

# talent camp

2019

Western  
Australia

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AFTRS



## What is Talent Camp?

Talent Camp is a skills development program spanning two years. We begin with a week-long intensive workshop in each state, followed by a national camp for select state participants. We end with opportunities for internships, placements and production for participants, where possible.

The state camps involve the selection of up to 15 participants from each state and territory, through an open application process. To find the best emerging talent we liaise with the highly networked community arts sector across the country to get the word out, and to support potential applicants.

We want to find the best candidates, but we know that they haven't all had the best opportunities, so we look for a mix of talent, experience and motivation.

Talent Camp is a multi-partner screen industry initiative made possible with the support of AFTRS, AWG & Scripted Ink, Screen Australia, Screen Queensland, Create NSW, Film Victoria, Screen Tasmania, South Australian Film Corporation, ScreenWest, Screen Territory and Screen Canberra.

## Workshop Facilitators

### Clare Madsen



Clare is script producer on NITV's first animated series the Logie, AWGIE and ATOM award winning *Little J & Big Cuz* - with series 3 now in development. She is currently developing a drama series concept with support from Film Victoria. Her screen credits span situation and sketch comedy, children's live action and animation, and feature film development. Clare's writing for children has been nominated for AFI and AWGIE awards. She is an award winning short film writer/director.

Clare also has wide experience as a playwright and director in fringe and cabaret settings, young people's and theatre in regional communities.

### Henry Inglis



Henry Inglis is an award-winning, Western Australian writer/director. He was a founding member of Mad Kids which was a trailblazing digital, film and television production company from 2012 - 2019. Henry has written, directed and edited multiple comedy series including the AACTA-nominated *Small Town Hackers*, *DAFUQ?*, *The Shapes*, *The Legend of Gavin Tanner*, *The Write Stuff with Noel & Carl Pennymann*, *Matt & Henry Working Together*, *Henry & Aaron's 7 Steps to Superstardom* and viral sensations *It's A Snap!* (3 million views) and *Set Yourself Free* (20 million views).

## Workshop Facilitators



### Lauren Elliott

Lauren Elliott is one of Western Australia's most groundbreaking comedy producers. In 2019, after seven years at the helm of Mad Kids, she launched new WA production company, Galactic Baby, released cult Indigenous comedy series, KGB on ABC iview and won a 40under40 award, which declared her one of WA's leading entrepreneurs under the age of 40. She has a wealth of experience in film & TV, marketing, public relations and events having worked in Australia, the UK and the US. Her producing credits include the AACTA-nominated *Small Town Hackers*, *DAFUQ?*, *The Shapes* and *Henry & Aaron's 7 Steps to Superstardom*.



### Gary Paramanathan

Gary Paramanathan works at the intersection of arts, culture and community. Gary is currently the Outreach Manager at AFTRS, and has previously worked in Western Sydney on community arts and cultural development projects, including with ICE, Fairfield City Council, Penrith City Council, Parramasala, Diversity Arts Australia to name a few. He founded the short film festival Colourfest and the storytelling night Them Heavy People. He holds a Masters in International Communications.

Gary is passionate about migrant and diaspora storytelling, and hopes to add to the rich tapestry of diverse Australian storytelling through his work.



## Amrit Singh Masuta

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A Dreamer who captures his dreams, forging them into reality with sheer determination and intending to tell beautiful stories.

### Biography

I became an accidental producer/director/writer when working as a community broadcaster. I interviewed an individual with a particularly powerful story and decided to create a bi-lingual and multi-cultural short film based on this story. I have a Graduate Diploma in Events Management, and I work in the Health and Safety sector in the Resource industry. I also organise a number of events including Festival of Light, NZ multi-cultural food festival, Aids Awareness Campaign and many Corporate Social Responsibility-based events in India, Africa, U.A.E., UK, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

### Story

The story is of a vision-impaired woman, abused and expecting child, who goes through a horrible interaction. The aftermath of the incident makes her psychologically think that she is a total failure. The challenge lies in recognising and realising the opportunities around her.

### Where To Next

I want to find a producer. I am also keen to know the whole filmmaking process, including writing, screenplays, sales and marketing, distributorship, screen practitioners and professional relationship building with well-known studios/cinemas.



# Chelinay Gates

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I am a bridge between the distant past and the impending future. I am a modern Mabarnyuwa (herbalist, magician, sorceress).

## Biography

I am a Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine, practitioner of hypnosis and Esoteric Acupuncture, as well as an artist, author, playwright and book illustrator. I'm also a mother of 4 amazing children.

## Story

*Lucky-Child* is the story of a teenage Aboriginal girl, Lucy, who is on a quest to find her jalbri (great grandmother) at Dragon Tree Soak in the Great Sandy Desert, Western Australia. Lucy enters a symbolic portal through which she ventures into the world of indigenous Dreaming with her dingo puppy. Handling confronting themes with amazing sweetness and humour, *Lucky-Child* is a vehicle for forgiveness, compassion and acceptance.

## Where To Next

*Lucky-Child* will be published as a novel in October this year. I feel the novel would make a great film or mini-series and I need a producer and film script writer to make this dream a reality. I would also love to workshop the script with other writers and I am open to direction, suggestion and modification.



# Deland Tay

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Oh wait til' I do what I do, hit you with that ddu-du ddu-du du.

## Biography

I am a first-generation, Chinese-Australian immigrant with a filmmaking background in videography and editing. I have also previously produced and co-wrote a short film that screened at festivals in the States. Recently, I have found satisfaction in writing genre stories about sociopolitical issues that affect people of colour.

## Story

A prolific Perth model searches for answers after a mysterious woman from a photoshoot in Hanoi begins stalking her back at home.

## Where To Next

I hope to further develop this story along with other screen ideas and eventually take it into production with some fellow filmmakers in Perth.





# Devin Kos

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An enthusiastic and youthful creator, with a background in audio and filled with ideas.

## Biography

I started my creative career in the online audio world; working on genre-fiction, gaming, and review podcasts as a writer, editor, and producer. In-between audio, I freelanced as a video editor and digital illustrator, mainly in the realm of different genre podcasts. In 2018 I began my formal training in Film & Tv at North Metro TAFE with a Certificate III, and now in 2019, I am in the middle of completing my Diploma in Film & Tv at North Metro TAFE.

## Story

A lonely Teenage Girl from Mingenew digs into a secret cover-up after she discovers a series of cassette tapes in her backyard, which archives the investigation into a local foreign space research facility by a young amateur journalist in the late '90s.

## Where To Next

I would like to develop/workshop the script with other writers.



# Gary Hamaguchi

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Emerging Writer/Director.

## Biography

Gary is an emerging screenwriter/director. He was selected to participate in the Black Comedy, Season 3 writers' workshop for ABC and has been a long-time participant of the Goolarri Indigenous Writers Program. Gary's film credits include as writer/director on "Fishing" – a short drama that was funded through Screenwest's Elevate 30 program, and "Living off the Bay" which premiered at Broome's Mud and Saltwater film festival in 2017 and won Best Environmental Short. Gary recently completed two projects, a short drama "Doug, the Human", part of the Screen Australia Short Blacks drama initiative and due to screen on the ABC; and an environmental documentary "Saving Seagrass" which will screen on NITV.

## Story

Matty is a 10-year-old boy who recently lost his sister to suicide. As the family look for someone to blame, an easy target is his sister's boyfriend, a local drug dealer. Matty recruits his cousins to go on an adventure across town to get the boyfriend arrested.

## Where To Next

I would like to find development funding and also a broadcast network (ABC, SBS) interested in my story.



# Jas Shenstone

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We are what we love, not what loves us.

– CHARLIE KAUFFMAN

## Biography

I began writing at a young age, beginning with poetry and short stories. I moved onto novel writing but my love for film ultimately lead me to screenwriting. Since then I have written a number of short and feature length scripts which have been recognized by festivals and competitions around the world. This year, my script *Ain't no place* was in the semi-finals for the BlueCat Screenplay Competition. I also wrote and directed a short film called *Roll a Seven go to Heaven* which won Best Female Filmmaker at the West End Film Festival in 2018.

## Story

Two best friends in their 30s are trying to follow their dreams of becoming successful writers while working in shit jobs and watching their peers settle down into mortgages, marriages and careers that pay above minimum wage.

## Where To Next

I would like to workshop my script, to receive feedback, because I know that will be helpful in moving forward with more drafts. I would especially like to find a producer, to figure out how to get this series to the next step and what avenue it would suit best.



# Lata Periakarpan

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Optimistic creative with an affinity for chai tea and rom-coms.

## Biography

Lata Periakarpan is a Malaysian-Australian screenwriter. She studied Film Production and Creative Writing at Curtin University and, after graduating in 2018, moved to Canada for a year to work as a set designer and film production assistant. Upon returning to Australia, she has been full-steam ahead with scriptwriting and gaining industry experience. Lata's writing revolves around young, strong and diverse protagonists with unique attributes, as she has and will always be a sucker for a good coming-of-age story.

## Story

A 15-year-old wallflower living in a happy medium between reality and fantasy becomes entangled in a high-profile relationship, causing her to question who she is and who she wants to be.

## Where To Next

I would like to workshop my script with other screenwriters. I need help narrowing down ideas and defining the concept further, as well as brainstorming for future episodes. I would also like to find a producer and work towards bringing on board a market partner.



# Nick Harle

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The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest ideas. Think big anyway.

## Biography

After graduating from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in 2016, I have continued to expand my learning at the Actors Pulse in Sydney and with industry professionals in Los Angeles in 2018. As of 2019, my creative partner and I have set up Something Productions, a diverse WA production company focused on innovative WA-based stories. Something Productions has recently joined forces with Nutshell Pictures to bring our two visions of diversity and empathy to a broader Australian audience.

## Story

*The Great Australian Crime Story* – deceit, betrayal, love and loss follows four forlorn criminals as they attempt to control Australia's illegal drug business.

## Where To Next

The next stage I would like to reach is to engage executive producers in order to seek funding/market research/distribution opportunities. The content we are producing is diverse and challenging, and I believe there is a vast market for it.



# Nicholas Tan

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I try to reflect on the foundation and “borders” of anything I read.

## Biography

Nicholas is an emerging theatre maker from Western Australia. He has participated in ATYP's National Studio 2014, WAYTCo's 2015/2016 Ensemble program and The Blue Room Theatre's Dramaturgy Program in 2017. Nicholas has written for WAYTCo's 24 Hour Play Generator (2015), and Tantrum Youth Arts' Hissyfest (2016 and 2017) in Newcastle. In 2016, Nicholas undertook the role of assistant director for WAYTCo's On the Face of Things (dir.Dominic Mercer). He made his debut as a director and producer for his play *Five, Six* for FRINGE WORLD 2018. He has also volunteered as a production manager for Modicum Theatre Perth. Recently, he completed Screenworks' 'Writing for TV Intensive' in NSW and is looking forward to developing his screenwriting skills.

## Story

A fallen bodhisattva and a gay porn addict meet in a dream realm and must help each other overcome one another's personal demons so that they both can return to their normal lives.

## Where To Next

I would like to workshop the script with other writers, find out what paths are available for a screenwriting project, network with other industry professionals, and find a producer.



# Penny Harrold

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I am thinking of aurochs and angels,  
the secret of durable pigments,  
prophetic sonnets, the refuge of art.

– VLADIMIR NABOKOV

## Biography

Penny has worked in development within the Australian film industry for the past 10 years. She has worked on several award-winning television and film productions, including *The Kettering Incident* (Foxtel 2016), *The Rover* (Cannes Premiere 2014) and *The Heights* (ABC 2018). Preceding these roles, Penny worked for The South Australian Film Corporation and Film Victoria.

## Story

In the wild west of colonial Australia, a female entrepreneur taps into the amorous nature of power, taking on the puritans, lawmakers, politicians and judges to become one of the wealthiest women in 1880 Australia.

## Where To Next

With newfound confidence, I would like to find a team of co-collaborators to breathe life into my web series, “Madame Brussels”. Ultimately, I wish to partner with a producer and broadcaster who can support me as I develop and direct this into an 8 x 1hr drama series.



# Rachel Fitzgerald

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If no one comes back from the future  
to stop you – how bad of an idea can  
it be?

## Biography

Rachel is a recent graduate from the WA Screen Academy where she directed the heist-comedy short film ‘Filch.’ She is currently employed as a director for Nutshell Pictures and is working on the short films ‘Spies’ and ‘Jessie Taylor’.

## Story

During deep sea drilling in Antarctica, supernatural beings have been released into the world, randomly infecting the people of Earth. The creatures manifest themselves as mental illnesses in humans. Four infected people must work together to drive the supernatural beings back to where they came from.

## Where To Next

I would like to meet someone/a mentor who is able to discuss how you approach people for market interest and distribution in projects.





# Rafeif Ismail

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“It is our right and responsibility to write ourselves into the future”

- WALIDA IMARISHA & ADRIENNE MAREE BROWN

## Biography

Rafeif Ismail is a refugee and third culture youth of the Sudanese diaspora. An emerging multilingual writer, Rafeif was the winner of the 2017 Deborah Cass Prize for Writing, The 2018 Convocation of UWA Graduates Bryant Stokes Matilda Award for Cultural Excellence (Literature) and a finalist for the 2018 WA Youth Awards, Cultural Endeavours category. Her work has been published by Margaret River Press, Black Inc., Fremantle Press, Mascara Literary Review, Kill Your Darlings, Meanjin and Djed Press.

## Story

Through interconnected stories, *Brave and Startling Truths* follows the adventures and misadventures of Afro-diasporic youths across space and time.

## Where To Next

I want to find a producer and take the next steps bringing my project to the screen. I hope to continue building my skills and to begin a screen career.



# Samuel ‘Spud’ James Kerr

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I am Sam, Sam I am.

## Biography

Sam Kerr is a 26-year-old artist and filmmaker who uses a powered wheelchair for mobility.

Sam began performing as part of the SIGHT UNSEEN Project in 2013. From 2014-2016, Sam worked on two digital/film projects with DADAA and HYDRA POESIS. In 2017 and 2018, Sam worked on Mixed Reality and created a work which focused on his identity as a young man living with a disability.

## Story

I am currently working with my arts mentor to create a mock tourist documentary of my hometown, Fremantle. In the doco, I interview various well-known locals, all with a twist of humour. Showcasing local hotspots that I frequent also gives the audience a sense of how I live my life in a wheelchair.

## Where To Next

My goal would be to direct other people and further train in script writing to help with telling my stories. I would love to continue writing stories and have them made available to a wider audience.



Tony  
Sarre

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Once in denial, Tony reclaims the story of his past self, and re-emerges as a capable, independent, blind filmmaker.

## Biography

Tony discovered his passion for filmmaking whilst studying law at Murdoch University. Despite being legally blind, Tony was able to actualise his ideas with the aid of a video monitor. However, his vision soon degenerated further and, unable to see his monitor, Tony dropped out of film school. Over a decade later, Tony was partnered with Paddington, his seeing eye dog, and has since re-engaged with his dream of being a filmmaker.

## Story

Through directing his short film, *The Roadhouse Blues*, Tony learns how to communicate, navigate, and interpret ideas as a blind filmmaker. This short online series will chronicle the making of the film and Tony's unique production process.

## Where To Next

I am seeking a network of diverse creatives to help me develop *Beyond the Blues*. I want producers to help me recruit team members and fund the documentary series. My ultimate goal is to connect with those who see potential in *The Roadhouse Blues*, both as a short film and as a behind the scenes documentary.

## Notes

Tomorrow's  
storytellers

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