 Thank you for your interest in applying for this program. Below you will find information about the program, as well as the attached application.  *Please read through this packet completely.*

**OBJECTIVE**

The Emerging Talent Lab is an exclusive partnership between LMU SFTV and Village Roadshow Entertainment Group to offer a 3-month Lab. The Emerging Talent Lab is a program designed to give select graduating students and recent alumni of LMU’s Film & Television program a bridge to the film, TV, and digital media industry, and to help them move their specific projects forward in a concrete and significant way.

Participants in the Emerging Talent Lab will work closely with Village Roadshow creative executives to create short films, television pilots, or proof-of-concepts for larger narrative work (i.e. a scene from an existing narrative feature). Participants will also have regular group meetings at Village Roadshow to receive mentorship and guidance on their projects (approximately 4 times over the course of the program).

The foundational goal of this program is to identify and support focused and driven recent graduates and alumni as they work to build their creative portfolio and reputation in the entertainment industry. We aspire to give strong support to individuals we believe will make a significant creative impact on the industry through their boldness, singular perspective, and effort.

**WHO SHOULD APPLY**

2019 graduates and alumni no more than 5 years removed from their date of graduation.

The ideal candidate is ambitious, curious, and eager to enter the industry with concrete evidence of their vision and ability in hand. We will specifically target: professional or student writers who are looking to direct for the first time; short film/music video/commercial directors looking to develop their first feature; and documentary filmmakers seeking to transition towards narrative.

Preference will be given to directors, producers, and screenwriters with specific film, television or new media projects already in development. Projects may be submitted by one applicant or a team of two (max). Applicants may only submit ONE project for consideration.

All applicants MUST be 21 years or older, be eligible to work in the U.S. and not require any Visa support or assistance.

*Applicants will be judged primarily by:*
- Their ability to communicate through creative materials and pitches
- Their anticipated commitment to the Lab as evidenced by their professional performance
- Their readiness to complete a finished creative project as detailed in application materials

The Lab will run from May through August 2019.
WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Each project in the Emerging Talent Lab will receive a grant of $10,000 to create a single short film, feature film segment, television pilot or new media project. Village Roadshow executives will supervise the pre-production, production and post process, providing guidance and feedback at every step along the way.

Additionally, participants will have regular group evening meetings at the Village Roadshow offices in Century City, CA to receive mentorship and guidance on their specific projects (approximately 3-4 times over the course of the program). All meetings will be mandatory.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All eligible applications will be reviewed by a panel consisting of select members of SFTV faculty, staff, and alumni, as well as Village Roadshow staff members. Select applicants may be invited to participate in an additional phone or in-person interview.

The final Emerging Talent Lab group will be selected and notified of their status the week of May 6th, 2019.

TIMELINE

(Dates Subject to Change)

**Monday, March 25th, 2019**  Applications open

**Monday, April 15th, 2019** - Completed applications due by 5PM (There will be NO exceptions to this deadline. Late Applications will be disqualified immediately)

**Week of May 6th, 2019**  – All applicants will be notified of their final status.

**Wednesday May 15th, 2019**  – Lab Kick-off retreat at Playa Vista Campus. Attendance is REQUIRED for all accepted Lab participants.
HOW TO APPLY

To Apply, please complete the application survey via this link.

There are five required parts to an application: the attached application form(s), recommendation form (via webform), resume(s), statement of intent, project proposal.

Please use the following checklist for your application.

1. Application form (one per applicant- via Survey)
2. Professional Resume (one per applicant)
3. Recommendation Form (one per applicant)
4. Statement of Intent (one per project)
5. Project Proposal (one per project)

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed; please be diligent in your preparation of these materials.

QUESTIONS

All questions not answered on this form regarding the Lab should be addressed to:

Matt Mills
310-338-6048
matthew.mills@lmu.edu

Thank you for your interest in this program!
REQUIRED MATERIALS (All materials, excluding the recommendation form, will be submitted via the Application Survey):

- **Resume – One per applicant**
  
  Please enclose a professional resume for each team member applicant.

- **Recommendation Form (via online survey) – One per applicant**
  
  Please provide no more than one recommendation per team member.
  
  Recommendations may be submitted via survey webform. Please email them this link to complete the recommendation survey:


  Recommendation forms will be emailed directly to us, so please don’t include them in your written application packet. You may check with your recommender or our office to confirm receipt.

  Recommendations are best served to speak to your ability as a self-starter, your creative talent, and your ability to develop and collaborate on creative projects.

- **Statement of Intent (min. 300 words) – One per project**
  
  The Statement of Intent should discuss how you will benefit from the Emerging Talent Lab program, your ultimate vision for your project, how the program will benefit your career vision and goals, and your goal(s) you hope to achieve at the end of the program.

- **Project Proposal – One per project**
  
  Please see attached proposal form for further information.
EMERGING TALENT LAB PROJECT PROPOSAL

NAME(s): __________________________________________

EMAIL(s): __________________________________________

PROJECT WORKING TITLE: __________________________________

I. Project Information

Intended length:

Format (i.e. Pilot, Short Film, Sizzle Reel, Proof of Concept):

Please provide a one or two sentence summary of the project:

Director name (if different):

List the key project staff (director, producer, editor, writer), as applicable. Include a short bio for the director and producer. The bio should include any festivals or awards or other distribution for previous projects:

II: Project calendar outline

At what stage is the project now?

Please provide a proposed outline of your projected dates for pre-production, production, and post-production phases over the course of the Lab, starting from May 19th, 2019 to August 5th, 2019

III. Financial Plan

What is the total budget for the project? (Not including outreach.)
How much money, if any, have you spent to date on your project? How did you spend it?

Describe in detail how the $10,000 grant will be spent

How will the Emerging Filmmaker grant impact your project?

What, if any, additional funds beyond the grant would be needed to support this project?

IV. Project Pitch Summary

Project Pitch Summaries should successfully encapsulate appropriate info for your project, including a brief logline, expanded synopsis and brief bios of the key members of your team. Please refer to the attached example as a guideline.

V. Work Samples

We ask that you provide appropriate materials related to your project and, if possible, footage for the current project. Examples include a lookbook, reel, or script. Only submit samples that will strongly support your request for Lab consideration. Samples may be submitted via an online video hosting service such as Vimeo or You Tube, or as a hard copy (DVD, flash drive, etc).

List below what samples you are including with your application.

1. For any prior work (i.e. reel), please list the work’s title, your role on the project, and how it does or does not relate to your current project.

2. If you are submitting footage for your current project, please indicate what we should be looking for in the sample, e.g., why it’s representative of what you plan to do and what additional scenes you need to complete a fundraising piece.

3. For each sample, specify if you have submitted a DVD or a link. If you are sending us a link, be sure to include the password.
PROJECT PITCH (SAMPLE)

The Long and Short of it

Dramedy

Talent

Producer/Director: Tom Smith
Producer: Lucy Jones
Writer: Jennifer Stone

Logline

A rebellious teen on the run from her probation officer cons her way into a suburban family as a live-in helper for their Autistic daughter - an experience that changes her cynical perception of the world, but threatens to be snatched away at any moment as the law catches up with her.

Synopsis

On the street, Jacquelyn (18) and her sister Bethany (7) are known as "Jack" and "Coke." Adorned with tats and piercings, and unschooled but wicked smart, if you call her anything but "Jack," she will cut you. Having run away from their last foster home, Jack and Coke pretend to be collecting donations for the Red Cross. But, when her little sister is nabbed by cops, Jack takes off, with no choice but to abandon Bethany or face jail time. Jack learns from her probation officer Mike (40) - a physically intimidating man who is more interested in having his way with Jack than in doing his job - that her little sister has been placed in a group home. Unwilling to go along with Mike's sexual bargaining, Jack flees, and hiding out, strategizes ways to get her sister back. That's when she comes across an opportunity to prove herself a capable guardian for her sister: getting a job as a live-in companion for a little girl with autism (Glory, 7). Intending to exploit the family for her own ends, Jack is surprised and changed by the experience of being treated like a member of a real family: Though she lied about her identity in order to get the job, Jack discovers she possesses a unique ability to connect with the girl. Soon the unconditional love and sacrifice of Glory's mother, Kate (40s), and a budding romantic relationship with Glory's brother, James (17) impacts Jack as much as she impacts them. She even inspires the dispirited father Kelly (40s) to be more involved in his family. But it only works as long as they believe her lies and don't know about the ulterior motive of saving her own sister from another horrible foster family. When the corrupt probation officer Mike finally catches up with and exposes Jack, everything she's gained is in jeopardy.

Personnel

Lucy Jones, Producer

Lucy Jones is the Vice President of Production and development at Specialty Films. She is responsible for identifying potential feature projects that fit the company's mandate and developing that material until it is ready to go into production. Jones works alongside the writers and directors, overseeing the entire filmmaking process, from the initial pitch, through the casting, set visits, and notes on rough cuts, to the film's delivery. During her time at Specialty Films, she has produced 13 horror features for Lionsgate and 4 action movies for Warner Bros. In 2008, Jones was the Co-Executive Producer of Flirting with Forty, starring Heather Locklear - a film she set up independently after optioning the novel by Jane Porter and selling it to Sony Pictures Television. This year she also became a voting member of the Producer's Guild of America, and a Programmer for Q Films, the LGBTQ Film Festival of Long Beach. She is a regular fixture on juries and committees for GLAAD and the Outfest Film Festival, and was nominated by Power Up as one of the year's Amazing Gay Women In Showbiz. Jones considers herself an advocate for female filmmakers, and strives to enable more women to get their stories onto the big screen.
**Tom Smith, Producer/Director**

Tom Smith produced such award-winning films as *Pump up the Volume, House Party* and *Who’s the Man*, and then later as an independent producer with the Sundance favorites *Joe the King* and *Searching for Paradise*. In 2008, he won an Emmy for the HBO documentary *Autism: The Musical*. His short fiction film, “Flying Lessons”, debuted at Palm Springs International Short Film Festival, won the Best Dramatic Short at First Glance Hollywood, and the Silver Lei at the Honolulu Film Festival. It inspired the critically acclaimed full-length narrative feature *Fly Away* which premiered in competition at the South By Southwest Film Festival in 2011, winning Best Narrative Film at the Arizona Film Festival, before opening theatrically in select cities, to excellent reviews from *The New York Times, Huffington Post, New York Observer* and *Los Angeles Times*, which called it “most overlooked for an Oscar.” *Fly Away* continues in international release via iTunes, Amazon, Netflix. Smith is currently an Associate Professor of the Arts at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, in Film Producing and Screenwriting.

**Jennifer Stone, Writer**

Raised in Stone Mountain, Georgia, Jennifer Stone graduated from Northwestern University as a Theatre major with a concentration in acting. As a member of the University’s Creative Writing for the Media Program, she was granted the T. Stephen May Scriptwriting Award. Stone’s film industry experience began with various assistant positions including, most notably, working for two-time Academy Award-winning screenwriter Alvin Sargent. She found a home in film development applying her aptitude and affinity for working with written material. Having worked with various studios, networks, and the production companies of talents such as Sandra Bullock, Meg Ryan, Adam Sandler, and Bill Pullman, she currently is the sole script reader for Universal’s specialty film arm Focus Features and a member of Local 700, in the Story Analyst branch of the Motion Picture Editors Guild. In 2004, Stone was selected as a Fellow in the Outfest Film Festival’s Screenwriting Lab and now serves on the jury selecting Outfest Screenwriting Fellows. In 2006, she was also awarded the $7500 Writers Arc Foundation Screenwriting Fellowship for her screenplay entitled *Sensational*. In the same year, Stone was named a Semifinalist in the Academy’s prestigious Nicholl Fellowship when her script *Pentimenti* was ranked among the Top 30 of nearly five thousand submissions. Most recently, *Pentimenti* also won the Atlanta Film Festival’s Screenplay Competition, which included a public reading at Atlanta’s cherished 14th Street Playhouse. Jennifer Stone is represented by Original Artists.

**Contact**

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555-555-5555

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