide **two fictional narrative** work samples (feature/short/web series/episodic) where you served as the sole writer/director. No co-written or co-directed pieces will be considered. No reels, music videos, verticals, or commercials.

Provide three writing samples for consideration:

One Long Sample: Include a feature-length screenplay or a pilot script. Provide its logline and synopsis.

One Short Sample: Submit a complete short script that is 10 pages or less. One of your writing samples must be the accompanying script to one of your submitted produced fictional narrative work samples.

Please write a short script, 3-5 pages (excluding title page) based on a story prompt. This 2027 application cycle's writing prompt is "awestruck."

WRITER

Provide two writing samples for consideration, including one long sample (feature or pilot) and one short script sample (a complete short script that is ten pages or less). The logline and synopsis should be for your long sample.

Please write a short screenplay, 3-5 pages (excluding title page) based on the following story prompt. This 2027 application cycle's writing prompt is "awestruck."

LAIKA FELLOWSHIP

The Writer, Director/Lead Animator, Supporting Animator, Producer and Editor were selected and are currently working on the 2026-2027 stop-motion short. The track that is open for the 2027 cohort year is Cinematography.

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Please provide two work samples. At least one fictional narrative work *where you served* as the cinematographer. The second sample may be fiction, nonfiction, a music video or a commercial. At least one sample must be stop-motion animation. This may be your Narrative Work Sample or another sample which is nonfiction, a music video or a commercial. Both samples may be stop-motion animation if available.

No reels, verticals or clips from projects will be accepted.